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# TOPOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY

OF

## W A L E S,

COMPRISING THE

SEVERAL COUNTIES, CITIES, BOROUGHES, CORPORATE AND MARKET TOWNS,  
PARISHES, CHAPELRIES, AND TOWNSHIPS,

WITH

**HISTORICAL AND STATISTICAL DESCRIPTIONS;**

ILLUSTRATED BY

MAPS OF THE DIFFERENT COUNTIES;

AND

*A Map of Wales.*

SHEWING

THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS, ROADS, RAILWAYS, NAVIGABLE RIVERS, AND CANALS;

AND EMBELLISHED WITH

ENGRAVINGS OF THE ARMS OF THE CITIES, BISHOPRICKS, CORPORATE TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES;  
AND OF THE SEALS OF THE SEVERAL MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.

• WITH AN

**A P P E N D I X,**

DESCRIBING THE ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES OF THE SEVERAL BOROUGHES, AS DEFINED BY THE LATE ACT.

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**BY SAMUEL LEWIS.**

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IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

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## PREFACE.

ON completing this portion of their great national work the proprietors consider it necessary to state, particularly for the information of such subscribers as have not seen the preface to their "TOPOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF ENGLAND," that, in order to give a correct description of each place, every parish in the Principality has been visited by competent individuals, for the purpose of procuring the necessary local information by observation and personal enquiry; and, with a view to direct their researches, and secure uniformity in the design, each gentleman was furnished with a printed list of queries, embracing every subject requisite for a comprehensive account of the different places.

During the progress of the survey, several other gentlemen were diligently engaged in compiling, from the most approved ancient and modern historical works, manuscripts, and public records deposited in the British Museum and other public libraries, a succinct historical description of the most important events that have occurred in relation to each place. The matter thus obtained was incorporated with the local information procured by personal enquiry on the spot, and, after an attentive and careful revision, was printed; and proofs of every place of importance were forwarded by post for the perusal of those resident gentlemen who had previously contributed information respecting their several parishes, with a request that any omission or inaccuracy might be rectified, which request has been



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attended to with the most gratifying kindness and promptitude; and the proprietors feel much pleasure in availing themselves of this opportunity of expressing their grateful acknowledgments for the courteous aid they have uniformly received, insomuch as to preclude the possibility of particularizing each individual whose kind assistance facilitated the researches of their agents, and has contributed materially to the accuracy and consequent value of the work.

The work will be found to comprehend, under distinct heads, the several counties, cities, boroughs and parishes;—also every hamlet or township separately maintaining its own poor, according to the latest official reports;—and all places that have made a separate return of inhabitants. No township has been mentioned as situated in any parish, in the heading of the article, except such as maintain their own poor, and are separately inserted in the work.

With a view to facility of reference, the different subjects are arranged as follows. With respect to COUNTIES:—the name, and whether an inland or maritime county,—its relative situation, superficial extent in square miles and statute acres, and the amount of population;—historical summary;—ecclesiastical and civil divisions;—parliamentary representation;—assizes and sessions;—gaols;—amount of rates;—general appearance of the surface and scenery;—climate, soil, and agriculture;—extent of woods and waste lands;—geology;—manufactures;—principal rivers;—canals and rail-roads;—turnpike roads;—remains of antiquity;—Roman stations and roads;—religious houses and their remains;—churches remarkable for their architecture;—ancient castles and fortresses;—principal modern mansions;—mineral springs and natural curiosities.

The articles on CITIES, BOROUGHs, and SEA-PORT and MARKET TOWNS, comprehend a description of their name and situation;—distance and bearing from the county town, and from London;—population;—origin and etymology of name;—historical summary;—local character and general appearance;—scientific and literary institutions;—places and sources of amusement;—manufactures and commerce;—facilities of navigation;—rail-roads;—public edifices connected with commerce;—markets and fairs;—municipal government;—charters, how and when obtained;—general privileges and immunities;—corporation, of what officers composed, and when and how chosen;—parliamentary representation, including the nature of the elective franchise both prior and subsequently to the passing of the Reform Act, and



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the returning officer;—ecclesiastical and religious establishments;—nature of the livings;—in what archdeaconry and diocese;—amount at which the living is rated in the king's books;—patron;—tutelar saint and architectural description of the churches, places of worship for dissenters, schools, hospitals, and other charitable and benevolent institutions;—ancient monastic establishments;—ruins of castles, encampments, and other remains of antiquity;—mineral springs;—natural phenomena;—modern residences;—eminent natives and residents;—title, if any, which the place confers, and on what family;—average annual expenditure for the relief of the poor.

IN PARISHES, CHAPELRIES, and TOWNSHIPS, the prevailing order of subjects is, as far as the nature and limited number of them will allow, the same as in the Cities and Towns. The distance of each Parish, &c., is given from the nearest post town, by referring to which the distance from London may be easily ascertained.

To the inhabitants of the Principality it is well known that there exists a difference of opinion respecting the orthography of proper names, and the proprietors candidly confess their inability to decide upon a matter in which even those best informed upon the subject do not agree. As a book of reference, it has been considered desirable to adopt the modern prevailing style of spelling; and, in order to preserve the ancient correct appellation, the same is given, as accurately as it can be ascertained, in a parenthesis immediately following. In this department of their labours they have been aided by a gentleman, a native and resident of the Principality, whose researches into Welsh literature have procured for him deserved celebrity, and who with much care and attention has perused every page of the work. It will be observed that the plan has been adopted of substituting V for F in all words in which the latter has the sound of the former, and, in consequence, F for Ff; so as the more readily to impart to an English reader the true sound and property of these letters. And again, in accordance with modern usage, K has been used instead of C, in names wherein it is followed by the vowel I.

It may be necessary to state, with regard to archdeaconries, that there are few to which any ecclesiastical jurisdiction is now attached, many of them having been annexed to their respective bishopricks, probably on account of the small value of the latter; and the authority of the archidiaconal court has mainly merged in that of the consistorial court of the



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**ABBEY CWM HIR**, a parish, comprising the hamlet of Cevnpawl, in the hundred of KEVENLEECE, and the hamlet of Gollon, in the hundred of KNIGHTON, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (N. E.) from Rhaiadr, containing 481 inhabitants. This place derives its name, which signifies "the abbey in the long dingle," from the erection of an ancient Cistercian monastery in this sequestered spot. The two hamlets of which the parish now consists, and which unitedly maintain their poor, constituted, till within a very recent period, the upper division of the parish of Llanbister, to which the church of Cwm Hir was a chapel of ease. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Thomas Wilson, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a plain edifice of moderate dimensions, with a small belfry at the west end, under which a gallery was erected in 1830, at the expense of Mr. Wilson, who also presented an organ; in the chancel are two mural tablets to the memory of Sir Hans Fowler and another member of the same family. A tenement called the Vron, in the parish of Llanbister, is charged with the annual payment of ten shillings to the poor of this parish. The ancient abbey, which was dedicated to St. Mary, was founded in 1143, by Cadwallon ab Madoc, and was originally designed for sixty brethren of the Cistercian order, but never completed upon so extensive a scale. It occupied a secluded situation in a romantic valley, deeply embosomed among lofty hills and abrupt precipices, once covered with forests of oak, but now almost denuded, affording only pasturage for mountain sheep, and exhibiting some stunted trees, the roots of which have penetrated between the interstices of the slate rock which composes the substratum of these hills. In the year 1231, a friar of this house having occasioned the defeat of the garrison of Montgomery, by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, by conveying to it false intelligence of the position of the latter, King Henry II., on approaching with the English army, set fire to the grange of the monastery, in revenge for the friar's treachery, and was proceeding to burn the abbey itself, which was only saved from destruction by the

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payment of three hundred marks by the abbot. It suffered considerable injury, in 1401, from the furious resentment of Owain Glyndwr; and the society, at the dissolution, consisted only of three monks, the revenue being estimated at £28. 17. 4. In the 37th of Henry VIII., the site was granted to Walter Henley and John Williams, and afterwards passed into the family of the Fowlers: the estate is now the property, by purchase, of Thomas Wilson, Esq., who is building, with materials brought from the ruins of the abbey, a small but elegant house upon it, in the Elizabethan style of architecture. The venerable ruins, which have recently been rendered more interesting and conspicuous, by clearing the ground, consist principally of portions of the four walls of a spacious building, two hundred and thirty-eight feet in length, and sixty-four in breadth, which was probably the church, varying in height from four to twelve feet above the ground. The pedestals, with part of the shafts, of a beautiful range of twelve clustered columns, of peculiar elegance, still decorate the walls; and within the area there was probably a double range of massive pillars, separating the nave from the aisles, of which the bases of three are remaining, from which it appears that they were square, with flutings for a cluster of three columns at each angle of the pillar, with a single lateral shaft intervening: at the east end are the remains of two doorways, with triple clustered columns at the angles of each, and between them a series of four columns; and on the north-east side of this extensive building are appearances of a similar arrangement. The ground about this interesting ruin is filled with fragments of richly carved freestone, of which the ornamental parts of the building were constructed, and in many of these the details are as perfect as when first sculptured: a gravestone was lately found among the ruins, bearing an ancient inscription in rude characters. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of this parish amounts to £233. 18.

**ABENBURY-VAWR**, a township in that part of the parish of WREXHAM which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N. N. W.) from Wrexham, containing 214 inha-



bitants. It separately supports its own poor, according to an arrangement made in March 1830.

ABENBURY-VECHAN, a township in that part of the parish of WREXHAM which is in the hundred of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.N.W.) from Wrexham, containing 113 inhabitants. On the river Clywedog, which is here crossed by a bridge, there are some iron-foundries. This township is assessed separately for the support of its poor, the average expenditure being £34. 10. per annum, and is the only one of the parish in the county of Flint, all the others being in that of Denbigh.

ABER, or ABER-GWYNREGYN, a parish in the hundred of LLECHWEDD UCHAF, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (E.N.E.) from Bangor, containing 552 inhabitants. This place was anciently the residence of the native princes of North Wales, of whom Llewelyn the Great erected, on an artificial mount near the village, a strong castle, to defend the pass, of which, except the site, there are no vestiges; neither can any traces be discovered of the palace in which he resided. When King John, with a numerous army, attempted the subjugation of North Wales, the same Llewelyn ordered all his men of Denbigh to retire within the fastnesses among the mountains of Snowdon, and from this place despatched his princess, who was the daughter of that monarch, to Aberconway, the head-quarters of the English forces, to intercede with her father, in which she succeeded, and obtained for Llewelyn a treaty of peace, but upon very unfavourable terms. In this castle Llewelyn, in the reign of Henry III., entertained William de Breos, whom he had inveigled into his power, under pretence of celebrating the festival of Easter, and whom, after a sumptuous banquet, he hanged upon one of the adjacent hills, for the supposed corruption of his wife's fidelity, during his previous confinement in the castle as a prisoner of war. In the reign of Edward I., Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, the last of the British princes, made this his principal residence, while struggling against the power of that monarch for the independence of his country. The situation of Aber was highly favourable to the prosecution of his desultory mode of warfare, as, in case of emergency, he could either retire into his strong holds in the mountains, or take shipping in the fine bay adjoining the town. It was at this place he received the summons of Edward I., to surrender his principality to the English crown, and entered into a treaty with that monarch to hold this mountainous district, together with Mona, or the Isle of Anglesey, in vassalage; and hence, after having broken that treaty, he led his forces, in a final effort for the recovery of his dominions, in which he was slain near Builth. His brother Davydd, together with his wife, two sons, and seven daughters, is said to have been taken in a morass near the mountain of Bere, in this parish, and delivered a captive to the English monarch, then at the castle of Rhuddlan.

The village is small, but is very pleasantly situated near the Lavan sands, at the extremity of a fine vale, or glen, watered by the river Gwynnregyn, which here falls into the Irish sea, and on the road from London to Holyhead, through Chester: it overlooks the beautiful and extensive bay of Beaumaris, and commands a view of the elevated portions of Anglesey, covered with well-grown oaks, and of the wide expanse of waters

between that bay and Great Orme's Head, comprehending in the distance the island of Priestholme, which has been made a telegraphic station. The glen extends for a mile and a half between its environing mountains, and on one side is bounded by a majestic rock, called Maes y Gaer, thinly overspread in one part, and richly covered in the other, with trees of stately growth: at its extremity is a mountain of concave form in front, from the centre of which a magnificent cataract descends, forming two successive falls; the upper is broken into several torrents by projecting masses of rock, and the lower precipitates itself in one broad sheet from an elevation of more than sixty feet. Situated at the termination of the Menai straits, Aber possesses every facility of commercial intercourse, but no trade or manufacture is carried on in the parish. The ferry to Beaumaris is seven miles across, of which four miles are fine sands, that may be walked over at low water; passengers cross this ferry to Beaumaris, but, since the construction of the suspension bridge at Bangor, few carriages are conveyed over it. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £14. 7. 3½., and in the patronage of Sir R. Bulkeley Williams Bulkeley, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Bodvan, is an ancient and spacious structure, with a good square tower, having been greatly improved by the late Viscount Warren Bulkeley: the interior, which is neatly fitted up, consists of a nave and chancel of equal length, the latter lighted with a series of low windows, differing in their style, and probably inserted at various times. There are places of worship for Independents and Wesleyan Methodists. The Rev. John Jones, Dean of Bangor, in 1719, by deed to the rector and churchwardens, gave £100, to be laid out in the purchase of land, and the produce to be appropriated to teaching ten poor children of this parish to read Welsh. There are also several small charitable donations and bequests for distribution among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £144. 4.

ABERAËRON, or ABERAYRON, (ABER-AËRON), a sea-port, partly in the parish of HENVYNYW, but principally in that of LLANDDEWI-ABERARTH, lower division of the hundred of ILAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 16 miles (S.W. by S.) from Aberystwith, and 23 (E.N.E.) from Cardigan. The population is returned with Llanddewi-Aberarth. The village is agreeably situated on the road from Cardigan to Aberystwith, at the lower extremity of the Vale of Aëron, the sides of which are here abrupt and clothed with wood, and on the shore of Cardigan bay, at the influx of the river Aëron, which here separates the parishes of Henvynyw and Llanddewi-Aberarth, and, together with some springs in the neighbourhood, affords the inhabitants an ample supply of water: this river is noted for trout and salmon, and there are several corn-mills on its banks. Aberaëron is indebted for its origin to the late Rev. Alban Thomas Jones Gwynne, of Ty-Glyn, who, in 1807, obtained an act of parliament, under the authority of which he built two piers at the mouth of the river Aëron, with convenient wharfs, cranes, and storehouses, at an expense of about £6000: that on the west is one hundred yards in length, and the other ninety, and both are built of stone; but, from the



very exposed situation of the place, they are insufficient to afford adequate protection to vessels from the violence of north-westerly winds. To remove this inconvenience, it is the intention of the present proprietor, A. T. J. Gwynne, Esq., to extend the western pier about one hundred yards, inclining in a northerly direction. The scenery of the Vale of Aëron is particularly beautiful, which, together with its marine atmosphere, retired situation, and improving condition, may render this, at no distant period, a place of considerable resort during summer. Upwards of thirty new leases have been lately granted, pursuant to which several houses have been already built, and others are in progress: a general post-office, and an excellent posting-house and hotel, have been established, the latter affording to families an equal degree of comfort and privacy to any in the principality. The port is a member of that of Cardigan, and is one of the most thriving within its jurisdiction: there are from thirty to forty sloops belonging to it, of from seventeen to one hundred tons' burden, which are navigated by about one hundred and twenty seamen of this place: they are chiefly employed in the importation of coal and culm, and two of them trade regularly with Bristol. The principal articles of importation, in addition, are grocery and timber; and of exportation, butter and oats: there is also a lucrative herring fishery, in which about thirty boats, with seven men to each, are engaged. Near the entrance into the harbour there is a bar, which is dry at low water. The merchants' stores are open weekly, on Wednesday, for the reception of corn; and it is intended to establish a weekly market for provisions, &c., under the auspices of Colonel Gwynne, the present proprietor of the manor: a fair for the hiring of servants is held on November 13th. The magistrates for the division hold petty sessions once a month; and courts leet for the manor are held in May and October. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. A school on the late Dr. Bell's plan is supported partly by subscription. Mynach-dy, the property and residence of Col. Gwynne, situated at a short distance from the town, is supposed, from its name (which signifies "monastery"), to have been anciently a small ecclesiastical establishment: in the grounds are some tumuli, called Hên Gastell, of obscure origin. On the sea-shore, near the town, there is a small circular encampment, designated Castell Cadwgan, and supposed to have been constructed by Cadwgan ab Bleddyn, about the year 1148.



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is of considerable antiquity, and was formerly invested with various privileges, which, however, have fallen into disuse. In the division of the county, which took

place on its subjugation by Fitz-Hamon, the Norman adventurer, it formed part of the territories conferred by that chieftain upon Caradoc, son of Iestyn ab Gwrgan, the dethroned prince, who made it the place of his residence, and is supposed to have erected the ancient castle, the foundations of which are still discernible in a field adjoining the churchyard. This castle, though of no great extent, was commodiously situated for defending the pass of the river, and sufficiently formidable to become an object of importance in the various wars which at that time disturbed the peace of the principality. Caradoc was succeeded in his lordship by his son Morgan, who is regarded by some writers as the founder of the stately abbey of Margam, of which there are still considerable remains. About the year 1150, Madoc ab Meredydd, Prince of Powys, making an irruption into the county of Glamorgan, at the head of a powerful army, laid waste the territories of Morgan ab Caradoc ab Iestyn, and took and demolished the castle of Aberavon. Upon this occasion, Morgan, unable to resist the force which was opposed to him, fled with his followers, and, taking sanctuary in the churches and monasteries, placed himself under the protection of William, Earl of Gloucester and Lord of Glamorgan. In 1349, Thomas, son of Sir John de Avon, Knt., having succeeded to the lordship of Avon, granted to the abbey of Margam a charter, confirming all former grants, and to the inhabitants of the borough the free exercise of all the privileges which they had previously enjoyed. During the usurpation of Cromwell, the portreeve, being apprised of the approach of the protector's emissaries, contrived to secure the charter and other documents relating to the borough, by concealing them in a rough piece of oak, in which he had formed a cavity for that purpose, and on which, upon the arrival of the officers, he was found chopping sticks, as upon a common block. By this artifice the papers were preserved, and the piece of oak, upon which the marks of the hatchet are still visible, is now carefully preserved as the corporation chest.

The town is situated at a short distance from the eastern shore of Swansea bay, under a lofty ridge of hills, by which it is sheltered from the north winds; but, from its proximity to a marsh, it is much exposed to damps, and the inhabitants are consequently subject to ague and other complaints: it is neither paved nor lighted, and consists almost entirely of mean and ill-built houses, affording but little accommodation to the inhabitants, and fewer attractions to strangers. The land in the vicinity is subject to frequent inundations of the river Avon, which flows on the eastern side of the town. The most alarming and destructive of these occurred on July 25th, 1768, when the water flowed into the church and every house in the town, in most places to the height of five feet, to the great danger of the lives of the inhabitants. Entire fields of corn upon its banks were laid waste by the flood, which swept away Aberavon bridge and others, and a great quantity of hay, trees, &c.; and, on its subsiding, the town was left covered with mud and slime, which wholly destroyed the provisions in it, so that the poorer inhabitants were reduced to great distress, being almost perishing from want and hunger, but were seasonably and plentifully relieved by the bountiful humanity of Thomas Mansel Talbot, Esq. A



handsome and substantial stone bridge of one arch has been erected, by William Edwards, the celebrated self-taught architect, over the Avon, to which river alone the town is indebted for the small degree of importance it has acquired. Aberavon is a creek to the port of Swansea: the harbour is small, but sufficiently commodious. The imports are copper and iron ores, for the supply of the extensive works at Cwm Bychan, in the adjoining parish of Michaelston, from which a tram-road passes through the town to the shipping-place near the mouth of the river, for the more easy conveyance of copper, iron, and tin plates, which are manufactured at those works, and, with pyroligneous acid, form the principal exports. The other works in this neighbourhood, consisting of tin, iron, and copper, are in the parish of Margam, and their shipping-place is at Tae Bâch, a short distance to the eastward. There is no chartered market, but meat and other provisions are constantly exposed for sale: an annual fair is held on the 30th of April.

Aberavon is a borough by prescription: the government is vested in a portreeve, a recorder, two aldermen, and an unlimited number of burgesses, assisted by a "common attorney," two serjeants at mace, and other officers. The portreeve is annually appointed by the constable of the castle, who, from three of the burgesses, put in nomination for that purpose by ballot, selects one to fill the office. This was one of the boroughs contributory to Cardif in returning one member to parliament; but by the new reform bill, recently passed, the towns of Swansea, Loughor, Neath, Aberavon, and Kenwig, have been constituted one borough, with the privilege of returning a representative to parliament: the right of election is in the resident burgesses, and in every male person of full age, occupying any house, or other premises, either as owner, or as tenant under the same landlord, of the clear yearly value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering his name as the act demands: the portreeve of Swansea is the returning officer. The freedom of the borough is inherited by all the sons of burgesses, on their coming of age, and may be acquired by purchase, though the burgesses recognize no other *claim* than that of birth: on a recent occasion the sum of £200 was accepted for it by the burgesses at large. The corporation formerly were in possession of considerable property, which, from the encroachment of the sand and other causes, has become of very little value. Twenty-five of the senior burgesses still enjoy each the exclusive right of three acres of enclosed land, and the rental of the remaining borough property is about £50 per annum. A town-hall was begun in the year 1826, and upwards of £300 has been expended upon its erection, but it is still unfinished, owing to the want of adequate funds. The living is a discharged vicarage, with Baglan annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated conjointly in the king's books at £9. 4. 9½., endowed with the great tithes, and in the patronage of the Rev. Edward Thomas. The



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church, dedicated to St. Mary, was rebuilt about sixty years ago, and is appropriately fitted up for the accommodation of the inhabitants. There are places of worship for Particular Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic Methodists. A National school is about to be established, in connexion with the Central School Society in London, which has contributed £50 towards the erection of a building for that purpose. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £63. 8.

ABERBAIDON (ABER-BAIDEN), a hamlet, in the parish of LLANELLY, hundred of CRICKHOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 3½ miles (W. by N.) from Abergavenny. The population is returned with the parish. This place derives its name from being situated at the junction of a small river, called the Baiden, with the Usk. It is intersected by the river Clydach, which passes through a deep valley to its confluence with the Usk, and in its course forms several cascades, the most remarkable of which was called Pwll y Cwn, or "The Dog's Pool," now converted to manufacturing purposes. The Brecknock canal is carried over this river by means of an embanked aqueduct, eighty-four feet above the bed of the river, and communicates with different rail-roads, formed in connexion with some lime and coal works situated within the limits of the hamlet, which, together with the Clydach iron-works, afford employment to a large proportion of the inhabitants, and the produce of which is distributed, by means of the canal, throughout the adjacent district. On the south side of a hill, at the base of which flows the Clydach, there are the remains of an ancient British fortress, called the Gaer. This hamlet supports its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £199. 17.

ABERCONWAY (ABER-CONWAY), a sea-port, borough, market town, and parish, in the hundred of LLECHWEDD ISAV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 24 miles (E. N. E.) from Carnarvon, and 236 (N. W. by W.) from London, on the road to Holyhead, containing 1245 inhabitants. This place, which was anciently called *Caer Gyfin*, is supposed to have arisen



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from the ruins of the Roman station *Conovium*, in the neighbouring parish of Caerhên, and derives its name from its situation near the mouth of the river Conway, which falls into the Irish sea about four miles from the town. Of its earlier history few particulars are recorded, and very little authentic information can be traced prior to the year 1185, when Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of Wales, founded a monastery here, for brethren of the Cistercian order, which he endowed with ample possessions and with numerous valuable and important privileges. The abbey continued to flourish unmolested till the reign of Henry III., during whose efforts to repair the fortifications of Deganwy, on the opposite side of the river, to facilitate the subjugation of the principality, it was plundered and some of the conventual buildings were burnt, about the year 1245, by a party of three hundred of his Welsh vassals in the marches, whom that monarch had despatched to the rescue of a



vessel from Ireland, laden with provisions, which was stranded on the coast, and had been attacked by the people of this neighbourhood, who had previously reduced the English soldiers to great distress, by cutting off their supplies. Exasperated at the outrage done to their stately monastery, now become one of the primary objects of their religious veneration, the Welsh rushed down from the mountains, whither they had been driven by the detachment from Henry's army, and suddenly fell upon their assailants, whom they found heavily laden with spoil, slew many of them, forced others into the Conway, where they perished, and took several prisoners, whom they afterwards barbarously put to death, cutting off their heads, tearing their limbs, and throwing the mangled corpses and members into the Conway. They then again furiously attacked the vessel, which was defended with great bravery and spirit by Sir Walter Bisset, until midnight, when, on the influx of the tide, the Welsh were obliged to withdraw, and Sir Walter and his force, abandoning their dangerous situation, retired to the English camp. In the morning the Welsh returned, and, finding the vessel deserted, took possession of the cargo, almost wholly consisting of wine, and set fire to the ship; so that the English only obtained seven tuns of wine, which they took out of that portion of the vessel not consumed by fire. In 1277, Edward I. advanced with his army through the level parts of North Wales to Aberconway; and Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, the reigning prince, was compelled to retire among the mountains of Snowdon, and soon after agreed to a humiliating treaty of peace, which was concluded at this place. On the next invasion of Wales by Edward, in 1282, he again led his army hither, and stationed it with great advantage in the vicinity, the cavalry being encamped on the plains at the foot of the Snowdon mountains, and the infantry posted on the sides of the hills, under cover of the woods. Having finally reduced Wales under his dominion, the same monarch, in 1283, erected here, as at Carnarvon, a strong and stately castle, on the site of the ancient monastery, the inmates of which he removed to an abbey which he had founded for them at Maenan, on the Denbighshire side of the Conway, but still in Carnarvonshire, and ultimately transferred them, according to some writers, to the celebrated abbey of Vale Royal, in Cheshire, also of his foundation; though it is the opinion of others that they continued at Maenan till the dissolution. He then fortified the town with walls, twelve feet in thickness, defended by twenty-four towers, and having six principal gates, enclosing an irregular triangular area, and communicating at the south-east angle with the castle, which occupies the summit of an immense isolated rock of compact schistus, on the western shore of the river Conway. After the completion of these splendid fortifications, Edward, in 1284, incorporated the town, together with others in the principality, granting the inhabitants a charter of privileges, equal to those which he had previously bestowed on the inhabitants of Hereford, and appointed a constable of the castle, whom he also made mayor of the borough. In 1290, this sovereign again came in person into North Wales, at the head of an army, to repress the insurrection under Madoc, an illegitimate son of the late Llewelyn, and, having crossed the Conway with a part of his forces, awaited

at the castle the arrival of the remainder. In executing this movement, Edward lost several waggons and other carriages, laden with provisions, which were intercepted by the Welsh, who suddenly came down in great multitudes from the mountains, and invested the castle on the land side. The rear of the English army being unable to join the king, in consequence of a sudden rise of the Conway, the latter, hemmed in by a vindictive enemy and an impassable river, was placed in a situation of considerable embarrassment, and the garrison was reduced to great distress for want of provisions, which the king voluntarily shared with his soldiers. The Conway at last suddenly subsiding, the remainder of Edward's army crossed to his relief; and the Welsh, abandoning the siege, retired to the mountains of Snowdon. On the departure of the enemy, the English monarch kept his Christmas here with great splendour and without molestation; and the insurgents were shortly after defeated with great slaughter by the Earl of Warwick.

Richard II., whilst in Ireland, appointed this place the rendezvous of his forces destined to oppose the usurpation of Bolingbroke, afterwards Henry IV.; and forty thousand loyal vassals out of Cheshire and Wales are said to have assembled here, under the command of the Earl of Salisbury, awaiting his arrival. But, wearied by broken promises and protracted delays, many of them retired to their homes: still a sufficient number remained to assert, with promise of success, the rights of Richard, had not that prince, on his arrival, been persuaded to retire from this place, under a specious proposal of accommodation with Bolingbroke, by the Earl of Northumberland, who conducted him to Flint castle, and there treacherously abandoned him to the power of his rival. From this time Aberconway continued uninterruptedly in the possession of the reigning monarch, and, during the contentions of the houses of York and Lancaster, sustained but little injury. It was repaired by Henry VII., who restored that part of the fortifications which had fallen into decay; and it remained in an entire state until the civil war of the seventeenth century. In 1643, the castle was garrisoned for the king by Dr. John Williams, Archbishop of York, who was appointed governor; and, having made his nephew, William Hookes, deputy-governor of the town and castle, was afterwards invested by the king with the office of commander-in-chief of the royalists in North Wales. At this critical period, the castle, from its impregnable strength, was made the depository of the writings, plate, and valuables of the neighbouring gentry, to whom the archbishop gave receipts for their deposits, thus making himself responsible for their security. But, in 1645, Prince Rupert, taking upon himself the command of the royalists in North Wales, superseded the archbishop in his office of commander-in-chief, and displaced his nephew from the governorship of the castle, which he entrusted to Sir John Owen. Deeply offended at this, and apprehending ruin to himself, from his receiving no security for the treasure which had been committed to his custody, the archbishop listened to overtures made to him by some of the opposite party, and, joining with General Mytton, assisted him in the reduction of the town, which was taken by storm on the 15th of August, in that year. The castle held out till the 10th of November following, when, after a valiant and resolute



defence, it finally surrendered to the parliamentary forces. The archbishop, who, during the action, was wounded in the neck, was, in consideration of his services, absolved by the parliament from all his sequestrations; and Mytton, with a degree of generosity unusual in those times, restored to every individual the property which he had placed for security in the castle. That general, however, seized on all the Irish whom he found among the garrison, and, causing them to be tied back to back, ordered them to be thrown into the Conway. The grandeur and beauty of the castle obtained for it a due consideration from the captors, no order, as was usual upon those occasions, being issued for its demolition; and at the Restoration it was given up to Charles II., as the only perfect fortified place which had escaped the violence of the parliamentarians. That monarch granted it to Edward Earl of Conway, by whose order the iron, timber, and lead were taken down and transported to Ireland, in 1665, notwithstanding the zealous remonstrances of the deputy-lieutenants and gentry of North Wales, who were anxious to preserve from premature dilapidation an edifice which for four hundred years had attracted the admiration of the country: the order, however, was carried into effect, and this magnificent structure was reduced nearly to the state in which it at present appears.

The town is pleasantly and advantageously situated on the western shore of the river Conway, and consists of one principal street leading to the castle, intersected at right angles by a spacious street extending from the east gate to the market-place, and by a narrower street of greater length, leading from the continuation of Castle-street, on the north, to the west gate. The ancient walls, with their towers, are still in good preservation, and the principal gates are remaining: a very considerable proportion of the area within the walls is occupied as garden ground, and the houses are comparatively few and in detached situations. Among the recent improvements which have taken place in the immediate vicinity of the town, on the line of the great Holyhead road, and in which a vast sum has been expended by government, the principal is the construction of a suspension bridge over the river Conway, in lieu of the ancient ferry, which was commenced on the 3rd of April, 1822, and completed on the 1st of July, 1826. The chains are fastened, on the east side of the river, in a solid rock, which, before the construction of the bridge, was insulated, and on the west side, after passing under the walls of the castle to a distance of fifty-four feet, are securely bolted into the rock on which that fortress is built. From the eastern extremity an embankment, six hundred and seventy-one yards in length, and thirty feet in breadth at the top, has been raised on the sands between the island and the shore; and from the western extremity a road has been cut through the solid rock, under the north-east side of the castle, to the distance of one hundred and seventy-five yards, to unite with Castle-street; thus making the whole extent of the bridge and its approaches more than nine hundred yards. On this road a very handsome lodge of two towers, corresponding in design with the venerable remains of the castle, has been erected, forming an elegant arched entrance from the town to the bridge, through a pair of massive iron gates of noble appearance; and on the rock on the eastern side a very pretty lodge has

been built for the bridge-surveyor, the stone for the whole having been procured from the neighbouring quarries. The length of the bridge, between the centres of the supporting towers, is three hundred and twenty-seven feet; its height, above high water mark, eighteen feet; and the height of the pillars, over which the chains pass, forty-two feet from the platform. Owing to the construction of the embankment, the velocity of the current between the castle rock and that which was formerly insulated was so much increased, that it was found extremely difficult to manage and moor the raft upon which the main chains of the Menai suspension bridge had been erected and floated to their positions, and which had been towed round the coast to Aberconway, for a similar purpose. A platform was therefore constructed on ropes extending from the tops of the supporting towers, on which the chains were put together in the places they were intended permanently to occupy, and, the ropes having been afterwards slackened, were brought to their bearings and adjusted. The principal chains, from which the roadway is suspended, are eight in number, and are formed of links, each consisting of five bars of iron, three inches and a half wide, and one inch thick. Connected with the suspension bridge, a very important improvement has been effected in the road leading from the town through the north-west wall, where a noble gateway has been erected, and proceeding round the immense mountain of Penmaen Bâch, along the northern precipitous declivity of which it is carried by an excavation in the solid rock, in some places eighty feet high, and extending more than a mile in length. The new line of road is more than four miles and a half in length, from Aberconway to Bryn y Môn, where it joins the old road: this undertaking, which is one of the most extensive and important in this part of the kingdom, was completed under the direction of Mr. Telford. A new line of road has also been projected, to the north-west of the castle, from this town to Llanrwst, and a bridge has here been built over the river Gyfin.

Aberconway is a creek to the port of Beaumaris; but, notwithstanding the natural advantages of its situation, and the important improvements in its immediate vicinity, there is neither any trade of importance, nor any manufacture whatever carried on in the town. The river Conway, which, considering the shortness of its course, not exceeding twenty-four miles, is perhaps one of the noblest to be found in any country, is here navigable for vessels of two hundred tons' burden, and forms under the town wall an excellent harbour, accessible at all times, in which ships may ride in safety. There is also an extensive and commodious quay, lately much improved by the corporation, affording great facility for loading and unloading goods; but, notwithstanding the existence of every local advantage, the commerce of the port is chiefly confined to the importation of coal and groceries, and to the exportation of timber, corn, slates, copper-ore, &c., principally to Liverpool. The Conway is celebrated for the pearl muscle, which it produces in great abundance; and formerly the pearl fishery was carried on here to a very great extent: at present about forty persons are employed in the fishery, which produces, on an average, about one hundred and sixty ounces per week: the pearls are equal to those found on any part of the British coast, and are generally sold at the rate of two shillings and sixpence per ounce.



The market, which, prior to the construction of the suspension bridge, was very small and badly attended, is on Friday, and is now, owing to the facility of attending it afforded by that structure, greatly improved; and the fairs, which are on March 26th, April 30th, June 20th, August 10th, September 16th, October 20th, and November 15th, are almost entirely neglected: that in September is commonly called Honey Fair, being supplied with a considerable quantity of that article, of a superior quality, from the glens of the adjoining mountains. The borough received its first charter of incorporation from Edward I., in 1281; or, as some think, in 1284, in which latter year the castle was built: by this charter, confirmed by Edward III., Richard II., Edward IV., Richard III., Henry VII., Henry VIII., and Elizabeth, the government is vested in a mayor, appointed by letters patent, as governor of the castle, two bailiffs, a recorder, a water-bailiff, a coroner, two serjeants at mace, and other officers, who, with the exception of the mayor, are elected annually on the 29th of September, from among the burgesses at large. This is one of the six contributory boroughs within the county, which unite in returning one member to parliament: the right of election, which was formerly vested in the burgesses at large, in number fifty-eight, of whom only fifteen were resident, is now vested in the resident burgesses only, and in such other male persons of full age as occupy any house, or other premises, either as owner, or as tenant under the same landlord, of the clear annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering his name as the act requires: the bailiffs of Carnarvon are the returning officers. The freedom of the borough is obtained only by gift of the burgesses at large, who generally present it to persons living out of the borough, and mostly at a considerable distance. The corporation have power by their charter to hold courts of session for the trial of all offenders not accused of capital crimes, but they have not for many years exercised it. A court of requests, the jurisdiction of which is co-extensive with the borough, and at which the recorder presides, is held every third week, for the recovery of debts under forty shillings; and courts leet and baron are also held. The general quarter sessions for the county were formerly held here by adjournment, but for many years past they have been held at Carnarvon: the county magistrates hold a petty session for the division in the town-hall, on the first Friday in every month.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £7.7.6., endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Sir David Erskine, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a spacious structure, and contains some good monuments, among which are, one to the memory of Nicholas Hookes, of Aberconway, Gent., whose epitaph represents him to have been the forty-first child of his father, William Hookes, Esq., by Alice his wife, and the father of twenty-seven children; and a rude effigy of Mary, the mother of Archbishop Williams. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. About one hundred and forty children of the parish are gratuitously instructed in a temporary building, but there is no appropriate school-house, or permanent en-

dowment. Lewis Owen, in 1623, bequeathed in trust half the rectorial tithes of Aberconway, producing at present £148 per annum, to be expended annually in clothing the poor of the parishes of Aberconway, Eglwys-Rhôs, Llangwstenyn, and Llandudno; the other half is given to the vicar of Aberconway, and £16 per annum to each of the parishes above named. Of the monastery founded by Prince Llewelyn there are no remains: the founder was interred within it, in 1240, but on its dissolution, after Edward I. had removed the monks to Maenan, a few miles higher up the river, Llewelyn's remains were conveyed first to Maenan, and thence, after the dissolution of that abbey, to Llanrwst, and the stone coffin in which they were deposited is now preserved in the Gwydir chapel there. In the conventual church was also interred Cynan ab Owain Gwynedd, in the year 1200, in a monk's cowl, from a superstitious belief that by such means the soul would be preserved from punishment. It was also the burial-place of Davydd ab Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, son of the founder, who died in 1246; and of his brother Gruffydd, who died a prisoner in the hands of Henry III., and whose body was given up, about the year 1248, at the urgent solicitations of the abbots of Aberconway and Strata Florida, for interment in this abbey, which was then considered the mausoleum for the princes of North Wales. The extensive ruins of the magnificent castle of Aberconway comprise an irregular parallelogram, divided into two wards, of which the smaller is square: the walls, which are sixteen feet in thickness, are defended by eight circular embattled towers, nearly equidistant, and of prodigious strength: from the summits of four of them, which overlook the river, rise circular embattled turrets, of slender proportions and of great beauty. The principal entrances were from the river and the town: the former consisted of a narrow winding ascent up the steep rock, terminating in an advanced work fronting the gate of the castle, and protected by small round towers; and the latter, which was similarly defended, was approached by a drawbridge over a large fosse. The keep and other fortifications are massive and of considerable dimensions, and the state apartments exhibit good specimens in the decorated style of English architecture, of which the details are peculiarly fine: among these, an oriel window in one of the great towers appears to have been a beautiful composition. The great hall is one hundred and thirty feet long, and thirty-two feet wide: the roof, which is proportionably lofty, was supported by a series of noble arches, of which part still remains; and the whole apartment was lighted by a fine range of six large windows on the one side, commanding a view of the country, and of three on the other, looking into the court. Both as a royal castle and a fortress, this interesting and extensive pile was equally conspicuous for its beauty and its strength; and the ruins, which convey an impressive idea of its former importance, are among the most magnificent and picturesque in the kingdom. The inhabitants, some years ago, by imprudently getting stones from the rock beneath one of the great towers, undermined it, and brought down the lower portion, the fragments of which form a vast heap of ruins on the shore; the upper part of the tower is left entire, suspended from a great height, and exhibits in the breach such a degree of strength and solidity as might almost have defied the ravages of



time. In the vicinity of the town are numerous and extensive encampments, but none within the limits of the parish, which comprises comparatively a small area. Archbishop Williams was a native of this place, and the apartment in which he was born is still shewn: when governor of the castle, he built a house here, in 1642, in one of the apartments of which his arms, impaling those of York, are yet preserved. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £351.

ABERDARE (ABER-DÂR), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. W. by W.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, and 21 (N. W. by N.) from Cardif (which is the post town), on the road from Cardif to Neath, over Hîrwaun common, containing 3961 inhabitants. This parish is celebrated as having been the scene of a sanguinary battle, in the reign of William Rufus, which is said to have taken place on Hîrwaun common, about two miles to the north of the village, between the forces of Rhys ab Tewdwr, Prince of South Wales, and those of Iestyn ab Gwrgan, aided by a body of Norman adventurers, under the command of Robert Fitz-Hamon, who, after having gained a signal victory over Rhys, who was slain in the contest, turned his arms against Iestyn, and dispossessed him of his territories, the most valuable of which he reserved to himself, and partitioned the remainder among the knights who had attended him in the expedition.

The village is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Dâr, and near its confluence with the Cynon, in the delightful mountain vale of Cynon, which is remarkable for picturesque and romantic scenery, and is equally characterised by features of beauty and of grandeur. Its majestic groves of oak and fir, alternating with fruitful corn-fields and luxuriant meadows, are finely contrasted with precipitous and barren rocks, and enlivened by the bold sweep of the river, which in some of its windings appears to be hemmed in on every side by lofty and sterile mountains. The parish abounds with coal and iron-ore, the working of which, though it has materially defaced the beauty of the neighbourhood, which was previously distinguished as a place of enviable retirement, has added greatly to its wealth and the number of its inhabitants. Three iron-works are conducted upon a very extensive scale, of which those at Llwydcoed and Abernant are capable, when in full operation, of producing annually more than eleven thousand tons of iron; the works at Gadlys are at present discontinued. The Aberdare canal, which is seven miles in length, communicates with the Glamorganshire canal, and, by means of a tram-road, with the extensive works at Hîrwaun, in the county of Brecknock, affording a facility of conveyance by which the whole produce of this mineral district is sent to the port of Cardif, where it is shipped to various parts of the kingdom: this canal passes within half a mile of the village, from which a rail-road, two miles in length, extends to the works at Llwydcoed and Abernant. This parish is included within the borough of Merthyr-Tydvil, to which, by the act for amending the representation of the people in England and Wales, recently passed, the privilege of returning one member to parliament has been granted: the right of election is vested in every male person of full age occupying, as owner, or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or

other premises of the clear yearly value of ten pounds, if duly registered as the act directs. It is within the jurisdiction of the court of requests held at Merthyr-Tydvil, on the second Thursday in every month, for the recovery of debts not exceeding £5. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £1800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Llantrisant, who receives the vicarial tithes of this parish; but at present a negotiation is pending between the Marquis of Bute and the Dean and Chapter of Gloucester, in whose gift is the vicarage of Llantrisant, pursuant to which, should the latter accede to his lordship's proposal for further endowing the incumbency, the patronage of Aberdare will be transferred into his lordship's hands. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a small ancient building without a tower or steeple, remarkable only for its rustic simplicity of character, which is in perfect harmony with the surrounding scenery. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, Calvinistic Methodists, English and Welsh Wesleyan Methodists, and Unitarians. A National school, capable of accommodating one hundred boys and fifty girls, has been built by subscription, on ground given for that purpose by the Marquis of Bute, and is partly supported by subscription, in addition to small weekly payments from the parents of the scholars. Four houses in the parish, belonging to the poor, were endowed in 1724, by Mrs. Elinor Matthews, with a rent-charge of £5 on the farm of Pen Caradoc, in the parish of Llanwonno, now the property of J. B. Bruce, Esq. There are remains of two ancient blomeries in this parish, by some writers attributed to the Romans, and by others, with greater probability, to the Britons, before the use of blast furnaces was known; and vestiges of a circular British encampment may be distinctly traced. Aberamman, the seat of the late Anthony Bacon, Esq., of Benham, in the county of Berks, was for centuries the residence of the family of Matthews; and Dyfryn is the birthplace, and was anciently the residence of Ieuan ddu ab Davydd ab Owain, an eminent poet, who flourished about the middle of the fifteenth century, and was a munificent patron of the bards: the estate came to his descendants, who, by the usual transition of names, were called Jones, from whom it was purchased by William Bruce, Esq., in 1748, and is now the property of his grandson, J. Bruce Bruce, Esq., who, under a recent act of parliament, has been appointed stipendiary police magistrate of Merthyr-Tydvil, Aberdare, and Gellygaer. Edward Evan, for many years minister of an Independent congregation in the neighbourhood, an eminent poet and philosopher, to whose efforts for the preservation of the bardic institutions the principality is greatly indebted, was also a native of this parish; he died in 1798, on the day appointed for a meeting of the bards of Glamorgan, which he was to have attended. The inhabitants of this parish complain, as a singular hardship, that, although the Hîrwaun furnaces of Mr. Crawshay contribute largely to the poor's rate of the parish of Penderrin, in the county of Brecknock, in which they are situated, the burden of the removals and accidents of a large portion of the workmen falls upon the parish of Aberdare, just within the limits of which their cottages are situated. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £605. 2.



**ABERDARON** (ABER-DARON), a parish in the hundred of COMMITMAEN, Llein division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 18 miles (W.S.W.) from Pwllheli, containing 1389 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the extreme point of the peninsula of Llein, the *Promontorium Langanum* of Ptolemy, derives its name from the small river Daron, which here falls into the sea, off Bardsey Race. In 1115, Gruffydd ab Rhys, Prince of South Wales, took sanctuary in the church of this place, from the treachery of Gruffydd ab Cynan, sovereign of North Wales, who intended to deliver him into the hands of the English monarch, Henry I. Gruffydd ab Cynan commanded the fugitive prince to be dragged from his asylum by force; but his soldiers were unable to execute his orders, from the strenuous resistance opposed to them by the clergy of the neighbourhood, who successfully exerted themselves in defence of the privileges of the church; and the young prince, with his partisans, escaped by night, and set forward on his journey to the deep forest of Strath Towy, in South Wales, where, having collected the adherents of his family, he commenced hostilities against the Norman and Flemish settlers. Aberdaron was anciently much resorted to by devotees, as a place of embarkation for Bardsey Island, on their pilgrimage to the celebrated monastery established there; and on the summit of the promontory are the remains of the ancient Capel Vair, or Chapel of Our Lady, erected for the use of the mariners, who, previously to their entering upon the dangerous navigation of the sound, were accustomed to invoke the protection of its tutelar saint. At a small distance from it, and near the shore, are the remains of another chapel, called Capel Anhaelog, which, like the former, has been suffered, since the dissolution of Bardsey monastery, to fall into decay. The village, which is small and chiefly inhabited by fishermen, is, by its isolated situation, and the want of good roads and other facilities of communication, precluded from all intercourse, except on market days during the summer with Pwllheli, from which place the inhabitants are supplied with necessaries, and by sea with Liverpool, to which port vessels sail regularly every week with pigs, poultry, and eggs, and from which they return laden with coal, for the supply of the neighbourhood. A stratum of excellent limestone has recently been discovered in this parish, which, from its scarcity in this part of the country, promises to be of great benefit to the farmers: lead-ore has also been found in small quantities. A fair is held here annually on the 26th of June.

The living is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Llanvaelrhys annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £3. 9. 4½, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor: there is also a sinecure rectory, rated at £10. 9. 4½, and in the patronage of the Master and Fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge, who usually present a fellow of that college. The church, dedicated to St. Hyrwyn, a saint of the island of Bardsey, was formerly collegiate, and had the privilege of sanctuary: it is an ancient structure, consisting of a nave, south aisle, and chancel, and, though at present in a greatly dilapidated state, appears to have been an elegant and highly finished building, in the ancient style of English architecture: some trifling remains of

stalls are visible in the chancel. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A school for the education of poor children of Aberdaron is held here every fourth year, in turn with Llanvaelrhys, Bryncroes, and Rhiw; the income of the master arises from the rental of a teneement in the parish of Bryncroes. Dr. Henry Rowland, Bishop of Bangor, founded an almshouse in that city, in 1616, for six single men, of whom two are to be of Aberdaron. The courts for the manor of Bardsey were formerly held at a house in this parish, which still bears the name of "Court;" and on an eminence near it, called Brynn y Crogbren, or the "Gallows' Hill," criminals were probably executed: another house in the neighbourhood is called Secar, signifying the Exchequer. Below the cliff occupied by the ruins of Capel Vair is the cave of Ogo Vair, in which there is a well, formerly much frequented by devotees, who superstitiously believed that, by carrying a mouthful of the water up a circuitous and dangerous path to the summit of the hill, whatever wish they might entertain would be accomplished. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £494.

**ABERDOVEY** (ABER-DYVI), a sea-port and bathing-place, in the parish of TOWYN, hundred of ESTIMANOR, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S. S. E.) from Towyn. The population is returned with the parish. This place is pleasantly situated on the northern side of the mouth of the river Dovey, which here empties itself into Cardigan bay, and from which it derives its name, on the road from Machynlleth to Towyn, and is rapidly rising into estimation as a bathing-place: the beach is highly favourable for bathing, being composed of hard firm sand, and several respectable houses and a commodious hotel have been erected of late years, for the accommodation of visitors. In the year 1827, a new line of road was opened between Pennal and Towyn, which, proceeding along the northern bank of the Dovey, among scenery beautifully picturesque, and embracing a fine view of the opposite coast of Cardiganshire, and the æstuary of the river, passes through Aberdovey, and is continued along the shore to Towyn. For nearly the whole of its extent from Pennal to Aberdovey, it is cut through the solid rock, which, in many places, presents its naked side, of different elevations, forming a pleasing contrast to the wooded declivity of the hill, which, from the base to the summit, is thickly clothed with trees and shrubs of various kinds, presenting, in conjunction with the broad æstuary of the river, and aided by the vernal blossoms of the mountain heath, a pleasing scene of picturesque beauty. The ride from Aberdovey to Towyn, along the sands, at low water, is extremely delightful. The road from Pennal to Machynlleth has also been much improved, thereby increasing the facility of access to this rising place, which, for these and other advantages, is greatly indebted to the exertions of A. Corbett, Esq., of Ynysymaengwyn, in this parish. A subscription has been entered into for the erection of a chapel of ease, which will afford great convenience to the inhabitants, who are four miles distant from the parochial church. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, with Sunday schools attached. Petty sessions for the hundred are held here, alternately with Pennal, once in two months.



The port, which is a member of that of Aberystwith, possesses a considerable share of coasting trade: the imports are coal, culm, grocery, limestone, bricks, timber, &c., and the exports, timber poles for the collieries, bark, lead ore, and slates. The harbour is excellent, but there is a bar on the north side of the entrance to it, which is said to have assumed its present position in consequence of the wind blowing so frequently from the south: two buoys, the outer black and the inner red, were fixed upon this bar by the Corporation of the Trinity House, in March 1831. The river, which is here crossed by a ferry to the opposite shore of Cardiganshire, is navigable up to Derwenlâs, within two miles of Machynlleth. There are extensive slate quarries in the neighbourhood, and mines of lead and copper, but the latter are only worked in proportion to the demand for those articles. In making the new road, a vessel, containing a considerable number of early English coins, was found; and a vase of the Tuscan shape, capable of holding about two quarts, and now in the possession of the Rev. Isaac Bonsall, rector of Llanwrin, was picked up on the sands opposite to the port, in 1824: it is composed of burnt clay, and is nearly covered with an incrustation of oyster and other marine shells. Ieuan Dyvi, a celebrated bard, who flourished about the close of the fifteenth century, was a native of this place. The district called Cantrev Gwaelod, or the Lowland Hundred, traditionally reported to have been inundated by the sea, which event is also commemorated in some of the Welsh poems, is said to have been situated between this place and Harlech: it was a tract of great fertility and beauty, containing sixteen fortified towns and cities, subject to a petty prince, called Gwyddno Goronhîr, and is stated to have been swallowed up about the year 500.

ABEREDW (ABER-EDWY), a parish in the hundred of COLWYN, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. E.) from Builth, containing 344 inhabitants. It derives its name from being situated at the mouth of the river Edwy, which, after flowing through the parish, empties itself into the Wye, the latter river here forming the line of boundary between the counties of Radnor and Brecknock: the Edwy is only a small stream, famous for its trout and eels. The surface of the parish is rocky and uneven, and the scenery pleasing and frequently picturesque: the view from the churchyard is extremely beautiful. The petty sessions for the hundred are occasionally held here. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £12. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Cewydd, is a plain building, consisting of a nave and chancel, separated by an oak screen, in the later style of English architecture, with a square tower at the west end, and, if not rebuilt, appears to have undergone thorough repair in the time of the Tudors. A small plot of land was given by Lewis Lloyd, and, in 1746, the sum of £20 by Elizabeth Price, for the benefit of decayed housekeepers: the sum of £12 per annum is paid out of the proceeds of a farm called Vronoleu, in the parish of Llanbadarn y Garreg, the bequest of Mrs. Gwynne of that place, for distribution, in equal proportions, among decayed housekeepers of the parishes of Aberedw, Llanbadarn y Garreg, and Llanvarredd. The profits of this manor

are under the superintendence of seven trustees, and are applied in apprenticing the poor children of several parishes. Within the short distance of a quarter of a mile from this place are divers objects of great interest and attraction. The churchyard is bounded on one side by a steep precipice, at the base of which flows the Edwy, which from this point winds through a narrow defile of rocks, rising on one side to a height of nearly three hundred feet, and romantically varied by alternate stratifications of naked rock and green sward, partially concealed by hanging woods; on the other side, the rocks, though their elevation is less, have a more striking character. Here a boldly projecting rock threatens with immediate destruction the traveller passing beneath it; there a perpendicular wall of solid rock, extending one hundred feet in height, presents its bold and unbroken front, richly mantled with mosses, ivy, and other parasitical plants, and in the clefts of which the larger birds build their nests. Among these rocks a rude cave, about six feet square, called Llewelyn's Cave, is said to have been occasionally used as an asylum by that brave, but unfortunate, prince Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, the last royal defender of Welsh liberty and independence, against the overpowering army of Edward I. A short distance north-westward from the church, and at the head of this beautiful and romantic dingle, Llewelyn had a castle, the ruins of which are yet standing, on the banks of the Wye, and consist only of the fragment of a tower, or bastion, and part of a wall. During the defensive war which he waged against the English monarch, the Welsh prince summoned his adherents to a private conference at this castle; but of the disastrous result of this movement a variety of accounts has been given, some of which cannot be reconciled with the localities of this district. Mr. Jones, the historian of Brecknockshire, who took great pains to reconcile the conflicting statements, says that, having marched to Aberedw, he was there surprised by a superior force of the enemy from Herefordshire, under the command of Edmund Mortimer and John Giffard, to whom intelligence of his arrival had been treacherously communicated by some of the inhabitants of this place. Thus unexpectedly attacked, Llewelyn fled with his men towards Builth, taking the precaution of ordering the shoes of his horse to be reversed, there being snow on the ground, which stratagem, however, was made known to the enemy by a blacksmith at Aberedw. Having arrived at the bridge over the Wye, he crossed it, and issued orders for its immediate demolition, before his pursuers arrived. Thus checked in their progress, the English returned to a ford, eight miles lower down on the river, which was known to some of the party, and thus effected a passage. Meanwhile, Llewelyn had proceeded to Builth, from which, failing in his attempts to procure aid from the garrison, he advanced westward, up the Vale of Irvon, on the south side, for about three miles, where he crossed the river, a little above Llanynis church, over a bridge called Pont y Coed, or "the bridge of the wood," and stationed the few troops who had accompanied him in an advantageous position on the north side of that river, with a view to defend the bridge. The English, on coming up, made an attempt to obtain possession of it, but failing, they discovered a ford at a short distance, which a detachment of their troops secretly crossed,



and coming behind the Welsh unawares, attacked them in the rear, and routed them; and Llewelyn himself was slain in a small dell, since called Cwm Llewelyn, or "Llewelyn's dingle," about two hundred yards from the scene of action, by one Adam de Francton, or de Framp-ton, who plunged his spear into his body without knowing the rank of his victim, and immediately joined his party in pursuit of the fleeing foe. Returning after the engagement, probably in search of plunder, de Francton discovered that he had slain the Welsh prince, whose head he immediately cut off, and sent it to the king of England. The body was dragged a short distance, to a place where the road from Builth branches off in two directions, one leading to Llanavon-Vawr, and the other to Llangammarch, where it was interred, the spot being still called Cevn y bedd, or Cevn bedd Llewelyn, "the ridge of Llewelyn's grave." From their infidelity on this occasion, the opprobrious designation of "Traitors of Aberedw," is said to have been given by Llewelyn to the inhabitants of this place. About three hundred yards to the east of the castle of Aberedw, on the summit of an eminence, is a large tumulus, directly above the river Edwy, on the side of which is that most awful precipice before described, so beautifully mantled, and forming an object so truly picturesque from every point of view but this, where it cannot be observed without indescribable sensations of awe. Thomas Jones, a landscape painter of distinguished repute, and best known by his two pieces of the "Campi Phlægræi," was born at Pen Careg, in the vicinity of this place, where, having succeeded to the family estate, he resided upon it until his death in 1803. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £246. 4.

ABEREIRCH (ABER-ERCH), a parish partly in the hundred of DINLLAEN, and partly in the hundred of EIVIONEDD, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (E.N.E.) from Pwllheli, on the road to Criccieth, containing 1365 inhabitants. This small parish is pleasantly situated on the sea-shore, near the mouth of the river Eirch, from which it has received its name, and contains some agreeable scenery, interspersed with several well-built genteel houses, the principal of which is Hendrev, the property and residence of the Rev. T. Roberts. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Penrhôs annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £6, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Cawrdav, is an ancient and spacious building, in the later style of English architecture, and consists of a nave, north aisle, and chancel; the two eastern windows, which are enriched with elegant tracery, have been ornamented with stained glass. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A teneement in the parish was bequeathed for the use of the poor, by the late Rev. Mr. Conway, the incumbent, and is now let for £6 per annum, which, with £4 per annum, arising from other charitable donations and bequests, is annually distributed on St. Thomas' day. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £460. 13.

ABER-FRAW (ABER FRAW), a parish (formerly a market town), partly in the hundred of MENAI, but

principally in that of MALLTRAETH, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 13 miles (S.E. by S.) from Holyhead, containing 1367 inhabitants. This place, which derives its name from its situation at the mouth of the small river Fraw, was distinguished at a very early period as the principal residence of the ancient princes of North Wales, by one of whom, Caswallon Law Hir, a palace was built, about the middle of the fifth century. Caswallon's successors having removed the seat of government to *Caer Seiont*, now Carnarvon, it was re-established at Aberfraw, in the year 870, by Roderic the Great, after his defeat of Burhred, the Mercian prince, who had invaded his dominions. Roderic fixed his supreme court of judicature at this place, which, until the death of Llewelyn, in 1282, continued to be the ordinary residence of the Welsh sovereigns. During that period, one of the three copies of the celebrated code of laws compiled, about the year 940, under the auspices of Hywel Dda, was deposited here. In 966, the palace was destroyed by the Irish, in one of their descents upon Anglesey, but was subsequently rebuilt; and soon after the commencement of the twelfth century, during the sovereignty of Gruffydd ab Cynan, it afforded an asylum to Gruffydd, son of Rhys ab Tewdwr, late prince of South Wales. The Welsh sovereign, shortly after paying a visit to Henry I., at London, was prevailed upon to promise that, on his return, he would deliver up the fugitive to the English monarch; but the young prince, fearing this treachery, withdrew from the palace with his brother Hywel; and Gruffydd ab Cynan, determined to perform his promise to Henry, having discovered the place of his retreat, despatched a body of horsemen to arrest him, in which attempt however, they did not succeed; for the young prince, being timely apprised of their design, again had recourse to flight, and, although closely pursued, effected his escape. Aberfraw has since this period dwindled into a mere village, and exhibits no remains of its former importance: it is pleasantly situated on the shore of St. George's channel, at the influx of the river Fraw, which has its source in two fine lakes just above the village, and, after flowing through the parish, falls into the sea, about three miles from one of the lakes, called Llŷn Coron, forming at its mouth a small harbour, capable of receiving vessels of forty tons' burden, which, at a very moderate expense, might be rendered highly commodious, having anciently been an excellent haven. The parish comprises about six thousand two hundred acres of land, which with the exception of five hundred acres of common, are enclosed and in a good state of cultivation: the soil is sandy, and well adapted to the production of grain, of which great quantities, especially of oats and barley, raised in the parish and in the surrounding country, are annually shipped from this small port, which is considered a creek within the limits of the port of Beaumaris: the inhabitants are principally employed in agriculture and in fishing. The market, formerly held on Thursday, has been discontinued for several years: fairs are appointed to be held on the 7th of March, the Tuesday after Palm-Sunday, Wednesday after Trinity-Sunday, August 15th, October 23rd, and December 11th.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £20. 15. 10., and in the patronage of the King,



as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Beuno, is an ancient and spacious structure, in the decorated style of English architecture, consisting of two spacious parallel aisles, separated by lofty pillars and finely pointed arches: the tower was demolished many years ago, but there is a handsome pointed arch, formerly leading into it from the church, still in a very perfect state of preservation. In the tything of Dindryval anciently stood a chapel, called Capel Mair, or "St. Mary's chapel." There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A ruined church, called Eglwys y Beili, was rebuilt for a school, in 1729, by Sir Arthur Owen, Bart., who endowed it with £4 per annum for the instruction of six poor children in the Welsh language. A National school has been recently built, and is supported by subscription, in which about one hundred children of both sexes receive gratuitous instruction. Mr. John Pugh Gwilym, in 1633, bequeathed £53. 6. 8., and the Rev. John Thomas, in 1642, bequeathed a portion of land, to the poor; and various other sums by different benefactors, amounting nearly to £70, secured formerly on the turnpike trust of the county, were appropriated to the same purpose, but they are either lost, or, by misapplication, are not now available for the uses to which they were originally given. At present there are no remains of the ancient palace, nor of any of the buildings connected with it, although some of the oldest inhabitants remember slight vestiges of it in the walls of a barn; and at the south-western extremity of the village there is an enclosure, called Gardd y Llŷs, or "the Palace Garden." In this parish are frequently found the amulets called Gleiniau Nadroedd, or "snake gems," supposed to have been made by the Romans, and bartered with the ancient Britons for the produce of their country: they are composed of glass, and are of a rich blue colour, some streaked, and others plain, and are now superstitiously used by the vulgar as charms for certain disorders, and in assisting children to cut their teeth. The *Eisteddvodau*, or triennial assemblies of the bards of this district, were held at Aberfraw, so long as it continued to be a royal residence. According to Mr. Rowlands, the historian of Anglesey, this is the birthplace of Walter, afterwards named Steward, or Stuart, who, going into Scotland, there founded the powerful family of that name, which afterwards enjoyed the sovereignty both of England and Scotland. The average annual assessment for the support of the poor amounts to £583. 19.

ABERGELE (ABER-GELAU), a market town and parish, in the hundred of ISDULAS, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 12 miles (N. W.) from Denbigh, 20 (N. W.) from Ruthin, and 224 (N. W.) from London, on the great road to Holyhead, from Chester, containing 2506 inhabitants. This parish takes its name from its situation near the mouth of the river Geley, which here falls into the Irish sea, and is celebrated as the scene of several military exploits in the earlier period of the wars between England and Wales, and of various transactions of great historical interest. Prior to the Norman Conquest, Harold, in his attempt to subjugate this part of the principality, was encountered by Gruffydd ab Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, on the plain near Cevn Ogo, in this parish, and, after a sanguinary battle, in which he was defeated, and a consi-

derable number of his men slain, was driven back to Rhuddlan. In the reign of William the Conqueror, Hugh Lupus, on his march to invade the Isle of Anglesey, passing through the defile of Cevn Ogo, which is the narrowest pass on this part of the coast, was attacked by an armed band of Welshmen, which had been posted there to intercept his progress, and of which, after an obstinate and protracted battle, eleven hundred were left dead on the spot. In the reign of Henry II., Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, on his retreat from Flintshire, fortified himself in this pass, where he gave battle to the forces of that monarch, and repulsed them with great slaughter: after having secured this important post, he retreated to Pen y parc, in the adjoining parish, where he made a stand against the English forces, and effectually checked the further invasion of his dominions. Near this same pass, Richard II., whom Percy, Earl of Northumberland, under pretence of an amicable interview with Bolingbroke, had inveigled from Aberconway castle, after his return from Ireland, was surrounded by a military band, bearing the Northumberland banner, and conducted to Flint castle, where he was treacherously betrayed by the earl into the power of the usurper. From these circumstances it has been justly remarked, that on no spot in the principality has more blood been shed than in the defile of Cevn Ogo.

The town is delightfully situated in a pleasant valley, watered by the river Geley, and within half a mile of the Irish sea, which forms the northern boundary of the parish. The coast, in some parts, is terminated by sandy cliffs, impending over the sea, which, according to tradition, has made considerable encroachment upon the land; and a stone tablet, in the north wall of the churchyard, records in Welsh, but without either name or date, that a man was buried there who lived three miles to the north, to which distance the coast previously extended. The testimony of this epitaph is corroborated by the appearance, at low water, of a large tract of hard loam, in which oak trees, in an almost entire state, but softened to the consistency of wax, have been found. The salubrity of the air, the pleasantness of its situation, and the decided superiority of its shore for sea-bathing, have rendered Abergele a favourite resort for invalids, and made it the most fashionable watering-place in North Wales: during the summer season it is frequented by numerous families, for whose accommodation every requisite arrangement has been made. The environs abound with picturesque and with strikingly bold scenery, and afford various pleasing and interesting excursions. Lead and copper ores, tin, and manganese, are occasionally found in the parish, and many spirited attempts have been made, but without proportionate success, to discover mines of sufficient extent to remunerate the adventurers for working them: lead-ore only is obtained at present, and that but in small quantities. The fine range of mountains on the south of the town abounds with limestone, of which great quantities are procured, and shipped off weekly for Liverpool: in these works, which are conducted upon a large scale, two hundred men are constantly employed in quarrying, and fifty horses in conveying the produce to the coast. The market, which is on Saturday, is well supplied with corn and provisions; and fairs, which



were formerly noted for the sale of cattle, are held annually on the 12th of February, 2nd of April, the day before Holy Thursday, June 18th, August 20th, October 9th, and December 6th.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £12. 9. 9½, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph: the rectory is an impropriation held in commendam by the archdeacon, since the time of Henry VIII. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a low edifice of great length, and of unpretending character, with a lofty square tower at the west end. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Some charitable donations and bequests have been made for the gratuitous instruction of children, and for distribution among the poor. About halfway between the pass of Cevn Ogo and the town is Gwrych castle, now being built by Lloyd H. Bamford Hesketh, Esq., and occupying the summit of a rocky eminence: the front of this extensive structure already exceeds four hundred and eighty yards, on each side of which a noble terrace, four hundred and twenty yards in length, has been raised, which extends to the east and west entrances, the latter of which is through a high arch, flanked by two lofty embattled towers: the building comprises eighteen lofty embattled towers, of which the principal, called Hesketh Tower, is ninety-three feet high: the whole, when completed, will be one of the largest structures of the kind in Great Britain. On the summit of one of the limestone hills, about a mile north of the church, there is a very large and perfect camp, called Castell Mawr; and near it, on a hill called Coppa yr Wylva, or "the mount of the watch-tower," there are some remains of an ancient British fortress of great strength, of which the north front is defended by an almost perpendicular precipice, one hundred and ninety-six feet in height, and on the east and south are walls of stone and a deep fosse; on the west is a large opening between two mounds of earth and stone, beyond which is another deeper and broader fosse, called Fôs y Rhueiniaid, or "the Roman Fosse." About two miles to the west of the town is Cevn Ogo, a lofty and precipitous rock of limestone, in which, among others of minor extent, there is one of the most spacious and magnificent natural caverns in Europe: it has a bold front towards the sea, considerably elevated, and the entrance, which is many feet above the road, is under a lofty arch of comparatively fine proportions, forty-eight feet in height, within a very short distance of which, proceeding inward, rises a tall columnar rock, presenting the appearance of a rudely sculptured massive pillar, which divides the cavern into two apartments: the recess to the left soon terminates, but that to the right spreads into a spacious chamber, thirty feet in height, and extending to an unexplored depth into the interior of the mountain. The sides and roof of this surprising cavern are studded with beautiful pendant stalactites, many feet in length, ranged on each side with an appearance of perfect order, resembling the pipes of an organ, and reflecting the most brilliant diamond-like hues; and the floor is strewn with immense masses of stalagmite, uniformly of a deep orange colour, and of the most grotesque and fanciful forms. Brÿnfanigl, in this parish, was the residence of Marchudd ab Cynan, one of the fifteen ennobled tribes of

North Wales, who was cotemporary with Roderick the Great, and subsequently that of his descendant, the brave Ednyved Vychan. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £1136. 11.

ABERGUILLY (ABER-GWILI), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of ELVET, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (E. by N.) from Carmarthen, on the road from that town to Llan dilo Vawr, containing 2675 inhabitants. This place, which is principally distinguished for an ancient collegiate church, and for its palace, which is the residence of the diocesan, derives its name from its situation on the river Guilly, near its junction with the Towy. About the year 1020, a desperate battle was fought near the village, between Llewelyn ab Seisyllt, Prince of Wales, and Rhûn, a Scottish adventurer, who, pretending to be the son of Meredydd ab Owen, obtained the assistance of several powerful chieftains of South Wales, the disaffected subjects of Llewelyn, and assembled an army sufficiently strong to hazard an engagement. Llewelyn, returning from North Wales, at the head of his own forces, hastened to attack the adventurer, and, after a long and obstinate conflict, obtained a complete victory over the rebels, and slew their leader in the pursuit.

The village is pleasantly situated, and the meadows in the neighbourhood are watered by the rivers Towy and Guilly, over which last is a neat substantial stone bridge of three arches. The parish abounds with roofing slate of excellent quality, of which there are two quarries at present open, affording employment to about fifty persons, and furnishing an abundant supply of that material for the use of the surrounding neighbourhood. Petty sessions for the division are held here once a month. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 6. 8., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Dean and Canons of Windsor, but, from his residence in the parish, the Bishop of St. David's is by courtesy allowed to present. The church, dedicated to St. Maurice, and situated near the bank of the Towy, was made collegiate by Dr. Beck, Bishop of St. David's, in 1287, for twenty-two prebendaries, four priests, four choristers, and two clerks. In 1334, some alterations were made by Bishop Gower, who added a precentor, chancellor, and treasurer; and the establishment, the revenue of which was £42 per annum, was finally removed by Henry VIII. to his newly-erected college at Brecknock. The church is a neat plain building, consisting of two aisles, without either tower or steeple, having a small belfry placed over the west end for the reception of two bells: it is divided internally by a range of pointed arches and massive octagonal columns. In the churchyard, which is finely planted with evergreens, and is preserved in excellent order, is a monumental stone to the memory of Dr. Adam Ottley, bishop of the diocese, who died on the 4th of October, 1723. At Llanvihangel-uwch-Guilly is a chapel, formerly a chapel of ease, but recently endowed with £1200 royal bounty, and erected into a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of the Vicar of Aberguilly. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Methodists. An endowment of £6



per annum has been made by some unknown benefactor, for the instruction of twelve poor children of the parish.

The episcopal palace is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Towy, the meanderings of which through the grounds impart to it considerable beauty and interest, but, from the lowness of its site, it commands no extensive prospects: the scenery immediately surrounding it is cheerful and pleasingly varied, and the mansion, which had been suffered to fall into decay, has been almost entirely rebuilt, in the Elizabethan style, at the expense of the present bishop, and is now one of the most complete episcopal palaces in the kingdom. Cwm Guilly, the seat of Grismond Philipps, Esq., whose father represented the borough of Carmarthen in several parliaments; and Gallt y Gôg, the property of George Morgan, Esq., are pleasantly situated in the neighbourhood; in which also are the ruins of Castel Piggin, formerly the residence of the late Capt. Bloom. Within a short distance of the village, and about four miles from Carmarthen, at a place called White Mill, is Merlin's Grove, a thick wood rising abruptly from the turnpike-road, celebrated as the place of residence of that renowned sage, and also as the place of his interment; the name is now usually applied to a neat family residence situated near it. In a sequestered spot on this farm, near the extremity of the wood, the prophet is said to have been interred, and to have resided in a cavern situated nearly in the centre of the wood, the supposed scene of his incantations, to which allusion is made by Spencer, in his "Faery Queene." In this parish is the lordship of Vynne, belonging to the Bishop of St. David's, and possessing some peculiar privileges, among which are those of holding a court leet, choosing a portreeve and appointing constables, and collecting tolls for the repair of its roads, which are kept in order independently of the parish rate; but it does not maintain its own poor, as an independent township, nor does it differ in any other respect, from the rest of the parish. The average annual assessment for the support of the poor amounts to £1231. 16.

ABERHAVESP (ABER-HAVESP), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of NEWTOWN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (W. by N.) from Newtown, on the road to Machynlleth, comprising the upper and lower divisions, and containing 535 inhabitants. This place takes its name from its situation near the confluence of the river Havesp with the Severn, and is distinguished chiefly by its proximity to the Roman road from *Caer-Sws* to *Mediolanum*, which passed through the parish, and of which vestiges may still be traced on a farm called *Llwyd Coed*. From the rectory-house there is a fine view of the surrounding country, the scenery of which is agreeably and richly diversified, extending over the beautiful Vale of the Severn, and embracing the numerous windings of that noble river, the prospect being bounded in the distance by the *Plinlimmon* and other mountains. The weaving of flannel is carried on to a moderate extent, affording employment to such of the inhabitants as are not occupied in agriculture. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £9. 6. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Gwyn-

nog, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, appropriately accommodated to the use of the inhabitants, and pleasantly situated near the river. There are places of worship for Baptists and Independents: a parochial and a Sunday school are supported by subscription. In the south-eastern part of the parish there is a medicinal spring, called the Black Well, which is considered highly efficacious in scrofulous diseases, and is much resorted to by the inhabitants of the parish and neighbourhood. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £427. 13.

ABERLLYVNI, or ABERLLYNVY (ABER-LLYFNI, or LLYNFI), a parish in the hundred of TALGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S. W. by W.) from Hay, containing 125 inhabitants. This place is beautifully situated at the junction of the river Llyvni with the Wye, on the southern bank of the latter, amid the most luxuriant and richly diversified scenery. It has long since ceased to exercise the ecclesiastical rights of a parish, though they have not been transferred to any adjoining parish. The inhabitants marry and bury their dead at Glâsbury, from which circumstance Aberllyvni is commonly considered a chapelry or hamlet to that parish; but they do not contribute to the church rate of Glâsbury, which is the usual mark of dependence. From the will of William Vaughan, of Maeslwch, dated 1582, the advowson appears to have been the property of that gentleman, who bequeathed it to his daughter, Catherine Vaughan, together with that of Llŷswen: it is also noticed in Pope Nicholas' Valuation, separate from Glâsbury, at £4. 6. 8. The benefice appears to have ceased to exist about the middle of the last century, when the church fell into ruins, and the patronage has not since been exercised: no tithes have been paid here within the memory of man. Prior to that period the church, it is presumed, was regularly served; and there are persons still living who recollect the existence of tombstones: an aged yew tree indicates the site of the building, but the whole is now covered by a small plantation of fir trees. At an adjoining farm-house there is an octagonal stone font, ornamented in its different compartments with mullets and crosses, and bearing the date 1635. Aberllyvni, with the hamlet of Velindre, receives £6. 8. 3. per annum, arising from a bequest by Sir David Williams, Knt., for the benefit of the poor: it is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £90. 12.

ABERNANT (ABER-NANT), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of ELVET, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (W. N. W.) from Carmarthen, containing 664 inhabitants. The village, which is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Cowin, about two miles westward from the road leading from Carmarthen to Newcastle and Cardigan, was formerly much frequented at the time of the Carmarthen races, which for many years took place within this parish, on a course held by lease under Lewis Evans, Esq., of Pant y Kendy, but are now held on the other side of the river Towy. Petty sessions for the division are held here every month; and a court leet for the hundred is held alternately here and at Bwlch Newydd, in the parish of Newcastle. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the



perpetual curacy of Convil in Elvet annexed, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 13. 4., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the joint patronage of Edward Lawrence St. Loe, Esq., and Mr. Parr: the glebe land attached to the living is one of the most extensive in the principality. The church, dedicated to St. Lucia, is a small neat building, pleasingly situated in a quiet and retired spot. There is a place of worship for Independents. Pant y Kendy, a substantial brick mansion, not yet finished, was commenced by the father of the present proprietor, L. Evans, Esq., and, from the local advantages which it possesses, and the improvements now in progress in the completion of the building and the disposition of the grounds, promises to be one of the most agreeable residences in the vicinity of Carmarthen. About ten years ago, sixty silver coins, of the reigns of Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I., were found by some children at the vicarage-house; and in repairing the road near Pant y Kendy, not long since, a Roman urn was discovered, at the depth of a few feet below the surface of the ground, containing ashes, with which also the place where it was found was discoloured to a considerable extent: the urn, immediately on its being removed, fell in pieces. Though no account of any Roman settlement at this place is on record, nor can any vestige of an encampment be traced, yet, from its vicinity to Newchurch, about a mile and a half distant, where a battle between the Romans and the Britons is said to have taken place (in commemoration of which a stone, erected to the memory of Severinus, the Roman general, still exists), it is not improbable that the spot may have been the place of interment of some who fell in the battle, and more especially, as it is not far from the Roman road leading from *Maridunum* (Carmarthen) to the town of Fishguard. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £185. 2.

**ABERPERGWYM** (ABER-PERGWM), county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES. — See NEATH (MIDDLE).

**ABERPORTH** (ABER-PORTH), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.E.) from Cardigan, containing 485 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the shore of Cardigan bay, St. George's channel, and in a small cove near the mouth of the river Howny, forming a commodious, though small port, which is a creek to the port of Cardigan. Several small craft belong to it, which are chiefly employed in carrying limestone from Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire, and coal from Glamorganshire and Liverpool. It also participates to a limited extent in the fishery in the bay of Cardigan, in which a few boats and men are employed. In the vicinity is Cribach Road, which affords good shelter for vessels, and has been much frequented by the French, during former wars with that people. The parish consists of two hamlets, the rectorial hamlet and that of Llanannerch, of which latter the tithes are inappropriate in the family of Currie, who pay annually to the rector one mark at Easter; and it includes the manors of Mortimer *is* Syrwen and Mortimer *is* Coed, both the property of Thomas Lloyd, Esq., of Coedmore. In the hamlet of Llanannerch, according to tradition, there was anciently a chapel; but there are

not the slightest vestiges of it at present. The parish contains one thousand three hundred and seventy-five acres of land, of which about one hundred are uncultivated, being a cold swampy soil: the remainder consists partly of loam and clay, and partly of gravel and peat, which, when manured with lime, sea-sand, and dung, yields barley inferior to none on the coast. It is also tolerably productive of oats, but the wheat crops are very indifferent. The ground for the most part is hilly, with a few vales intersected by rapid streams, the principal of which is called Howny. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 13. 9., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. There is neither parsonage-house nor glebe attached to the living. The church, dedicated to St. Cynwyl, is a small plain structure of great antiquity, situated on an eminence about one mile from the village, and commanding a beautiful view of the sea: it consists of a nave and chancel, communicating by means of a pointed arch, and measures in length forty-five feet, in breadth twenty-two, and in height thirty, exclusively of the steeple, which is fifteen feet higher: the font is a square bason, placed on a round pillar; and the sacramental cup is highly ornamented, but has neither date nor inscription. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £95. 10.

**ABERTHAW** (EAST), (ABER-DDAW), a small sea-port and hamlet in the parish of PENMARK, hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.S.E.) from Cowbridge. The population is returned with the parish. This place is situated on the east bank and near the mouth of the river Ddaw, from which it derives its name, and had formerly a chapel, which has fallen to ruins. The harbour is small, and is only resorted to by a few coasting vessels of inferior burden, for the purpose of conveying the produce of the district to other places, especially lias limestone, called Aberthaw tarras, which is much used in making cement for works under water, canal locks, &c.

**ABERTHAW** (WEST), (ABER-DDAW), a small port and hamlet, in the parish of ST. ATHAN, hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (S.S.E.) from Cowbridge. The population is returned with the parish. This place is situated on the western bank of the river Ddaw, opposite the small port of East Aberthaw: near it is Seabreak Point, a promontory which protects the mouth of that river. Lime of excellent quality is procured in the vicinity.

**ABER-WHIELOR** (ABER-CHWILER), a township in that part of the parish of BÔDVARI which is in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.E.) from Denbigh, containing 486 inhabitants. It is situated at the junction of the Chwiler with the river Clwyd, the former flowing here through a narrow, luxuriant, and well-wooded vale, between two high mountains. The neighbourhood of Maes Mynan, where the last prince of Wales, Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, had a house, the foundations of which were discernible in a meadow some years since, abounds with highly diversified scenery. The tithes belong to the Bishop of Bangor. This township is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, the average annual expenditure being £383. 12.



**ABERYSCIR**, or **ABERESCIR** (**ABER-ESGAIR**), a parish in the hundred of **MERTHYR-CYNOG**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W.N.W.) from **Brecknock**, containing 110 inhabitants. This place is pleasantly situated on the river **Yscir**, near its confluence with the **Usk**, and from that circumstance derives its name. The former of these rivers is crossed by two bridges in the vicinity, namely, **Pont ar Yscir**, to the west of the parish of **Battle**, and **Pont ar Vran**, on the road to **Trallong**; and the latter by **Aberbran** bridge, which is now undergoing repair, and by a handsome stone bridge from the grounds of **Penpont**, another of the same material in the grounds of **Abercamlais**, and a small suspension bridge near the latter residence. The mesne lordship of **Aberyscir**, formerly held under the lords of **Cantref-Selyf**, and separated only by the **Yscir** from the ruined town of **Caer-Bannau**, once the capital of the county, was given by **Bernard Newmarch** to **Sir Hugh Surdwal**, or **Sir Hugh** of the **Solitary Vale**, whose residence is stated by tradition to have occupied the site of a more modern house, near the junction of the rivers, now occupied by a farmer. The soil, which is chiefly arable, consists of light loam mixed with gravel, well adapted for the production of turnips, barley, and clover: the ground on the south is of easy ascent, and on the west and east it is rather steep, terminating in a hill. The living, which was formerly a discharged vicarage, is now a rectory, having been endowed with the great tithes, in the archdeaconry of **Brecknock**, and diocese of **St. David's**, rated as a vicarage in the king's books at £3. 6. 3., and in the patronage and incumbency of the **Rev. David Jones**. The church, which formerly belonged to the priory of **Malvern**, is dedicated, according to some authorities, to **St. Mary**, and according to others to **St. Cynidr**: it is beautifully situated on the western bank of the river **Yscir**, in the angle between that river and the **Usk**, but is only a mean-looking building, possessing no claim to architectural notice. There is neither parsonage-house nor glebe land attached to the living, though close to the church is a small farm of about thirty-five acres, with a house, barn, and out-buildings, now in a dilapidated state, called "**The Parsonage**;" but whether or not it ever did belong to the church, at any period, has not been ascertained; if so, it may probably have been alienated during the protectorate of **Cromwell**. This parish participates in a donation of land by the **Rev. Mr. Powell**, vicar of **Boughrood**, in 1686, for apprenticing poor children. Nearly opposite the church, on the eastern bank of the **Yscir**, is the Roman station called the **Gaer**, or **Caer Bannau**, whence the **Sarn Helen**, in its course to **Neath**, the *Nidum* of the Romans, joined the *Via Julia Maritima* at some distance from this place: it crossed the **Yscir** a little above the church, and proceeded through this parish nearly in the direction of the present turnpike road to **Aberbran**. Near the margin of the **Usk** is an artificial mount surrounded by a moat, which was probably the site of the keep belonging to the ancient mansion of the **Surdwals**. Of this family was **Hywel Surdwal**, one of the heraldic bards of **Wales**, who flourished towards the close of the fifteenth century: he was employed by **Edward IV.** to certify the pedigree of the first **Earl of Pembroke** of the **Herbert** family. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £82. 4.

**ABERYSTWITH** (**ABERYSTWYTH**), a sea-port, borough, market town, and chapelry, in the parish of **LLANBADARN-VAWR**, locally in the lower division of the hundred of **GENEU'R GLYN**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 38 miles (N.E.) from **Cardigan**, and 208 (W. N. W.) from **London**, containing 4128 inhabitants. This



Corporate Seal.

place, from its having been fortified at a very early period, and also forming part of the ancient parish of **Llanbadarn Vawr**, was originally called *Llan-Badarn Gaerog*; whilst the small ancient village of **Aberystwith** was situated to the west of it, on ground now covered by the sea, and on the bank of the **Ystwyth**, into which river the **Rheidol** probably emptied itself, at some distance from the ocean. These rivers now unite at the town, and form at their mouth the modern harbour of **Aberystwith**: the courses of both have been changed, the **Ystwyth** having flowed by the base of **Pendinas** hill, directly into the sea, prior to the diversion of its channel, which was done in order to strengthen the current of the **Rheidol** in clearing away the bar at the entrance to the harbour. On the death of **Richard de Clare**, the Norman lord of the province of **Ceredigion**, or **Cardigan**, who was slain in a wood called **Coed Grono**, in the county of **Monmouth**, by a party of Welsh lying in ambuscade, his son, **Gilbert de Strongbow**, erected a castle here, in 1109, in defence of the possessions which, by permission of **Henry I.**, he had recently wrested from **Cadwgan ab Bleddyn**. In 1114, **Grufydd ab Rhys**, a Welsh prince, who had for some time carried on with considerable success, in the county of **Carmarthen**, a desultory warfare with the Norman invaders of **South Wales**, being invited by the inhabitants of the province of **Cardigan** to assist them in throwing off the Norman yoke, attacked the castle of **Ystradpeithill**, near **Aberystwith**, according to **Caradoc of Llancarvan's History of the Princes of Wales**, which he reduced, and then encamped at **Glâscrûg**, about a mile to the east of the church of **Llanbadarn-Vawr**, intending to attack the castle of **Aberystwith** on the following morning. The governor, apprised of his design, had sent to the neighbouring castle of **Ystrad-Meirig** for a reinforcement, which arrived during the night; and in the morning **Grufydd**, ignorant of the circumstance, and confident of success, advanced to a place called **Ystrad Antaron**, opposite **Aberystwith** castle, where he encamped, and held a council of war. But preserving no discipline among his troops, the Normans took advantage of their disorder, and sent out some archers, to tempt them into a skirmish, and to draw them by a feigned retreat towards the bridge over the **Rheidol**; at the same time placing a party of their best cavalry in ambuscade behind the castle hill. The Welsh eagerly pursued these archers to the bridge, over which they were allured by a fresh device of the enemy, and continued their pursuit almost to the gates of the castle, when the horse which had been posted behind the hill attacked them in the flank, while those whom they had pursued made a stand, and assaulted them in front, by which means all the Welsh that had crossed the bridge were cut to pieces, and **Grufydd** was



compelled to retreat with the remainder of his forces, and to abandon his enterprise. In 1135, Owain Gwynedd and Cadwalader, sons of Gruffydd ab Cynan, with a large body of Welsh, made a more successful attempt on the castle, which they took and utterly demolished, putting to the sword all the Normans and Saxons who had settled in this part of the principality, with the exception only of a small number, who escaped by sea into England. Cadwalader, however, soon afterwards marrying Alice, daughter of Richard, Earl of Clare and Lord of Cardigan, rebuilt the castle, and made it his chief place of residence; but Owain Gwynedd, after his accession to the sovereignty of North Wales, in revenge for his brother's contumacy, besieged it and burned it to the ground, in 1142. This place continued for many years to experience all the disasters arising from predatory and intestine warfare, and was frequently destroyed and rebuilt in the continued struggles for dominion which occurred, not only between the English and the Welsh, but also among the rival princes of the country. During this period, mention occurs of the castle of Aber Rheidol having been destroyed, in 1164, by Rhys ab Gruffydd, on his invasion of the territories of the Earl of Gloucester; which circumstance has led to a supposition that there was another castle on the sea-shore, near this place, but it is not at all improbable that the castle of Aberystwith was occasionally designated by that name.

After rising from some of its frequent demolitions it was again destroyed, in 1207, by Maelgwyn, an usurping chieftain of South Wales, who had previously restored and fortified it, in order to maintain his power in this part of the principality, but who felt himself unable to hold it against Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, who was advancing to attack him. Llewelyn, on his arrival at Aberystwith, rebuilt and garrisoned the castle, and seized the whole of the extensive territory lying between the rivers Aeron and Dyvi, which he afterwards surrendered to Rhys and Owain, the sons of Gruffydd ab Rhys, and nephews of Maelgwyn. King John, wishing to add the province of Cardigan to his other conquests in Wales, sent Foulke, Viscount Cardiff, warden of the marches, to compel the sons of Gruffydd to acknowledge him as their sovereign, in which he was joined by Maelgwyn and his brother Rhys Vychan. The two nephews, unable to withstand such a powerful force, made the required submission, and agreed to relinquish all right to the territories which had been ceded to them by Llewelyn; and Foulke, having repaired and strengthened the fortifications of the castle, placed in it a strong garrison, to defend it for the king. Maelgwyn and Rhys Vychan, disappointed in their hope of obtaining for themselves the territories of which Rhys and Owain had been dispossessed, laid siege to the castle of Aberystwith, which they succeeded in taking, after an obstinate defence, and razed it to the ground. It appears, notwithstanding, to have been almost immediately rebuilt; for in 1214, Rhys Vychan, being defeated by Foulke, in Carmarthenshire, took refuge in it with Maelgwyn, and brought with him also his wife and children. In the reign of Henry III., the castle was in the possession of Rhys ab Gruffydd, who, about the year 1223, joined the party of the Earl of Pembroke, in consequence of which, Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, seized it, with all its dependencies; but Rhys complain-

ing to the king, and requesting his protection from this violence, Henry commanded Llewelyn to appear before him at Shrewsbury, and the prince obeying the summons, the quarrel was amicably adjusted. In the reign of Edward I., Gruffydd ab Meredydd and Rhys ab Maelgwyn besieged and took the castle of Aberystwith, then held by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, and which soon after fell into the hands of the English; and Edward, in order to secure the fulfilment of the conditions of the peace which he had concluded with Llewelyn, rebuilt it in 1277, and, placing in it a strong garrison, returned to England. The oppressive conduct of Edward's lieutenants, in this part of the country, soon led to an infraction of the peace lately concluded, and among the principal exploits of the insurgent Welsh was the capture of this castle by Rhys ab Maelgwyn and Gruffydd ab Meredydd; but it was soon afterwards delivered up to the English forces, and from this period nothing of importance peculiarly relating to it appears to have occurred till the reign of Henry IV., when it was assaulted and taken, in 1404, by Owain Glyndwr, in whose possession it remained for three years, till it was surrendered on terms to Prince Henry. Owain soon after regained possession of it by stratagem; but it was finally reduced in the year 1408, by the English, who appear to have retained it without further molestation; and, in the 35th of Henry VIII., William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, was by that monarch appointed captain of the castle and town of Aberystwith. In 1631, Mr. Bushel, who succeeded Sir Hugh Myddelton in the possession of the mines royal of Cardiganshire, having obtained permission from Charles I., established a mint in the castle, for the convenience of paying the men employed in the mines; and several of the silver coins then struck in it, bearing the crest of the Prince of Wales, have been discovered, which were probably concealed during the troubles of that reign. At the commencement of these commotions the castle was strengthened with additional fortifications, and strongly garrisoned for the king: the royalists kept possession of it till the year 1647, when it was besieged and taken by the parliamentarians, and soon afterwards dismantled.

The town, which owes its origin to the erection of the castle, is described by Leland as having been encompassed by walls, the last remains of which were removed some years since, and as being, in his time, a better market than Cardigan; and Camden, who ascribes the building of its walls to Gilbert de Clare, commonly called Strongbow, states that it then was the most populous town in the county. Since that period it has materially increased, both in extent and importance, and may be still regarded as the most flourishing place in this part of South Wales. It is pleasantly situated at the lower extremity of the valley of the Rheidol, amid lofty hills, and on a bold eminence overlooking the bay of Cardigan, by which it is bounded on one side, while on the other it is environed by the Rheidol, over which is a stone bridge of five arches, forming an entrance to it from the south: it consists principally of two long streets, from which others, branching off nearly at right angles, lead down to the sea-shore. The houses are in general well built, and of respectable appearance, several of them being large and handsome, especially such as are of modern erection, which are principally of stone: the streets are disposed with considerable re-



gularity, and are paved with stones supplied in abundance from the shore, but are not lighted; and the turnpike roads leading to the town rank among the best in the principality: the inhabitants are supplied with water from the rivers Ystwyth and Rheidol, which is brought into the town in barrels, on sledges drawn by one horse, and sold at a low rate. The advantages of its situation on a fine open bay, the purity of its air, and the efficacy of some mineral springs adjacent, have contributed to render it a place of resort for invalids. About the commencement of the last century, it began to rise into notice as a fashionable bathing-place, and, from a series of progressive improvements, is now one of the most frequented places of fashionable resort on this part of the coast. The beach, though composed of pebbles, affords a pleasant and interesting walk; and the shore, consisting of lofty and precipitous rocks of dark-coloured slate, is worn by the action of the waves into caverns of picturesque and romantic appearance. Hot sea-water baths are provided, with every requisite accommodation; several bathing machines are in attendance; and, from the convenient sloping of the beach, a facility of bathing is afforded, at almost any state of the tide, within a very short distance of the shore. For the accommodation of the increasing number of visitors, who annually resort to this place, many additional lodging-houses have been built, of which the Marine Terrace, a handsome range of modern buildings, affording every accommodation for private families, is situated on the margin of the bay, commanding a fine marine view, enlivened by the frequent arrival and departure of vessels trading to these coasts: in this range is the Belle Vue, a spacious and commodious hotel; and in front, where the beach is level, is a fine promenade. On the south-west of the Marine Terrace is a gateway leading to a spacious castellated mansion, of unique appearance, called the Castle House, commanding an extensive view across the bay: it was originally built as a private mansion by the late Sir Uvedale Price, Bart., of Foxley Hall, in the county of Hereford, and consists of three octagonal towers, connected by ranges of apartments, and having a light and elegant balcony on the side towards the sea. Beyond this, on one side, is the Castle hill, crowned with the venerable ruins of that ancient fortress, and forming another favourite promenade, affording, from different points, various extensive, romantic, and interesting views of the sea, the neighbouring hills, and the surrounding country. On the other side of the Castle hill, separated only by the churchyard, are the new public rooms, handsomely built in the Grecian style of architecture, on ground given by W. E. Powell, Esq., of Nant Eôs, lord-lieutenant of the county, from a design by Mr. Repton, and at an expense of £2000, raised by subscription on shares of £10 each, and opened to the public in 1820. The suite consists of a very handsome assembly and promenade room, forty-five feet long, and twenty-five feet broad; a card-room, twenty-five feet long, and eighteen feet wide, opening into the assembly-room by folding doors; and a billiard-room, of the same dimensions as the card-room. The assembly-room and card-room are similarly ornamented, and handsomely fitted up in a corresponding style, and under the same roof is a dwelling-house, with a bar, for providing the visitors with refreshments. The assembly-room is opened ge-

nerally in July, and closed in October: the meetings are under the superintendence of a master of the ceremonies; and when the room is not wanted for balls, it is used as a reading-room. There is a good library in the new market-place; and towards the east end of the town the erection of a theatre was begun some years ago, which, from want of funds to complete it, was converted into a place of worship, but is not now used as such. Races are annually held, generally in August, and continue for two days, which at present are not permanently fixed: a field, near Gogerdan, the seat of Pryse Pryse, Esq., about three miles distant from the town, is, by the courtesy of that gentleman, used as a race-course.

The harbour is small, and the approach to it is obstructed in some degree by a bar, which prevents the entrance of ships of any considerable burden, except at high water of spring tides. An attempt was made some time since to remedy this inconvenience, by constructing a pier on one of the ridges of rock which stretch from the shore into the bay; but it was designed upon too small a scale to be efficient, and though several other plans have been subsequently proposed for the improvement of the harbour, not one of them has been yet carried into effect. The trade is considerable, and, if not obstructed by the insufficiency of the port, would doubtless be much more extensive: it consists principally in the importation of timber, hemp, tar, tallow, wine, spirits, and grocery; and in the exportation of bark and the agricultural produce of the neighbouring country. The number of ships belonging to the port is one hundred and twenty-two, averaging a burden of fifty-three tons each; and during the summer months nearly one hundred vessels are employed in the coasting trade. The herring fishery was formerly carried on to a great extent, and herrings and cod are still taken occasionally. The custom-house, built at the expense of government, in 1828, is a small, but neat and commodious, edifice, commanding a good view of the harbour. Lead mines were formerly worked upon an extensive scale in the vicinity; but they have been abandoned for many years. There are two weekly markets, held on Monday and Saturday; the former is for corn, butter, cheese, fruit, fish, and poultry, and is held in the area under the town-hall; and the latter for butcher's meat, for which a new market-place, one hundred and four feet long, and thirty-one feet wide, was erected in 1822, in the street leading to the castle hill, by a tontine subscription. Fairs are held on the Monday before January 5th, Monday next before Easter, Whit-Monday, May 14th, June 24th, September 16th, and the Monday before November 11th: the first Mondays after the 12th of November and the 12th of May are called, by the natives of the surrounding country, *Dyddllun Cyvlogi*, or "Hiring Mondays;" and on these days a great number of the farmers and others meet here, for the purpose of hiring servants.

Aberystwith is a borough by prescription, under the title of "the Town, Burgh, and Liberty," and the government is vested in a mayor, recorder, chamberlain, and an indefinite number of common burgesses, assisted by a town-clerk and subordinate officers: the mayor is annually elected by a jury at the court leet, and is a justice of the peace within the borough, the limits of which are co-extensive with the chapelry. It



is one of the contributory boroughs in this county which unite in the return of one member to parliament: the right of election was formerly vested in the burgesses generally, but is now in the resident burgesses, and in all persons occupying, either as landlord or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the clear annual value of at least ten pounds, if duly registered according to the provisions of the late act: the present number of houses within the borough worth ten pounds a year and upwards is three hundred and twenty-four: the mayor of Cardigan is the returning officer. The freedom is obtained only by presentation at the courts leet, which are held by the corporation at Easter and Michaelmas. The county magistrates have concurrent jurisdiction, and hold their meetings in the town-hall, a building in an ancient style of architecture, situated in the principal street, and erected in 1770, in which the Midsummer, and sometimes the Spring or Autumn quarter, sessions for the county are held. The prison, which is also one of the houses of correction for the county, is a small building, adapted to the reception of eight prisoners, in three separate classes.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Llanbadarn-Vawr. The chapel, dedicated to St. Michael, was built by subscription, in the year 1787: it is a neat plain structure, situated within the precincts of the castle, and separated from the walks around the ruins of that edifice by a stone wall, erected at the expense of the inhabitants: it measures sixty feet in length, and twenty-six in breadth, and is capable of accommodating from seven to eight hundred persons. A gallery was erected at its western end in the year 1790, at an expense of £104. 14., which was defrayed by Mrs. Margaret Pryse. The service is performed in the morning and evening in the English language, and in the afternoon in the Welsh. The augmented population of this place, and the increased number of visitors, during the season, having rendered the erection of another place of worship necessary, a church, or chapel, has been recently built upon a larger scale by subscription, aided by a grant of £1000 from the parliamentary commissioners for building new churches, and £400 from the society for the enlargement of churches and chapels: these funds, amounting to £3500, were sufficient for completing the body of the building, which is in the later style of English architecture, and it is proposed to add a tower of corresponding character at some future time. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school for boys and girls was established in 1819, and is supported by subscription, by which means also a suitable building was erected for its use. There are now no remains either of the town walls or their gates: of the latter, one, called the Great Dark Gate, was situated in the street leading to Llanbadarn-Vawr; another, called the Little Dark Gate, in the street which now leads to the Baptist meeting-house; and a third, opposite to the bridge. The remains of the castle, which occupy the summit of a rock projecting into the bay of Cardigan, consist chiefly of portions of the towers, the principal gateway, and some fragments of walls,

forming a picturesque heap of ruins: the area, which was originally of very considerable extent, though at present greatly diminished by the action of the waves, which have undermined the rock, was in the form of an irregular pentagon, and has been laid out in walks and pleasure grounds, with great taste, by the late Mr. Probart of Shrewsbury, to whom the site was granted on lease by the late Col. Johnes, of Havôd. On Pendinas hill, adjoining the town, an ancient British celt has been found; and on the same hill, in 1802, a golden angel of the reign of Henry VII. was turned up by the spade. There are several traces of encampments in the immediate neighbourhood of the town; and adjoining Craig Glais is a small rock, called Bryn Dioddau, or "the suffering mount," from its having been formerly a place of execution. A chalybeate spring, which is in great estimation for the medicinal property of its waters, was discovered about the year 1779, at a short distance from the eastern extremity of the town, on the road to Llanbadarn-Vawr, and near Plâs Crûg: the well is covered with a small square building, from one side of which the water issues by a spout. There are various other springs in the neighbourhood having a ferruginous impregnation, and traces of sulphur have been lately discovered at Penglais. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £691. 14.

ABOVE-SAWDDY, a hamlet in the parish of LLANGADOCK, lower division of the hundred of PERVETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, containing, with the market town of Langadock, which is situated within its limits, 803 inhabitants. This hamlet, which is situated between the rivers Sawddy and Sevin, near the western declivity of the Black Mountains, contains some thriving plantations, and a few respectable residences. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £353. 6.

ACTON, a township in that part of the parish of WREXHAM which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (N.) from Wrexham, containing 215 inhabitants. Acton Park was formerly the property and residence of the family of Jeffreys, from which sprang the notorious judge of that name, in the reign of James II. It is at present the seat of Sir Foster Cunliffe, Bart., by purchase, in 1785, from the trustees of Ellis Yonge, Esq., by whom the mansion has been modernised and enlarged, and the grounds tastefully embellished: the site is a little elevated, and embraces a pleasing view of the town of Wrexham and the adjacent country. That ancient boundary line, Wat's Dyke, passed through this township, which supports its own poor according to an arrangement entered into in March, 1830.

ALLINGTON (TRÊV-ALUN), a township in the parish of GRESFORD, partly in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, and partly in the hundred of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (N. by E.) from Wrexham, containing 812 inhabitants. Here was formerly a chapel of ease to the parish church, but there are no vestiges of it, except the cemetery which marks the site. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. In this township stands the ancient and venerable family mansion of the Trevors, of whom Sir Richard, whose monument is in the parish church, greatly distinguished himself in the wars in Ireland, towards the close of the sixteenth century, in which he



held the governorship of Newry, and of the counties of Armagh and Down: in the hall is his portrait, representing him with his prayer-book in his hand, in a meditative attitude, having his helmet and armour behind him, with mottoes alluding to the former and latter periods of his life, and uttering an ejaculation of gratitude to God for his goodness to his children's children.

ALLTMAWR (ALLT-VAWR), a parish in the hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S.E. by S.) from Builth, containing 43 inhabitants. This parish, which is very small, and the name of which signifies the great woody mount, is bounded on the north by the river Wye, and is crossed by the turnpike road from Builth to Hay: the scenery on the banks of the river, and in its immediate vicinity, is exceedingly picturesque and romantic, and the view from Alltmawr House, a pretty villa, the residence of George Holford, Esq., is one of the most delightful in this part of the principality. Its surface is, for the most part, undulating: in the low lands the soil is generally clayey, on which, or the shallow bed of loam by which it is overspread, the oak appears to thrive. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Llanavan-Vawr, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant. The church, dedicated to St. Mauritius, consists of a nave and chancel, both lately ceiled, and is remarkable for its diminutive size, being less than thirty-five feet in length: it stands just above the road side, and differs in its appearance from a neat cottage in no other respect than in having a small belfry near the west end of the roof. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £14. 5.

AMBLESTON, a parish in the hundred of DUNGLEDDY, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (N. N. E.) from Haverfordwest, containing 574 inhabitants. This place has, within the last thirty years, been identified as the site of the long sought for Roman station *Ad Vigesium*, noticed in the Itineraries, as the first from *Maridunum*, or Carmarthen, from which the distance corresponds exactly with that mentioned in the Itinerary. This discovery, which, from a variety of concurrent testimony, appears to be founded in truth, was made in the year 1805, by Mr. Fenton, author of the "Historical Tour through Pembrokeshire," accompanied by Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart., while collecting materials for that work. The form of the station, which is situated about a mile to the north-east of the church, is nearly a perfect square, having the angles rounded off, and comprehends an area two hundred and sixty feet in dimensions: the agger by which it was enclosed, though nearly effaced by tillage, may still be accurately traced; and the *Via Julia*, leading from *Maridunum* to *Menapia*, passes through the centre of the area. The camp is called by the inhabitants *Castel Flemish*, from having been subsequently occupied by the Flemings, who first settled in this part of the principality, in order to assist in subjugating the natives; and another Roman road, more to the north, and afterwards uniting with the *Via Julia* near St. David's, is from the same source designated *Via Flandrica*, or "the Flemish way." Within the area of the station have been found Roman bricks and cement, part of a stuccoed floor, a large flagstone

bearing an inscription, now lost, and other Roman relics. At a short distance to the west, near the village of Ford, are the remains of a smaller camp, evidently of Roman construction, and probably the *Campus Æstivus* of the station; and in the same neighbourhood were discovered, in 1806, the remains of a Roman hypocaust, six feet in depth, and eight feet long, lined on each side with stone and cement, from which two flues of one foot four inches in the aperture, and widening towards the upper extremity, rose in an angular direction to the surface; they were formed of fluted Roman bricks. The lands in this parish are, with a very trifling exception, all enclosed, and the soil is in general fertile. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 19. 4½., endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. There is a chapel of ease in this parish, called Rinaston chapel. The Calvinistic Methodists have a place of worship here. The average annual assessment for the support of the poor is £163. 9.

AMLWCH, a borough, sea-port, and parish, in the hundred of TWRCELYN, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 20 miles (N. W.) from Beaumaris, and 266 (N. W. by W.) from London, containing 6285 inhabitants. This place, formerly an inconsiderable hamlet inhabited only by fishermen, has, from the variety and abundance of the mineral treasures contained in the mountainous districts of the parish, become a populous and flourishing town. It derived its name from its situation on a sandy beach, and its importance from the discovery of the copper mines in its vicinity, aided by a small cove between the rocks on the coast, which afforded a facility of shipping their produce, and has been subsequently improved into a safe and commodious harbour. The high table land of Tryslwyn, otherwise called Parys mountain, rises at a short distance from the town into enormous rugged masses of coarse aluminous shale and whitish quartz, naturally assuming a very rude and striking appearance; while the rugged grandeur of its exterior is further heightened by the mining operations to which it has been subjected. This mountain is stated to have derived its latter name from Robert Paris, the younger, who is named as one of the commissioners on an inquisition, in the reign of Henry IV., to fine the Anglesey insurgents in the cause of Owain Glyndwr. From the discovery of certain works formed by the ancient process of mining, previously to the invention of gunpowder, it is evident that copper-ore has been worked here at a very early period; and as the ancient Britons were known to import all their brass utensils, it is equally probable that that period was during the occupation of their country by the Romans. Traces of the ancient mode of operation, by heating the rock to an intense degree, and pouring water on the surface, in order to make it split, are discernible in several places; and at Llanvaethlu, a few miles from this place, a cake of copper was found, weighing fifty lb., and bearing a mark resembling the Roman letter L; from which circumstance it is more than probable that that people had smelting-works in the neighbourhood. But the existence of the immense treasures which since that time had lain concealed or neglected was not thought



of till the year 1762, when Mr. Alexander Frazier, a native of Scotland, visiting Anglesey in search of mines, and being struck with the promising appearance of the Parys mountain, in this parish, induced Sir Nicholas Bayley, the proprietor, to make some experiments, and, on sinking shafts in the mountain, copper-ore was discovered; but before a sufficient quantity of it could be obtained to defray the expenses of the work, the mine was inundated with water, and the operations were consequently suspended. About two years after, Messrs. Roe and Co., of Macclesfield, applying to Sir Nicholas Bayley for a lease of the mine of Penrhyn dd, in the county of Carnarvon, obtained it only upon condition of their taking also a lease of part of the Parys mountain, and carrying on a level for the purpose of continuing the works which had been previously abandoned. With this condition they reluctantly complied, and, upon making a fair trial, ore was discovered; but the expense of procuring it far exceeding the profits, they, after carrying on their works at a great loss for some time, resolved to discontinue operations. Their agent, however, previously to abandoning an enterprise upon which so much labour had been bestowed, and so much money expended, resolved upon making another and final effort. For this purpose he divided his men into several small companies, and having observed, near that part of the mountain which is called the Golden Venture, a spring of water which, from its appearance, he conceived must issue from a mineral bed, he ordered his men to sink shafts in several places, within seven or eight hundred yards of the spot, and in less than two days they discovered, at the depth only of seven feet from the surface, that vast body of mineral ore which has been subsequently worked with so much advantage to the proprietors. This important discovery was made on the 2nd of March, 1768, and the anniversary of that day was for many years celebrated as a festival by the miners of this district, and St. Chad considered their patron saint.

In 1775, the Rev. Edward Hughes, who in right of his wife was proprietor of another part of the Parys mountain, commenced a series of operations, and discovered a still larger body of mineral ore, the successful working of which laid the foundation of the immense wealth possessed by his only son, the present Lord Dinorben. The Parys mine, soon after its discovery, became the property of the Earl of Uxbridge, by whom and Mr. Hughes the management of their joint property in this mountain was committed to Mr. Thomas Williams, a native of Anglesey, who was subsequently admitted to a considerable share in the concern with Mr. Hughes, and by his unremitting labours realised a large fortune. Under the superintendence of Mr. Williams the works began to flourish, and, in the course of a few years, several subordinate companies of melters, refiners, and manufacturers were formed at Holywell, Swansea, Ravenhead, Birmingham, Marlow, and Wraybury; and warehouses for the sale of the copper were opened at London, Liverpool, and Bristol: these various establishments, all under the direction of Mr. Williams, formed collectively a business of almost unexampled magnitude, involving a fluctuating property of at least one million sterling, and in which numerous opulent individuals had a direct interest, and several thousand persons obtained employ-

ment. Towards the close of the last century, the immense produce of the Parys mountain exceeded the aggregate produce of all the other copper mines in the kingdom, and had such an effect upon the market, that, for some years, a severe competition existed between the Anglesey and Cornish companies, which at length ended in a coalition, advantageous to themselves, but injurious to those manufacturers to whom the use of copper was essential. The inhabitants of Birmingham, Liverpool, Wolverhampton, and other towns interested in the trade, having made an unsuccessful application to parliament, for relief against this monopoly, an association of spirited individuals, called the "Birmingham Copper Mining Company," purchased mines in Cornwall, and, erecting smelting-houses in the neighbourhood of Swansea, were enabled to supply the manufacturers at a more moderate price, and thus completely destroyed the effect of the coalition. These mines, however, continued to flourish, until about the year 1811, in which, owing to the want of employment, arising from the great depression of the trade, numerous families emigrated from Amlwch to Liverpool and other places, and left that town in a declining state of poverty and distress, from which it recovered with the extended operation of the mines, a few years afterwards, and, in connexion with the latter, has since continued prosperous and flourishing. It is now of considerable size, and is principally provided with excellent water from a spring called Fynnon Elaeth. The body of copper-ore contained in this mountain is of unknown extent; and, instead of the usual process of mining, it is in some parts quarried out from the mountain in solid masses, which are afterwards broken into small pieces, previously to its undergoing the necessary process of separating the ore from the matrix of stone in which it is contained. The Parys and the Mona mines are both in the same grand vein, which in many instances exceeds one hundred yards in breadth, descending to a depth not yet explored, and have been worked to a very great extent in a direct line, with numerous ramifications in various directions, from which, including open cast excavations and subterraneous workings, of which several are upon a scale of great extent and grandeur, besides shafts, levels, &c., many hundred thousand cubic yards of earth and ore have been removed. The principal vein contains ore, in what the workmen term "bellies," which afterwards constitute what they likewise denominate "Stock works."

Some idea of the quantity of ore contained in the Mona mine may be formed from the result of two contracts for three months each, made in the year 1787, exclusively of other smaller contracts during the same period: from one of these were obtained, within that time, two thousand nine hundred and thirty-one tons of good copper-ore, and only ninety-two tons of waste; and from the other, four hundred and eighty-eight tons of good ore, and two hundred and sixty-seven tons of waste. Divers other ores have here been discovered, and a bed of yellowish greasy clay, varying from one to four yards in thickness, lying above the copper ore, and not more than two feet below the surface, contains lead in the proportion of from six hundred to a thousand lb. per ton, each ton of metal yielding no less than fifty-seven ounces of silver. Mixed with this earth are frequently found portions of the colour of cinnabar,



probably indicating the presence of sulphureous arsenic silver ores, or of quicksilver. On the temporary decline of the copper trade, works for the smelting of this ore were erected on a large scale; but, owing to the high price of coal, and the decreasing demand for lead, the undertaking was ultimately abandoned. The smelting of this ore in the mass did not realise the promise held out by the assays made of it in the crucible; but probably, the mode recently adopted by the Germans, in separating the silver-ore, may excite the attention of the proprietors to the improvement, and render productive of future profit the great mass of refuse at present lying around the Parys mountain. The various other ores also discovered in this tract have been disregarded, in comparison with the procuring of copper-ore, which appears hitherto to have engrossed all the attention of the proprietors. The ore is generally the yellow copper-ore, and contains pyrites, sulphur, and from four to fifteen per cent. of copper. Some black ore has been raised, containing from fifteen to twenty per cent. of copper; and some parts of the vein produce fine specimens of native copper, adhering, in a foliated form, to the sides of the intervening rock, and probably once held in solution and precipitated by the ferruginous quality of the substance to which it adhered.

The ore, after being quarried in large masses, is broken into small lumps, and separated as much as possible from the waste: it is afterwards conveyed to kilns, differing in shape and dimensions, in which it is exposed for a period of nine or ten months to the action of a gentle fire, by means of which the sulphur is separated from the copper, which, after being dressed and washed, is sent to the smelting-houses. The kilns contain in general from four hundred to thirteen hundred tons of ore, and attached to them are chambers, into which the sulphur, instead of evaporating, is conducted, by means of flues connected with the kilns, and afterwards condensed: the walls of the kilns, generally about four or five feet in height, and of sufficient strength to bear the lateral pressure of the ore, vary in length in proportion to the quantity they are intended to contain. The ore is heaped up to the height of four or five feet above the walls, in a long convex pile, and closely covered with stones and other matter, luted with clay, to prevent evaporation. Along the ridge of the summit are placed horizontal flues, to receive the sulphur which sublimes to the top of the kiln, and conduct it into the sulphur chamber at the extremity. The ore, when it is once lighted, continues to burn for the period assigned, during which the chamber is cleared out three or four times; and the sulphur, after having been refined, is cast into cubes and cones, principally used in the manufacture of gunpowder and vitriolic acid, and into small rolls, which are chiefly sent to London, and form the stone brimstone exposed for sale in the shops. Prior to the year 1784, the whole of the ore was calcined in open kilns on the top of the hill, the sulphureous vapour exhaling from which, being condensed in the atmosphere, for some time shed a malignant influence on the soil, and converted several hundred acres of land adjoining into a barren waste, especially between the mountain and the sea. But the fumes having since that period been carefully condensed in the chambers appropriated for their reception, this land has assumed its former appearance of comparative fertility.

The ore in the mine abounds with sulphureous acid, which, uniting with the water, flows through the fissures of the vein, and combining with the copper, holds it in solution. The water, thus impregnated, is raised into reservoirs, or pits, ranged in regular series at different elevations, according to the declivity of the ground; and iron being put into it, the acid, having a stronger affinity to that metal, detaches itself from the copper, which is precipitated to the bottom in a congeries of small granulae. In order to expedite the process of precipitation, the iron is frequently scraped, and a fresh surface is thus exposed to the action of the acid; but by this means certain portions of the decomposed iron mixing with the precipitated copper, the quality of the latter is impaired and rendered less valuable. The proportion of copper contained in the mass thus precipitated varies from ten to twenty-five per cent.; but if wrought iron be used, and suffered to remain without scraping, till it is completely decomposed by the acid, it will precipitate nearly its own weight of sediment; and a ton of sediment thus precipitated will generally produce, when dried and smelted, about twelve hundred-weight of pure copper, which is more malleable and of a finer quality than that produced from the ore. After the precipitation has taken effect in the reservoirs of the upper series, the water is drawn off into those on the next lower level, and from those again into the next lower, till all the copper held in solution has subsided. The copper is taken from the emptied reservoirs in the form of mud, and after being dried is sent to the smelting-houses.

Formerly, after the mineral water had been drawn off into the last receptacle for it, the iron was extracted from its solution in the acid in the form of green vitriol, or copperas; but this plan not proving sufficiently profitable, it was abandoned for the manufacture of alum, which also not realising the gains anticipated, was in its turn relinquished, and the only value of the sulphate of iron in the lower pits is at present derived from its depositing a yellow ochre, which is refined, dried, and shipped for the use of painters. The better sort of ore was formerly smelted in furnaces in South Wales and Lancashire, and only the poorer at Amlwch; but the whole is now smelted at this place. About twenty vessels, of from one hundred to one hundred and fifty tons' burden, were employed in conveying it thither, bringing back from those places coal and culm for the furnaces at Amlwch. These smelting-houses are upon a very extensive scale, and contain a vast number of reverberating furnaces, the chimneys of which are more than forty feet high: the furnaces are charged, every five or six hours, with about twelve hundred-weight of ore, producing about half a hundred-weight of rough copper, from which, by refinement, nearly one-half of pure metal is obtained. The best unroasted ore contains, on an average, about eight per cent. of metal, and the inferior about four per cent.; and the best roasted ore contains about ten per cent., and the inferior, on an average, about four and a half. The strikingly rugged and barren aspect of the Parys mountain is rendered still more wild and terrific by the immense heaps of burning ore which are piled up on various parts of its surface: the continual noise of the workmen employed in breaking the masses of ore which have been detached from the mountain, and the reverberated roar of frequent explosions of gunpowder used in blasting the



rock, add to the dismal scene an effect truly appalling. Great numbers of the workmen are seen at different elevations on the edges of tremendous precipices, drawing up the broken ore in baskets; while others, suspended by ropes about half-way down, are working, apparently at the imminent hazard of their lives, in perforating the steep sides of the mountain, in which, after having secured a resting-place for their feet, they open a wide chasm, by detaching large masses of ore, that fall with prodigious noise to the bottom. Towards the close of the last century, when the Parys and Mona mines were very prosperous and in vigorous operation, their produce amounted to thirty thousand tons of available ore annually, and fifteen hundred men were employed in them; but when, about the year 1809, the works declined, and many of the workmen were obliged to seek employment in other places, not more than six hundred tons were obtained. In the year 1829, sixteen thousand four hundred tons, and in 1830, fifteen thousand six hundred and fifty tons, of copper-ore were produced from these works, which, in the several processes of quarrying, dressing, smelting, and refining, afford employment to more than one thousand five hundred persons. An extensive brewery has been established; but no other trade or manufacture is carried on, except such as are immediately connected with the mining operations and the works dependent on them. The mineral produce is shipped at Amlwch, which is considered a creek to the port of Beaumaris, and the harbour of which has been much enlarged by the proprietors of the mines. In 1793, an act of parliament was obtained for the improvement of the port and the formation of a harbour, under the provisions of which a pier was erected, in 1814; and in 1822 a breakwater was constructed, by which means it has been rendered one of the most secure and commodious harbours on the coast of North Wales: there are two lighthouses with steady lights at the entrance to it. It is accessible to vessels of three hundred tons' burden at all states of the tide, and numerous vessels are employed in conveying the mineral produce of this district to its several destinations, and in bringing the articles requisite for the carrying on of these extensive works, and the supply of the inhabitants. The principal exports are copper, limestone, and ale, the produce of this parish, and a very fine kind of marble, resembling the verd antique, of which there are quarries in the adjoining parish: the principal imports are coal, old iron, and tin, the two last used in the precipitation of copper; and shops goods of various kinds. A customary market, which is abundantly supplied with provisions of all kinds, is held weekly; and there is a fair for the sale of cattle on November 12th. By the act for amending the representation of the people in England and Wales, recently passed, Amlwch has been constituted a borough, in conjunction with Holyhead and Llangefni, contributory to Beaumaris, and sharing in the return of one member to parliament: the right of election is vested in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the present number of houses worth ten pounds per annum and upwards is fifty-two: the mayor of Beaumaris is the returning officer.

This parish is divided into three parts, *viz.*, Amlwch, Pwllcoch; Llechog, Bodynod, with Gorddwr; and Llawr y Llan; to which, in levying the county rate, the adjoining parishes of Bodewryd and Gwredog are considered a fourth division. The living is a perpetual curacy, with that of Llanwenllwyvo annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £200 royal bounty, and £1100 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor, to whom the great tithes were appropriated in the reign of James I. The church, dedicated to St. Elaeth, a spacious and handsome structure, with a lofty square embattled tower crowned with pinnacles, was erected in 1800, at an expense of £2500, defrayed by the Earl of Uxbridge and the Rev. Edward Hughes, at that time proprietors of the mines, and by Mr. Thomas Williams, who was a great benefactor to the parish. There were formerly two chapels of ease, both of which are now in ruins; one four miles to the west of Amlwch, called Llan Lleianau, or the cell of the Nuns, and the other about the same distance to the south, called St. Cadog. There are three places of worship each for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, and one each for Baptists and Independents. Edward Kynnier, in 1689, gave by deed £311, directing the interest to be appropriated to the payment of a master to teach poor children of this parish to read: this school was regularly kept up till the year 1821, when a National school was established, and a building erected at an expense of £1200, defrayed by subscription, to the support of which, in aid of the subscriptions, the interest of Mr. Kynnier's donation has, since that time, been applied. In this school, which is adapted to the reception of three hundred children, one hundred and twenty boys, and the same number of girls, receive gratuitous instruction. The interest of several charitable donations and bequests by various benefactors, amounting in the aggregate to £44 per annum, is distributed among the poor, at Christmas, by the minister and churchwardens of the parish. Near the extremity of the parish, and bordering upon that of Llanbadrig, are the remains of the monastery of Llan Lleianau, situated near the sea-shore, consisting principally of some traces of the foundation, and ruins of sepulchral memorials scattered over the extensive cemetery. Near this spot are the remains of a British fortress, called Dinas. The ancient well, called Fynnon Elaeth, was formerly in high estimation for the efficacy of its waters in the cure of various diseases, and is still held in some degree of repute. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £1043. 5.

AMROATH (AMBROTH, or AMROTH), a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (S.E.) from Narberth, containing 636 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the western shore of Carmarthen bay, abounds with coal of a peculiarly fine quality, which, burning without smoke or any offensive smell, is much in request for the drying of malt and hops; for this purpose considerable quantities are shipped from a place called Wiseman's Bridge, in vessels of fifty or sixty tons' burden, and sent to Bristol, and other places on the banks of the Severn. This part of the bay is celebrated for salmon, cod, and flat-fish, which are taken in abundance, and of which considerable quantities are sent for the



supply of the market at Tenby, five miles distant. Iron-ore was formerly obtained in this parish, during the existence of the Pembrey Iron Company; but the operations have been suspended since the stoppage of their works. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 18. 6½., endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Charles Poyer Callen, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Elidyr, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a lofty square embattled tower, and is well fitted up for the accommodation of the parishioners. A school, for the gratuitous instruction of an unlimited number of children of both sexes, is endowed with a bequest of the late D. Rees, Esq., of the city of London, who gave £20 per annum to this parish, of which £5, according to the will of the testator, is annually distributed among the most deserving of the poor, and the remainder appropriated to the maintenance of the school. In the vicinity of Amroath are several elegant seats, of which two are within the parish. Of these, Amroath Castle, originally either the residence of Cadwgan ab Bleddyn, Prince of Powys, or the site of his palace, and subsequently the seat of the family of the Elliots, at which period it was called Eare Weare, has been modernized into an elegant marine castellated villa, and is now the residence of the Rev. Thomas Shrapnel Biddulph. It was at this place that Cadwgan ab Bleddyn, according to some writers, gave a sumptuous banquet to the neighbouring chiefs, among whom was Gerald de Windsor, lord of Carew, and his wife Nesta, whom the son of Cadwgan afterwards carried off by force from the castle of Carew, as is noticed in the account of that place. Colby Lodge, an elegant mansion, the seat of Capt. Protheroe, is beautifully situated in a highly romantic dell, opening at one extremity towards the sea, of which it commands a fine and interesting view, and is enriched in other parts with scenery pleasingly varied, forming a beautiful and sequestered retreat. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £141. 1.

ANDREW'S (ST.), a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S.W.) from Cardiff, containing 474 inhabitants. The soil of the greater part of this parish is a strong, brown, dry earth, well adapted for grain of all kinds, potatoes, &c.; the rest is either a heavy grey clay, suitable for beans, &c., or wet and marshy, producing only coarse hay, or rough pasturage for young cattle: the substratum of the whole is limestone, in the procuring of which, and lias, several of the inhabitants are employed: a considerable quantity of magnesia is also obtained in the parish. The ground is rather elevated and hilly towards the inland, or northern, side of the parish, and flat and level towards the Bristol channel, or southern side, and subject to partial inundation from the overflowing of a small stream, called Dinas-Powis brook, which runs through the south-eastern part of the parish towards the south, and empties itself into the Bristol channel, between the parishes of Cadoxton and Sully, which lie between St. Andrew's and the channel. The village is called Dinas-Powis from an ancient fortress that existed here, which also gave name to the hundred. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's

books at £14. 13. 1½., and in the patronage of the Marquis of Bute. The church has no claim to architectural description: at the east end of the north aisle, parallel with the chancel, is a private chapel, anciently the property and burial-place of a respectable family, named Howel, long since extinct, resident at Bouville, and owners of a great part of the parish, which is now kept in repair by Henry Lee, Esq., the present proprietor of part of the Bouville estate. In the floor of this chapel there is a stone bearing the following inscription:—"Here lyeth the body of John Gibbon James, buried the 14 of August, 1601. And Margaret Mathew, his wife, buried the 8 of January, 1631. He aged ninety-nine, she aged one hundred and twenty-four." A spacious and commodious rectory-house has recently been completed by the Rev. Windsor Richards, the present incumbent. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. Divers benefactions of small amount have been made for the use of the poor, consisting of bequests of £2 by William David, and £10 by Thomas Stephens, in 1699; of £5 by Edward Howels, in 1709; of £5 by William Morgan, in 1718; and of £5 by Thomas Thomas, in 1729: these sums were vested in trust with the overseers, but there is no record of their appropriation to charitable purposes, except, probably, in the purchase of a house, which is now enjoyed rent-free by the poor. On part of the site of the ancient mansion of Bouville, situated at the north-western extremity of the parish, a farm-house has been erected by R. F. Jenner, Esq., one of whose ancestors purchased it, together with a portion of the estate; and there are some slight vestiges of the ancient building adjoining it. The fortress of Dinas-Powis was situated on the north-eastern side of the parish: it is stated to have been built by Iestyn ab Gwrgan, who succeeded to the kingdom of Glamorgan, in 1043, and became possessed of the district called Trêv Esyllt by marriage with Denis, the daughter of Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, Prince of Powys, after whom he is said to have called the castle Denis-Powys; but this etymology is probably incorrect, as the village is invariably called Dinas-Powis, meaning the city of Powys; and the castle, Dinas-Powis castle, in all likelihood in honour of his father-in-law, the Prince of Powys. It does not appear from the remains to have been built as a place of permanent residence, but as an asylum for the inhabitants and their cattle during the feuds of ancient times. The ruins merely consist of four walls, between thirty and forty feet high, and six feet thick, rudely built of unhewn stone, with battlements about five feet high, and a platform three feet wide within, enclosing an oblong square area, seventy yards by thirty-five in dimensions, to which there are two entrances, one, apparently the principal, at the east end, now, from the falling in of the wall, presenting only a wide breach, and the other on the north side, about nine feet high, and six feet wide, arched over with rough unhewn stones. In the two walls at the end, and that on the north side, there are ranges of square holes, nine inches in diameter, plastered with mortar, distant from each other five or six feet horizontally, and about three feet perpendicularly, which were probably intended for the admission of air: within the area a mound of earth and stones, of very easy ascent, rises to the top of the wall on the south side; and near the northern extremity there are the foundations of some



walls, rather difficult to be traced, which appear to have formed two small square separate apartments. On the outside of the great walls, at the north-western corner, there is a smaller heap of ruins, probably those of an *arc*, or tower, appendant to the castle, with which it appears to have communicated by means of a narrow door; and, within the memory of persons now living, there was a subterraneous passage, commencing in the side of the rocky hill, forming the site of the castle, and proceeding in a direction towards this tower, but which has been filled up. These ruins are the property of Mr. Lee, who has caused some parts of the walls to be repaired, to prevent their further decay. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £207. 13.

ANDREW'S (ST.) MINOR, a parish in the hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. W.) from Cowbridge, containing 16 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its chapel to St. Andrew, and is distinguished by the adjunct *Minor* from the parish of St. Andrew, in the hundred of Dinas-Powis, in the same county. It is pleasantly situated in the great vale of Glamorgan, in the south-eastern portion of the county, and near the northern shore of the Bristol channel, distant only a few miles from the coast. It is of small extent, comprising only one estate, called Clementston, which is co-extensive with the parish, and is the property of T. Franklin, Esq. Clementston House, which has recently received considerable additions and improvements, and has undergone a course of thorough repair, for the residence of its proprietor, is a handsome, well-built mansion, pleasantly situated in grounds tastefully disposed. The living is a sinecure rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, and in the patronage of T. Franklin, Esq., of Clementston, who, as proprietor of that estate, pays to the minister a modus of £5. The church, which appears to have been originally built for the accommodation of the family and household at Clementston, is now in ruins.

ANGLE, or NANGLE, a parish in the hundred of CASTLEMARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 10 miles (W.) from Pembroke, containing 458 inhabitants. This parish is situated at the south-western extremity of the county, and in an angle of Milford haven, affording excellent anchorage for small vessels; from which circumstance it probably has obtained its name. Limestone of very excellent quality is found here in abundance, which, being susceptible of a fine polish, is formed into mantel-pieces, and a considerable portion of it is burnt for manure. The female inhabitants are employed in platting straw for bonnets, hassocks, and matting, and, during the season, the men are occupied in dredging for oysters. The living consists of a sinecure rectory and a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, the former rated in the king's books at £10. 10., and in the patronage of the Crown; and the latter rated at £3. 19. 2., endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's; two-thirds of the tithes are appropriated to the rectory, and one-third to the vicarage. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. A school for the gratuitous instruction of about twenty-five poor girls is entirely supported by Mrs. Mirehouse, of Brownslade, in the parish of Castlemartin. Near

the entrance of the haven are the remains of an ancient building, called the Block-House, of the origin or purpose of which there is no historical record: from its situation it appears to have been erected for the protection of the entrance, probably in the reign of Henry VIII., or Elizabeth; but, from the excellency of the masonry, some tourists have ascribed to it a Roman origin. Near the church is a mansion called the Hall, the property of John Mirehouse, Esq., of Brownslade, to whom the whole parish belongs, and now in the occupation of a tenant. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £229. 16.

ANGLESEY, an insular county of NORTH WALES, surrounded by the Irish sea, except on the south-east, on which side it is separated from the county of Carnarvon by the long, narrow, and rocky strait called the Menai: it extends from  $53^{\circ} 6'$  to  $53^{\circ} 23'$  (N. Lat.), and from  $4^{\circ} 20'$  to  $5^{\circ} 5'$  (W. Lon.); and comprises, according to Evans' Map of North Wales, one hundred and seventy-three thousand statute acres, or upwards of two hundred and seventy square miles. The population, in 1831, was 48,325. This island anciently formed part of the territory of the *Ordovices*, by whom it was variously called *Ynys dywell*, or "the Shady Island;" *Ynys y Cedeirn*, from its heroes, or powerful Druids; and *Ynys Vón*, or *Ynys Môn*, afterwards written singly *Món*, which the Romans latinized into *Mona*. From the first of these names, Mr. Rowlands, in his "*Mona Antiqua Restaurata*," supposes the *Thule* of the Romans to have been derived, and considers Anglesey as the "*ultima Thule*." The same respectable antiquary thinks that the name *Món* is derived from the position of the island with respect to the other parts of Britain, that syllable, with the same sound, being found in the names of other western extremities of this and other countries inhabited by the Celtæ. Thus Cornwall was called by the Romans *Danmōnium* (the furthest point of it being to this day called *Penvon-laz*, or *wlad*); the Isle of Man, *Moneda*; and the westernmost part of Ireland, *Momonía*, or, in Irish, *Mown*. The common ancient British appellation of this island, viz., that of *Món mam Gymru*, "*Môn*, the mother, or nurse, of Wales," is supposed by some to allude to its productiveness, which afforded so great a supply of food to the other parts of Wales; but by others it is derived from its having been the chief residence of the Druids, whom the primitive Britons considered the parents of science and the guardians of society. This region, from its remote and insular situation, its vicinity to the Isle of Man, and the facility with which a passage might hence be made to that island, or to Ireland, appears to have been chosen, as their most secure asylum, by the Druids, during the persecution which they endured from the invading Romans. The first Roman commander who penetrated as far as Mona was Suetonius Paulinus, to whom the supreme authority in Britain was entrusted in the year 58. Having first subdued the continental part of North Wales, this Roman general crossed the Menai by means of flat-bottomed boats, and by swimming that arm of the sea at low water; and made an easy conquest of the island, in spite of the opposition of the Druids, many of whom he massacred, cut down their groves, overturned their altars, and destroyed the seminary of that ancient order. Suetonius is thought to have made his entrance into Mona at Porthamel



ferry, five miles westward from the site of the Menai bridge; but before he had wholly completed its conquest, his operations were interrupted by a formidable insurrection of the country in his rear, under the celebrated Boadicea; and this diversion of the Roman forces gave the remainder of the Druids a respite from persecution for fifteen years. The next attack which they experienced was under the direction of Julius Agricola, who was sent by the Emperor Vespasian to command the forces in Britain, in the year 78. This commander, on his arrival, found the *Ordovices*, the inhabitants of North Wales, in revolt; but he soon subdued the continental part of their territory with great slaughter, and compelled their chieftains to take refuge in Mona. He then advanced to the shore of the Menai, opposite to Moel y Don, in this county; and the struggling Britons, thus hemmed in, were urged to the necessity of exerting all their energies in defence of their lives, liberty, and sacred institutions. Tacitus describes the British army, which lined the shores to resist the landing of the Romans, as accompanied by another army of Druids, of both sexes, and in such confusion, that he designates them as a multitude of viragoes and madmen. The auxiliaries of the Roman army having crossed the Menai on horseback, to the great surprise and consternation of the Britons, a desperate struggle ensued, in which the latter were totally defeated; and the Druids, by command of the conqueror, were thrown into their own sacrificial fires. Under the Roman sway this island is supposed to have contained one station, situated at Caer Gybi, close to the present town of Holyhead. After the dissolution of the Roman power, and during the reign of Einion Urdd, son of Cynedda, who united under his government the kingdom of the Strath-Clyde Britons and the province of North Wales, and resided in his northern territories, the Irish Scots, under the command of Sirigi, or "the Rover," landed in Mona, and, having defeated the natives, took possession of the island. On receiving intelligence of this invasion, Einion Urdd sent his eldest son, Caswallon Law-hîr, to the relief of Mona; and the latter executed his orders by routing the enemy at Holyhead, where their fleet was lying at anchor, and by slaying Sirigi in a personal encounter. About the year 443, Caswallon, having succeeded to his father's throne, made choice of Mona for his residence; and, being the eldest branch of the Cyneddian family of British princes, he enjoyed a pre-eminence in dignity, and received from the other Cambrian princes homage and obedience, as their superior lord.

From this epoch may be dated the establishment of a distinct sovereignty in North Wales, which country, however, was overrun, and for a few years, early in the sixth century, held in subjection, by the Saxon monarch, Edwin of Northumbria. About the year 817, in right of that equal distribution of the property of a deceased person among all his children, by the custom which prevailed among the Welsh, similar to the Saxon gavelkind, Howel, the younger son of Rhodri Molwynog, late sovereign of North Wales, laid claim to the island of Mona, as his share of his father's inheritance. This claim being denied by his eldest brother, Cynan Tindaethwy, the reigning prince, the contending parties agreed to decide the affair by force of arms, the result of which, in two successive battles, was favourable to

Howel, who thus obtained possession of the disputed territory. But Cynan, enraged at these defeats, determined to make a vigorous effort, even at the hazard of his crown and life, to recover the island: he raised a new army and marched against his brother, who, finding himself unable to rally a sufficient force, withdrew to the Isle of Man, leaving Mona in the possession of Cynan. During the reign of Mervyn Vyrch, who had married Epyllt, daughter of Cynan Tindaethwy, Egbert, King of the West Saxons, having desolated a great part of North Wales, advanced to Mona, and, having overcome the Welsh in a bloody battle fought at Llanvaes, near Beaumaris, took possession of the island, which, though soon recovered by King Mervyn, at this period lost its ancient name of Mona among the Anglo-Saxons, who henceforward called it *Angles-Ey*, or "the Englishmen's Isle." Anglesey was again invaded by the Saxons, in 846, under the Mercian prince Burhred, who perpetrated the most cruel ravages; but the young prince Rhodri, or Roderic (afterwards surnamed *Mawr*, or "the Great"), who had but just succeeded to the sovereignty of North Wales, opposed a spirited resistance to the invaders, who, unable to effect the entire subjugation of the island, were soon afterwards compelled to quit it, in order to defend their own territories against the Danish incursions. The Danes, having been repulsed from England by Alfred, made a descent in Anglesey in the year 873, where, in two successive battles (one fought at Brÿn-goleu, and the other at Menegid), they were vigorously encountered by Roderic. About this period the Welsh prince removed the royal residence from Caer Segont, now Carnarvon, where it had been fixed by the successors of Caswallon Law-hîr, to Aberfraw, on the south-western coast of the island, where that prince had originally established it. An interval of freedom from the molestations of the Danes afforded the English another opportunity of invading Anglesey with a formidable army. The Welsh sovereign opposed them with his usual spirit, and at length fell in defence of his country, being slain with his brother Gwryiad in one of the battles fought with the English.

According to the late king's division of the sovereignty among his three sons, this island was included in the kingdom of Gwynedd, or North Wales, the residence of whose sovereigns was at Aberfraw, in the palace which had been erected by Roderic. A large body of Danes landed in the island in the year 900; but this invasion seems only to have been distinguished by a battle fought at Rhôs-meilion, in which fell Mervyn, Prince of Powys. Early in the reign of Edwal Voel, who succeeded to the sovereignty of North Wales in the year 913, the Irish made a descent upon Anglesey, which they laid waste with great cruelty. A party of marauders from the same country made another descent in the year 966, destroyed the royal palace at Aberfraw, and slew Roderic, the youngest son of Edwal Voel. In 969, the island once more suffered from an invasion of the Danes, who ravaged the easternmost part of the county in the vicinity of Penmon; and in a second enterprise, shortly after, they gained for a time complete possession of it. Constantine the Black, fired with the deepest resentment at the injuries received by his family from his cousin Howel, Prince of North Wales, by whom his father Iago was then held in close confinement, collected an army of Danish pirates, and,



# ANGLESEY



Drawn by R. Creighton

DRAWN AND ENGRAVED FOR LEWIS' TOPOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY.

Engraved by J & C. Walker







in the year 979, laid waste this island : but Howel, having assembled his forces, routed the Danes in a battle fought at Gwaith Hirbarth, in which Constantine was slain. Meredydd, a prince who ruled in Powys by right of his mother, about the year 985, took possession of the kingdom of North Wales ; but the Danes invading Anglesey soon after, took prisoner Llywarch, that sovereign's brother, with two thousand of his men, and put out his eyes, which so terrified Meredydd, that he fled into Powys, leaving his subjects of Gwynedd without a sovereign, and exposed to the ravages of any invader : in consequence of this, the Danes again landed in Anglesey, and laid waste the whole island. Soon after the accession of Trehaern ab Caradoc to the sovereignty of North Wales, in 1073, Gruffydd ab Cynan thought this a favourable opportunity to assert his right to the same throne, to which he had an hereditary claim. This prince, during the late reigns, had sought refuge in Ireland, his mother being a native of that country ; and having procured aid from some of the Irish princes, his kinsmen, he landed a body of troops in Anglesey, of which he soon effected the conquest. He then passed the Menai, but was defeated by Trehaern in Merionethshire, and compelled to return to this island, where he soon after received reinforcements from Ireland, and speedily made himself master of the kingdom for which he contended.

In 1096, during the reign of William Rufus in England, and of Gruffydd ab Cynan in Gwynedd, a formidable army of English, under the command of Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, and Hugh the Red, Earl of Shrewsbury, invaded North Wales, at the secret instigation of several powerful native chieftains ; and Gruffydd retired to the mountains for safety. The two earls, encountering no resistance, advanced into that part of Carnarvonshire which lies nearest to Anglesey ; when Gruffydd, anticipating the danger which threatened the seat of his government, crossed the Menai into this island, and receiving a small reinforcement from Ireland, resolved to defend this part of his territory. At this critical moment, however, Owain ab Edwyn, lord of Englefield, one of the secret betrayers of his country, whose daughter was the wife of Gruffydd, and who was himself his prime minister and adviser, openly avowed his treachery, and joined the English army with his forces. The Welsh prince, alarmed at the defection of so powerful a chieftain, and unable to oppose the increased numbers of the enemy, withdrew to Ireland. Thus again left unprotected, Anglesey fell an easy prey to the English, who took ample revenge upon its inhabitants, for the cruelties which had a little before been committed by the Welsh on the English border, by massacring many, and cutting off the hands and feet and otherwise barbarously mutilating others. The deliverance of North Wales at this perilous period was brought about by a train of fortuitous circumstances. Magnus, son of Harold, King of Norway, having taken possession of the Orkneys and the Isle of Man, accidentally arrived at this time on the coast of Anglesey, and attempted a descent upon it. In the opposition which the English made to his landing, the impetuous valour of the Earl of Shrewsbury having hurried him into the water, the Norwegian prince levelled an arrow at him, which, through the opening of his helmet, pierced his brain through his right eye, and he fell convulsed in the

sea : the Welsh regarded this as a stroke of retributive justice coming immediately from the hand of the Almighty. The death of the Earl of Shrewsbury produced some disorder among the English, and compelled them to abandon the shore ; and the Earl of Chester, on this disaster, suddenly withdrew to Bangor, where he for some time fixed his abode, carrying on a desultory warfare with the inhabitants of Anglesey, whom he annoyed with frequent aggressions. The latter earl, in the course of this expedition, erected a castle at a place called Aberlenniog, on the shores of the Menai, near Beaumaris. The Norwegians, finding that the English had left nothing to plunder, immediately re-embarked ; and this was the last attempt made by any of the northern nations to ravage or subdue this island. In the year 1151, Cadwalader, brother of Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, who had long been kept in confinement by his nephew Hywel, escaped from prison, and, fleeing to Anglesey, brought a great part of the island under subjection : but a formidable body of troops having been sent against him by the Prince of North Wales, he was obliged to seek refuge in England. At the period of the invasion of North Wales by Henry II., in 1157, the English fleet, which, under the conduct of Madoc ab Meredydd, Prince of Powys, sailed from Chester to infest the coasts of North Wales, made a descent on Anglesey, and ravaged a part of the island ; but, in returning to their ships, the force which had landed was attacked by the whole strength of the island and entirely destroyed, and the English fleet immediately weighed anchor, and sailed back to Chester. In 1173, Davydd ab Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, forcibly took Anglesey from his brother Roderic, whom he put into close confinement : on this occasion the island suffered considerable devastation. On the invasion of Wales by Henry III., in 1245, that monarch's justiciary in Ireland received orders to make a diversion from that kingdom on the Isle of Anglesey, which was accordingly made in August, by the Irish forces, and the whole island laid waste ; but not being promptly supported by the English king, they were assailed by the inhabitants, when laden with plunder, and driven back to their ships.

On the eve of the great invasion of Wales by Edward I., in 1277, that sovereign directed a fleet from the Cinque Ports to cruise on the coast of Wales, one object of which was the reduction of this island, which it fully effected. Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, the reigning prince of North Wales, being shortly after compelled to sue for peace, obtained it only upon hard conditions, one of which was that, though he should continue to hold the island of Anglesey, he should pay for that permission the annual sum of one thousand marks, and, if he died without issue, the island was then to be vested in the King of England and his heirs for ever : Edward, however, remitted the yearly tribute of one thousand marks. This treaty being afterwards broken, Edward, in his next invasion of Wales, while lying in the vicinity of Aberconway, again, in like manner, ordered a strong detachment of marines and other forces, in the vessels of the Cinque Ports, to take possession of Anglesey, in order not only to deprive the Welsh of the advantage of that fruitful island, as a source of provisions, but also to confine them within narrower limits, and, by dividing their attention, to facilitate his entrance into the inner recesses of their continental territory. This service was



performed with complete success : the island was easily taken, as the chief persons in it supported the interests of Edward, in conformance with the oaths which they had taken at the late peace. The English in Anglesey then made preparations for crossing the Menai by a bridge of boats, constructed from the point called Moel y don ; but, owing to the imprudence of a part of their forces, which crossed that arm of the sea before the bridge was completed, and was consequently surprised and destroyed by the Welsh, the rest were compelled to remain for a time in Anglesey ; nor did they finish the bridge and make good their passage until after the unfortunate death of Llewelyn, in the winter following. After the complete subjugation of the principality in this campaign, Edward allowed its inhabitants to enjoy their estates under the tenures by which they had held them under their native princes ; and the rents which the inhabitants of Anglesey had been accustomed to pay were reduced in amount to four hundred and fifty pounds a year, although they had formerly yielded a thousand marks annually to Llewelyn. Though conquered, and reduced in numbers by the long war which they had so bravely maintained, the native spirit of the Welsh remained unsubdued, and was often exasperated into rebellion by the tyranny of their new masters, who found it necessary, for the maintenance of their authority, to fortify themselves in numerous strong castles. The Isle of Anglesey at this time formed the principal rendezvous of all the native chieftains, who, notwithstanding their formal submission to the authority of Edward, were unceasingly engaged in plots to throw off the English yoke, and made this the centre of several important insurrections, which were successively quelled. Edward, in 1284, appointed his favourite, Sir Roger de Puleston, sheriff and keeper of Anglesey : this powerful knight was afterwards slain, in 1294, during the insurrection led by Madoc, an illegitimate son of the last Llewelyn, who soon after gained possession of Anglesey. Edward, having quelled the rebellion in the continental part of the principality, crossed the Menai into Anglesey ; and the English forces on this occasion destroyed the church, with some part of the other buildings, of Llanvaes priory, and devastated its lands. Edward, seeing the impossibility of preventing the excitement of other rebellions, which might threaten the stability of his dominion in Wales, whilst Anglesey, without an English garrison, afforded such facilities for combination, found it necessary to erect in this island a castle equal in strength and importance to those which he had previously built at Carnarvon and Aberconway, and to place in it a garrison equally formidable. As the site of this fortress, he selected Porth Wgyr, a place of great antiquity, near the easternmost extremity of the county, which at that time had acquired the name of Bonover, and to which the Anglo-Normans, on account of its situation in a flat on the sea-shore, gave the appellation of Beaumarais, since slightly modernized into Beaumaris : the work was completed in 1296. The ill-fated Sir Gruffydd Llwyd, who received the honour of knighthood from Edward I., on bringing him the intelligence of queen Eleanor's being delivered of a son (afterwards Edward II.), in Carnarvon castle, was a native of Tregarnedd, in this county, and subsequently did homage for his estates to this young prince, at Chester. But afterwards, indig-

nant at insults offered to himself, and deeply resenting the wrongs and oppressions heaped upon his duped and suffering fellow-countrymen, he formed a plan for liberating them from that intolerable slavery to which he considered that he had contributed, in accepting, with other chieftains, the young prince Edward as his sovereign. In 1322, he took up arms, and for a time overran some parts of North Wales with irresistible impetuosity ; but at length being defeated by the English troops, he retreated into Anglesey, to his house of Tregarnedd, which he had strongly fortified, and garrisoned with his followers another strong hold, called Ynys Cevni, about three-quarters of a mile distant, in a marshy part of the sands called the Malltraeth, a spot which he contrived to insulate by surrounding it with the waters of the river Cevni. Here, after a desperate struggle, he was at last taken prisoner by a body of English, and conveyed to Rhuddlan castle, in Flintshire, where he was executed soon after. The custody of the castle of Beaumaris, together with the whole county and dominion of Anglesey, was granted by Henry IV. to the renowned Henry Percy, surnamed Hotspur. During the great revolt under Owain Glyndwr, in this reign, the monks of Llanvaes priory being suspected of favouring his designs, the English monarch, on his first taking the field against the insurgents, put some of the friars to the sword, carried the rest away prisoners, and plundered the convent.

In the great civil war of the seventeenth century the inhabitants of this island distinguished themselves by their persevering attachment to the royal cause. So early as the year 1642, Beaumaris castle was garrisoned for the king by command of its constable, the Earl of Dorset. Thomas, the first Lord Bulkeley, afterwards succeeded to the constablership of the same fortress, and his son, Col. Richard Bulkeley, assisted by several other gentlemen of the county, held it for the king, until June 1646, when it was surrendered on honourable terms to General Mytton : it appears, however, to have fallen again into the hands of the royalists. In 1648, the inhabitants of the whole island rose for the purpose of aiding in the restoration of the unfortunate monarch's affairs, at the time that several diversions were made in different parts of Britain, with a view to the liberation of Charles, then a prisoner in the Isle of Wight. Resolutions were immediately drawn up ; and it was decided by a council of war that a general declaration should be published, subscribed by all the inhabitants from the age of sixteen to sixty. The words of this curious document are as follows :—" We, the inhabitants of the Isle of Anglesey, whose names are hereunto subscribed, after mature consideration, and hearty invocation of the name of God for directions and assistance, do remonstrate and declare to our fellow-subjects and neighbours, whom it may concern, that we, having, according to our bounden duty and allegiance, preserved the said island in due obedience to our most dread sovereign Lord, King Charles, during the time of this intestine war and rebellion ; and, by God's blessing upon our careful endeavours, defended the same until the enemy had over-mastered the whole kingdom (a few strong holds excepted), this being the only county of England or Wales for two months together kept entire under his Majesty's authority and command ; and being then, through the vast number



of men and horse threatened to be poured in upon us (finding no possible expectance of relief), enforced to submit to the then prevailing power; do now, out of conscience towards God, and loyalty towards his anointed, with all humbleness, prostrate ourselves, our lives and fortunes, at his Majesty's feet, resolving, with the utmost exposal of all that we are, or have, to preserve the said island, together with the castle and holds therein, in due obedience to his sacred Majesty, his heirs and lawful successors, against all rebellious opposers and invaders whatsoever; and do also, with sincerity of heart, profess that we will, according to our several degrees, places, and callings, maintain the true Protestant religion by law established, his Majesty's royal prerogative, the known laws of the land, just privileges of parliament, together with our own and fellow-subjects' legal properties and liberties. And we also do farther declare and protest, that we shall and will account all those that do, or shall, stand in opposition hereunto, to be enemies and traitors to their king and country, and accordingly to be proceeded against, being most ready to contribute our best abilities for their reduction, and re-instating of our gracious sovereign (who hath long endured the tyranny and oppression of his barbarous and bloody enemies) to his rights, dominions, and dignity, according to the splendour of his most illustrious progenitors. Given under our hands the 14th day of July, 1648." This declaration immediately led to an expedition for the reduction of this island, under the command of General Mytton; and, when the parliamentary forces were descried from Beaumaris green, approaching over the mountain of Penmaen-Mawr, on the opposite side of the Menai, great demonstrations of defiance were made at the former place. However, after a slight skirmish near Cadnant with Major Hugh Pennant's troop of horse, General Mytton's forces advanced without further opposition to Orsedd Migin, where they held a rendezvous, the morning after their passage across the straits. Hence they marched immediately upon Beaumaris, by way of Red-hill Park, and drew up in order of battle upon the hill; the islanders, commanded in chief by Colonel Bulkeley, and by Colonel Roger Whitely as major-general, drawing up in the fields below the hill. A smart engagement speedily ensued, in which the royalists were defeated and put to flight, with the loss of some slain and four hundred made prisoners. The town was now closely pressed and soon taken, notwithstanding that the church was obstinately defended by a number of men who had been left locked up in it by their commander. Most of the royalist commanders retired into the castle, to which General Mytton sent a summons, demanding the bodies of the two colonels, Bulkeley and Whitely, who immediately surrendered themselves to save the effusion of blood in the slaughter of the prisoners, which was threatened in case of a refusal. Unable successfully to resist the formidable force brought against it, the garrison in the castle also capitulated on honourable terms, on the 2nd of October; and articles of agreement were drawn up and signed by the parliamentary commissioners and by those appointed for the purpose by the governor of the castle, on behalf of the inhabitants of the whole island. On the 9th of October, instruments were interchanged, in which it was stipulated that the estates of persons

within the island should be relieved from sequestration, on condition of paying one twenty-fifth of their value; and that they should be permitted to compound for them at the rate of two years' income for all estates of inheritance, and for other estates in proportion. This mulct was paid by instalments, and the total amount of the money thus obtained from the island is supposed to have been about £20,000.

Anglesey is in the diocese of Bangor, and province of Canterbury; and forms an archdeaconry, which was annexed to the bishoprick by act of parliament of the 1st of James I., comprising the deaneries of Llivon and Tal y bolion, Menai and Malltraeth, and Tyndaethwy and Twrcelyn: the number of parishes is sixty-nine, of which twenty-two are rectories, four vicarages, and the rest perpetual curacies. For purposes of civil government it is divided into the six hundreds of Llyvon, Malltraeth, Menai, Tal y bolion, Twrcelyn, and Tyndaethwy. It contains the boroughs, market-towns, and sea-ports of Amlwch, Beaumaris, and Holyhead; the borough and market town of Llangvni; and the market-town of Llanerchymedd. One knight is returned to parliament for the shire, and one representative for the united boroughs: the county member and the member for the boroughs are elected at Beaumaris: the polling-places are Beaumaris, Holyhead, and Llangvni. This county is in the North Wales circuit: the assizes and sessions are held at Beaumaris, where stands the county gaol and house of correction: there are twenty-two acting magistrates. The parochial rates raised in the county for the year ending March 25th, 1830, amounted to £19,196, and the expenditure to £19,209, of which £16,006 was applied to the relief of the poor.

The exact form of this island, of which the general outline is somewhat oblong, extending in length nearly from north-west to south-east, is extremely irregular, the rocky barrier of its sea-worn shores being broken in numerous places by small bays, creeks, and other inlets: it is the only county in the principality of which the surface approximates to uniformity of character, the whole gently undulating, and there being few swells that can properly be termed hills, or hollows deserving the name of valleys. The interior being also devoid of wood, nearly all the land is enclosed, and these enclosures seldom surrounded by the lively green of quickset hedges, the whole district exhibits a very dreary aspect, and impresses the beholder at first sight with an idea of sterility, which, however, does not predominate, the land, when under proper management, being in general highly productive. The only part possessing any variety of sylvan beauty is that bordering on the Menai. Although the scenery of the island is so little interesting, yet the traveller, after proceeding a few miles from the shores of the Menai, by looking across that arm of the sea into Carnarvonshire, will obtain a splendid view of the chain of mountains which stretches through that county, and the outline of which is varied at irregular intervals by numerous diversified peaks, above all which rises the majestic Snowdon. As the spectator recedes from the Menai, the connecting links of this magnificent chain are gradually lost, and only the insulated summits of the highest mountains remain visible in the distant horizon. The high table land, called Mynydd y Tryslwyn, in the north-western part of the county, is an object of especial interest to travellers, from a part of it forming the far-



famed Parys mountain, so distinguished for its mineral treasures, and which has been supposed to derive its name from one Robert Parys, a commissioner in an inquisition, in the 8th of Henry IV., to fine such of the inhabitants of Anglesey as had taken part in Owain Glyndwr's insurrection. The aspect of this elevation, rising into enormous rugged rocks of coarse aluminous shale and whitish quartz, is naturally very rude; and the romantic grandeur of its outward form has been further heightened by the vast mining operations which have penetrated its interior, yet lie open to the day like immense quarries. The most extensive tract of marsh land is that of Malldraeth, or Malltraeth, near Newborough, in the southern part of it, which is situated on the shores of a sandy creek, extending a considerable distance inland, in a north-easterly direction, and comprises about three thousand acres. Acts of parliament for enclosing it were obtained in the years 1788 and 1790, and an embankment across the lower part of it, one thousand four hundred yards long, was nearly completed, when the whole work was suddenly abandoned, and an uncommonly high tide, on the 23rd of January, 1796, added a breach, twenty roods long, to the space of about twenty roods which had been left unfinished. In this neglected state the work remained until early in the present century, when a scheme for erecting another embankment, upon a more enlarged scale and durable plan, was carried into execution, under the provisions of an act obtained in 1815, and the work was completed in 1819.

It is probable that Anglesey originally joined the main land; for near Porthaethwy, on the shores of the Menai, a line of rocks, called the Swelly rocks, juts out nearly across the channel, which are supposed to be the remains of an isthmus: in the rugged openings between them, the sea, for about an hour after the commencement of the flood tide, violently fluctuates and foams, owing to the meeting of two currents, called Pwll Ceris, which renders the passage very dangerous. Across the Menai strait there were formerly six ferries, sanctioned by authority; but this number has been reduced to five by the erection of the magnificent iron suspension bridge over the narrowest part of it, where was formerly the ferry of Porthaethwy, commonly called Bangor ferry. On the subjugation of North Wales by Edward I., the ferries became the property of the crown; but this monarch soon granted one of them, *viz.*, that of Cadnant, to Einion, Bishop of Bangor, for christening the young prince Edward of Carnarvon: the rest continued in the possession of the crown until the time of Henry VIII., who granted four of them to Richard Giffard; and the latter, in the twenty-third year of that monarch's reign, let them on a term to William Bulkeley, from whose descendants they have since been transferred to different hands. Though the situations of these appear to have been well chosen, according to the nature of the strait, yet, owing to sand-banks, opposing tides rushing into them from each extremity, and other natural causes, the passage is not absolutely safe by any one of them, and serious accidents have occurred at each. The most southern of the five remaining ferries is that of Abermenai, opposite to Carnarvon; the next, at a distance of three miles north-eastward, is that of Tal y Voel; four miles beyond which is that of Moel y don, and, three miles further, the Menai bridge; beyond which is that of Cadnant, now removed to

Garth; and lastly the longest of all the ferries at high water, *viz.*, that between the town of Beaumaris and Aber, in Carnarvonshire. The shores of Anglesey are studded with several small islets, of which the principal are the following; *viz.*, that of Priestholme, Ynys Seiriol, Glannauch, or Puffin Island, separated from the easternmost extremity of the county by a deep channel about half a mile broad: it is of an oval form, about a mile long, and half a mile broad, extremely lofty, and has a precipitous shore on every side, except that which faces the promontory of Penmon, where the land is not quite so elevated: it slopes gradually from the summit to the edge of these cliffs, and forms a bold boundary on the west to the broad bay of Beaumaris. The next to this, proceeding along the northern coast of the island, is Ynys y Moelrhoniad, or "the Isle of Seals," commonly called the Skerries, situated at its northernmost extremity, in front of the village of Llanrhwydrys, and about half a league from the main land, from which it is separated by a deep and dangerous channel: its surface is composed chiefly of rocks, half covered with vegetation, and on its highest point is a lighthouse, erected about the year 1730. To this succeeds Ynys Cybi, or Holy Island, at the westernmost point of Anglesey, comprising the parishes of Holyhead and Rhôscolyn, and consisting for the most part of barren rocks and dreary sands: the channel separating it from the rest of Anglesey is narrow, and is fordable in some places at low water; and the great Irish road is carried over it by means of a noble embankment, three-quarters of a mile long. A remarkable phenomenon attends the tides on the shores of this county, more particularly in the straits of the Menai. It appears that two tides set in from the western sea, which are divided by the Isle of Anglesey, one part passing through the Menai straits, and the other through the great channel lying between Holyhead and the Irish coast. The latter tide, having to extend its influence round the greater part of the island before it can reach the north-eastern entrance of the Menai, the flow is more than an hour earlier at Carnarvon than at Beaumaris; and the water from the main sea begins to pour into the strait at Carnarvon while it is yet ebbing out of it at Beaumaris; consequently, the water in the vicinity of Carnarvon continues falling after the direction of the current is changed. In like manner the ebb commences at Carnarvon before it is high water at Beaumaris, and though the direction of the current in this case is also changed, yet it continues rising at the Menai bridge for a considerable time after it has begun to ebb at Carnarvon. These tides (the one entering the Menai from St. George's channel, and the other from the Irish sea) meet at a place near Beaumaris, called Taraw Point.

The climate of this county, owing to the sea-breezes which constantly blow over it, and the greater uniformity of its surface, is milder and less boisterous, and the snow lies upon the ground a shorter time, than in the neighbouring counties. But, from the same causes, it is incommoded with frequent mists in the autumn, during which damp season the inhabitants are subject to intermittent fevers: still they are in general healthy and long-lived. The soils, though various, are for the most part fertile: they consist chiefly of the following kinds, *viz.*, a friable mould; a shallow soil on



light sand; a coarse healthy soil on hard rock; a quick warm soil, invigorated by marl; a reddish and stiffish loam; and a black peaty earth; under which there are generally beds of peat, forming useful turbaries. There is also an abundance of marly soils, lying in contiguity with the ranges of limestone hereafter described. The reddish loams are of excellent quality, and lie near the shores of the Menai, in the vicinity of Llanidan: the light soils, consisting of various admixtures of sandy loam, rounded pebbles, gravel, peat, &c., occupy the greater part of the island, and are best adapted for the culture of barley, peas, turnips, &c.: free loams, of a rather better quality than the latter, are found in different parts of the interior.

The agriculture of the county has much improved since smuggling, which was formerly carried on by the inhabitants to an amazing extent, has been nearly suppressed by the vigilance of the government; but the greater part of the island still presents a mixed aspect of wildness and cultivation, excepting a few scattered farms, which are managed under superior systems. Of the enclosed lands, which occupy nearly the whole of its surface, about an eleventh part is actually under tillage; and of this quantity, about one-fourth is annually sown with oats, and the remainder with barley and wheat, in equal proportions. The rotations of crops are various, but the white corn crops of oats and barley are too frequently taken in unvaried succession, or alternately with each other, for five or six years. The average produce of oats is only from four to six times the amount of seed sown, although sometimes, under superior management, as much as from fifteen to sixteen: the produce of barley is very various; and that of wheat averages no more than that of oats, although some farmers obtain from eight to ten times the quantity sown. The cultivation of peas, which used formerly to be considerable, is now greatly diminished; and beans are hardly ever seen; but there is no part of North Wales where potatoes are cultivated so well and so extensively as in this island. Turnips were first introduced as an agricultural crop in 1765, and their culture has been since gradually increasing in extent: in 1797, there were about fifty acres under turnips, of which only seven were drilled. Anglesey is distinguished for a native species of this root, which is a small, yellow, garden turnip, called in the adjacent county of Carnarvon *Maip sir Von*. A few small patches of land are occasionally sown with hemp. The artificial grasses are of the ordinary kinds. Burnet grows naturally on the limestone hills near Llanidan, bordering on the Menai; and the *plantago maritima*, or narrow-leaved sea plantain, is found wild on different parts of the sea-shore: the latter tastes like samphire, is very succulent, and is eagerly eaten by sheep. Anglesey contains nearly one hundred and fifty thousand acres of meadows and pastures, of which the natural produce is in general of a fine quality, great quantities of hay seeds being annually conveyed from it as far as the hilly parts of Denbighshire and Merionethshire. The grass lands are almost exclusively devoted to the rearing of cattle, to be sold lean to the graziers of other districts having richer pastures, where they are fattened for different places requiring a large supply: lean cattle, therefore, constitute one of its chief articles of export. The dairies are so few and

on so small a scale as hardly to supply the consumption of the island; nor, indeed, is the cheese made in it of good quality, for, to supply the want of that richness of which the milk is robbed for the sake of making butter, the curds are so saturated with rennet as to make it quite spongy. The extraordinary manures are various and valuable. Lime is extensively used within a convenient distance of those parts of the island where it is burned; and sea-weed, or sea-thong, and the *fucus* of various kinds, are collected on the shores after storms, and spread on the fields to be immediately ploughed in, or made into composts with various other manures. But that for which Anglesey is more particularly distinguished is the shell-sand found on different parts of its coasts, but of the best quality in the Traeth Coch, or Red Wharf bay, in the eastern part of its northern shores; that which is obtained at this place contains about two-thirds, and from that to four-fifths, of decayed shells: it is carried to every part of the island in carts and waggons, is generally laid upon the land about an inch thick, and if its fertilizing particles are not suddenly washed away by violent rains, it enriches the soil for ten or twelve years. The first time this shell-sand is known to have been used as a manure was in 1645, by the Rev. Thomas Williams, rector of Llansadwrn; but at present, besides the extensive consumption of it in the island, great quantities are annually shipped coastwise to Denbighshire and Flintshire. Both the shell-sand and the sea-weeds are preferred to lime upon lands that have been for some time under cultivation. The plough in most common use is of the large old kind, which was universally used in North Wales prior to the introduction of the lighter *Lummas* plough, about the year 1760: the mould-board is a plain plank, which turns the split over by its extreme length; and by the holder pressing much on the left handle, its nether edge forms an acute angle with a line parallel to the surface of the soil, by which means a feather-edged split is formed, which, in ley grounds, does not afford a sufficient depth of mould for the harrow: the surface resting on the ground from the heel to the point of the share is four feet long, and the friction occasioned by this large surface requires great force to overcome it.

In this county, where the rearing of cattle is in most cases the farmer's principal object, and the dairy is almost entirely neglected, the calves are not weaned until they arrive at double the age at which they are commonly weaned in other counties. This partly accounts for the bull-like appearance of the oxen about the head and dewlap; but it is a received opinion that they are hardier on that account, and may be kept on coarser pasture. The characteristics of the choice Anglesey oxen, commonly called (from their small size and peculiar appearance) *runts*, are (says the Rev. W. Davies, in his View of the Agriculture of North Wales,) the same in most points with those of the Roman oxen described by Columella. Their colour is coal black, with white appendages: they have remarkably broad ribs, high and wide hips, deep chest, large dewlap, flat face, and long horns turning upwards: their average weight, when fat, at three or four years old, is from eight to eleven score lb. per quarter. These deep-chested and short-legged oxen are much esteemed by the graziers for their aptness to fatten; but they are



not quite so well adapted for draught. Anglesey is distinguished for its sheep, which are the largest native breed in North Wales, weighing, according as they are variously fed, from ten to sixteen lb. per quarter, and sometimes as much as eighteen lb.: they have black legs and faces, and are generally without horns; but whether they were originally from the same stock as the present small sheep of the county of Carnarvon, and attained their present superiority in size from a milder climate and better pasturage, or are a foreign species brought over at some remote period from Ireland, cannot now be ascertained. They bear a fleece weighing from one lb. and three-quarters to two lb. and a half; and are shorn about the middle of May, or early in June: some are shorn twice a year. Several experimental farmers have introduced other breeds from England. Great numbers of hogs were formerly bred in this county for the English markets, but since the establishment of steam-boats from Dublin to Liverpool, which has caused the importation of great numbers to the latter place from Ireland, this practice has declined. The native breed of horses is but of an inferior description, and their natural awkwardness and want of symmetry is further increased by the universal custom of fettering them, as well as the sheep; a practice which is rendered necessary owing to the want of proper fences. Tender furze, bruised with mallets, or ground in mills erected for the purpose, used formerly to be a chief article of fodder for horses, and the farmers were then accustomed to sow furze, and sometimes to let the crop at a certain price per acre, in which case it was frequently more profitable than a crop of wheat; but this system is now abandoned. Rabbits are very numerous in some places in the vicinity of the sea-coast, where the sandy soil favours their burrowing, more especially near the ruins of the monastery of Llanddwyn. Seals are frequently seen on the shores of this island. The water-rail is a constant visitor of Anglesey early in the spring; and that rare quatic bird, the shag, sometimes makes its appearance on the shore near Holyhead. The horticulture of the county presents nothing remarkable, except that sea-kale, which grows in abundance on the coasts, has in some places been introduced into gardens, and is found an excellent substitute for asparagus, being also somewhat earlier in the spring.

Anglesey is said to have been anciently called the dark or shady island, in allusion to its thick groves of wood; but at present its woodlands are almost wholly confined to a narrow slip along the Menai; and even here, great numbers of the trees, sinking beneath the force of the western blasts, which sweep over them loaded with saline particles, have a stunted and blighted appearance. Lord Boston, however, has some considerable woods at Lligwy, in the parish of Penrhôs Lligwy; and a few plantations have been made on different estates, and have flourished, with the exception of those trees immediately exposed to the westerly winds, which are always gradually destroyed. Wherever a few trees occur in the hedge-rows, they are invariably much inclined towards the north-east by the violent winds from the opposite quarter. At the commencement of the present century the amount of waste land was between twelve and thirteen thousand acres, from which must now be deducted the whole extent

of Malltraeth marsh, which has been embanked and enclosed: of this amount, nine thousand acres, including Malltraeth marsh, are level and highly improvable. The principal unenclosed tract on the uplands is Talwrn-Mawr, an extensive and continuous chain of wastes, intermixed with old enclosures, and running through the greater part of the county. The surface of the unenclosed level wastes is continually pared by the poor inhabitants for fuel. Some of the flat lands lying adjacent to the sea are covered with drifting sands, more especially those near the southernmost extremity of the county. Anglesey being comparatively destitute of coal, peat, and wood, the inhabitants are chiefly supplied with coal brought coastwise from Flintshire and Lancashire, which being sold at a high price, the poor are frequently unable to purchase it, and are thus compelled to collect the dried dung of cattle from the moors and fields, to the great injury of the soil, and the paring of the surface of sound waste land. The Anglesey Agricultural Society was established in the year 1808.

The mineral productions are of great variety and importance; but the geology of the island, which is also interesting, has received but very little illustration. The prevailing rock may be said to be clay-slate, but granite occurs in a small spot near its centre; and on its south-eastern and north-eastern sides there is an abundance of limestone and gritstone, which in some places are accompanied by a few thin and poor strata of coal. The immense produce of the island in copper is wholly obtained from the Parys mountain mine and the Mona mine, which are in fact only portions of the same mine, distinguished under these two names to mark the possessions of two different proprietors, and situated in the northern part of the island, in the vicinity of Amlwch, a town which entirely owes its elevation from the rank of an inconsiderable fishing village to the discovery and extensive working of the mineral treasures of the neighbouring high ground of Tryslwyn, in which these mines are contained. There is abundant reason to suppose that copper-ore was procured and smelted here at a very remote period; but the main stratum, after several unsuccessful attempts, was discovered only on the 2nd of March, 1768, the anniversary of which day was for many years kept as a festival by the miners. This mass is in some places more than three hundred feet thick, and lies in vast clusters, commonly called *stock works*. Both the mines are situated on this grand vein, which has numerous branches, and is worked, not, as in other mines, by means of subterranean excavations, but open to the day, in the manner of a quarry; the reason of which is, that the chief substance of the mountain itself consists of copper-ore. The matrix of this ore is a dark-coloured petrosilex, over which lie strata of aluminous schistus, and a yellow earth containing ores of lead: in many places the ore is immediately covered by a thin stratum of red shale and ochre: the various strata, thus bounding the ore, dip in general towards the north, at an angle of about forty-five degrees. The ore consists chiefly of the yellow sulphate of copper, the richest of which generally contains twenty-five per cent. of metal, and the same amount of sulphur, while the remainder consists wholly of refuse. The worst ore yields nearly the same quantity of sulphur, for which it is chiefly worked, but produces only from one and a quarter to



two per cent. of copper. These mines also produce black ore, consisting of copper mixed with galena, calamine, and a little silver; malachite, or green and blue carbonate of copper; native copper, though in very small quantities; sulphate of copper, crystallized and in solution; sulphate of lead in considerable quantities, containing a tolerably large portion of silver; and native sulphur. Although these ores are not equal in richness to those obtained in Cornwall, yet they are rendered of immense value by their abundance and the facility with which they are worked. As the greater part of the ore consists of sulphate of copper, the roasting of it for the sake of the sulphur forms a considerable branch of its manufacture. The regulus of copper, which collects itself, during the process of roasting, into a globule in the centre of the ore, is separated from the rest by breaking the latter, and then sent to be smelted. The amount of ore annually raised, and thus manufactured at Amlwch, is estimated at about sixteen thousand tons. Towards the close of the last century, when the Parys and Mona mines were most prosperous, the quantity of available ore annually procured amounted to no less than thirty thousand tons, the raising of which afforded employment to fifteen hundred men. The works afterwards declining, the number of men gradually decreased, so as, in the year 1809, not to exceed six hundred, the remainder having emigrated to Liverpool and other places; but the concern having some years afterwards gradually and materially improved, the number of workmen has increased in proportion, and now amounts to upwards of fourteen hundred, who are employed in the different departments of these extensive and important works. The finest metal obtained is that from the sulphate of copper held in solution in the vitriolic waters, which, by pumps and other machinery, are raised from the mines into large cisterns, about two feet deep, some square and others oblong, into which are thrown quantities of old iron, brought from different parts of the country, and shipped for the most part at London and Liverpool; and the supposed transmutation of iron into copper, which this mineral water is so remarkable for producing, immediately commences. By the laws of elective attraction, as it is termed by the chemists, the sulphuric acid, having greater affinity with, and stronger attraction to, iron than copper, lets go the latter, which is precipitated to the bottom of the cisterns in the form of a ponderous muddy sediment, of a yellowish colour, and attaches itself to the iron, which it dissolves and retains in solution in the same manner as it at first did the copper. When this change in the circumstances of the two metals is completed, the acid menstruum containing the iron is drawn from the cisterns, and received into other pits on a lower level, leaving the precipitate of copper behind, which is collected together, dried on the kilns, and smelted. One ton of iron will precipitate from its solution an equal weight of copper mud, which, when smelted, produces twelve hundred-weight of the purest copper. The only value of the sulphate of iron in the lower pits is at present derived from its deposition of yellow ochre, which is refined, dried, and shipped off for the use of painters. "Nature," as Mr. Pennant observes, "has been profuse in bestowing her mineral favours on this spot;" for besides the above, together with an ore of zinc, which, after being properly prepared, is sent off to London,

there is found, above the copper-ore, and about three-quarters of a yard beneath the surface soil, a bed of yellowish greasy clay, from one to four yards thick, containing a large proportion of lead, of which metal one ton of it yields from six hundred to one thousand lb. weight, containing no less than fifty-seven ounces of silver per ton: this is smelted at extensive works erected for the purpose.

Next to Flintshire and Denbighshire, Anglesey claims the third place among the counties of North Wales possessing coal mines. The coal strata have all the usual accompaniments of that mineral, except iron-stone; but hitherto only a small profit has been derived either to the proprietors or the public from working them, which has been attempted only on the borders of the Malltraeth marsh, and between the small rivers Braint and Caint. In the former place were found,—first, sand to the depth of five feet; secondly, freestone for the next sixty-six feet; thirdly, black shale, for a further depth of six feet; fourthly, a bed of good coal, three feet and a half thick; fifthly, indurated clunch, two feet deep; and lastly, freestone to an unknown depth. In the latter occurred—first, peat; then, gravel; next, clay; and lastly, coal metal, as the workmen term it, that is, shaly clunch, having tumblers of coal interspersed with it in irregular masses, some of which were of several tons weight: but having reached this, the work became flooded, and was abandoned after being carried, at a great expense, to the depth of one hundred and twenty feet. It has been stated, as a discouraging symptom in boring for coal in this island, that its strata dip almost perpendicularly; but the inclination of the three feet and a half coal, near the Malltraeth, appears to be only one yard in ten, which is towards the east by south; and the concomitants of coal, freestone, and limestone, appear in nearly horizontal strata, in several parts of the island. The vast limestone ranges of Denbighshire and Flintshire, which also form the Great Orme's Head, in Carnarvonshire, are continued from this latter point, under the bay of Beaumaris, to the easternmost extremity of the island, whence they extend, in the same north-westerly direction, along the sea-coast to Dulas, and thence beyond Amlwch to Cemmaes and the northernmost parts of the county. From several points of this range ramifications extend quite into the interior of the island, and, in some instances, even entirely across it, as from Llugwy to Llanfinnan and Llangevni; and from Penmon, at its easternmost extremity, along the shores of the Menai, where it appears at Plâs Newydd and Llanidan. From the latter place a line of insulated limestone rocks is continued in the same direction by Trêvdraeth, Bôdwrog, and Llanvaethlu. Between these two lines are quarries of millstone, and some inferior kinds of grit-stone; and between the south-western part of the latter and the bay of Carnarvon is found a much finer kind of freestone: some of the limestone strata are of the kind called *terras* limestone. Anglesey contains a great abundance and considerable variety of marbles, some of which are excellently adapted for sculpture and ornamental architecture. White marble is found at Llangwyvan; blue-veined grey marble and blue-veined white marble at Cemmaes, near Amlwch; black, grey, and mottled brown marbles on the northern coast, between Traeth Côch, and Moelvre Point, which are in considerable demand, to be manufactured for sepulchral mo-



numents and architectural ornaments; and asbestine marble near Cemlyn bay, in the parish of Llanvairynghornwy, which is intersected by narrow veins of a remarkably white incombustible substance, of a silky appearance, which, from its brittle nature, renders the stone in which it is enclosed unsusceptible of a very high polish. A green marble is found near Rhôscolyn, in Holy Island, which contains a green amianthus, or brittle asbestos; and unripe asbestos, of a waved schistose appearance, occurs in different parts of the county, more especially on the shores of the Menai, from Bangor ferry to Maes y Porth, opposite to Carnarvon. Serpentine is found at Maes y Porth and at Cemmaes. This island also produces different kinds of potters' clay, both white and yellow. Fullers' earth, both white and of a dusky colour, is found in small quantities at Mynydd y Twr, near Holyhead; as also is a peculiar kind of soponaceous argil. In the vicinity of Amlwch is found a kind of earth, remarkable for yielding two-thirds of pure magnesia. Steatite, or soap rock, occurs both at Mynydd y Twr, and in the vicinity of Llanvairynghornwy. Three kinds of marl are found in this county, adjacent to its limestone rocks: these are distinguished according to their different colours, which are red, grey, and white: pits of the two former are known to be as much as two hundred years old; and the white marl, at Llanddvyndan, was discovered about the year 1652, by some of the parliamentary soldiers then stationed in Anglesey. Barytes, united with vitriolic acid, and tinged with red, occurs at Llangeinwen.

The manufactures, excepting those of the mineral productions at Amlwch and in its vicinity, are very inconsiderable. Many of the inhabitants buy quantities of the coarse wool of the mountainous districts of Carnarvonshire at the fairs of Carnarvon and Bangor, and manufacture it, intermixed with a proportion of the native wool of the island, into cloths of a deep blue, flannels, blankets, &c., entirely for home consumption; and these manufactures are facilitated by a few carding and spinning machines erected in different places. Most of the remaining wool is disposed of to the Yorkshire clothiers at Chester fair. It appears that Anglesey was in ancient times a place of much commercial importance; and its exports are still of great value, consisting of copper, sulphur, yellow ochre, zinc, and lead; shell-sand, for manure; barley and oats in productive seasons; and cattle, sheep and hogs. The number of cattle annually sent to the English market has been variously estimated, but, according to the best authority, it averages about eight thousand, of which nine hundred are yearlings, two thousand one hundred of two years old, and five thousand of three years old and upwards. Before the erection of the grand suspension bridge over the Menai, the numerous herds purchased here were compelled to swim in droves across that strait, and although numbers of the weaker sort were sometimes swept down by the force of the current, a distance of several miles, yet losses were seldom experienced. The annual exportation of sheep to the English markets is from five to seven thousand, and of hogs about one thousand. The chief imports, besides the ordinary supplies of foreign articles, are corn and coal. An extensive illicit trade was formerly carried on by the inhabitants, more especially in the several narrow

sandy coves between the rocks on the southern coast of the island, so well adapted for receiving small vessels unobserved by the revenue officers; but this has long been nearly annihilated by the vigilant measures of the government. The natural harbours are numerous, and some of them have been much improved by art. Beaumaris, near the easternmost extremity of the island, has a good harbour: the custom-house at this place is not only the controlling office to the different other ports of the island, but also to all those of North Wales, from the Point of Air, at the mouth of the Dee, to Aberdovey, at the southernmost extremity of the coast. To the north of Beaumaris is Traeth Côch, or Red Wharf bay, which is of considerable extent, and receives the waters of the small river Torryd, but is too much exposed to winds from the north-east, an inconvenience which can only be removed by the erection of a pier. Two leagues further along the northern shore of the county is Dulas bay, at the mouth of the Dulas river, which is narrow at the entrance, and obstructed by fragments of rock. Proceeding round St. Elian's Point is Amlwch, where, by excavating a vast rock, a harbour has been formed, about two hundred and fifty yards long and forty wide, capable of containing thirty vessels, of from one hundred to three hundred tons' burden each, which are chiefly employed in the copper trade. Cemlyn, or Crooked Pool bay, in the northernmost part of the island, might, at a little expense, be rendered a safe port. Holyhead, which, being only twenty leagues from Dublin, has been selected as the station for the Irish packets, had naturally a good port for the reception of small vessels, formed by some cliffs, on the summit of which stands the church of that town, and by a small island, called Ynys Cybi, on which stands a lighthouse: this was rendered more commodious at the expense of government. Aberfraw has a small harbour, capable of admitting vessels of thirty tons' burden, which is susceptible of great improvement, as also is that of Malltraeth, situated between Aberfraw and the south-western entrance to the Menai, at the mouth of the small river Cevenny, or Cevni. Beaumaris is a place of considerable resort for the purpose of sea-bathing. The waters immediately surrounding the shores of Anglesey abound with various kinds of fish, namely cod, turbot, soles, plaice, herrings, whittings, crabs, lobsters, and oysters of different kinds. The crabs and oysters are remarkably abundant and excellent: the former are chiefly taken on the rocky coasts in the vicinities of Llanddwyn, Rhôscolyn, Holyhead, and Penmon, where they are found at low water, hidden under stones amongst the sea-weed left by the previous tide. The large kind of oysters found in the channel at the eastern extremity of the county, which separates the little island of Priestholme from the main land of Anglesey, are in great esteem, under the name of "Penmon oysters," and great quantities are annually pickled, packed in neat small casks, and exported to different parts of the kingdom. This channel is also remarkable as the abode of different peculiar species of fish, among which the Beaumaris shark, the Anglesey morris, and the trifurcated hake, are most worthy of notice: here are also found several rare species of muscle. Various kinds of beautiful shells are taken by the dredgers for oysters in this channel, and in Red Wharf bay. The cliffs of Priestholme island produce abundance of samphire, the ga-



thering of which, together with the eggs of the sea-fowl, forms a hazardous employment, which is followed by many of the hardy islanders: the south-western end of the same island also abounds with the *smyrnium olusatrum*, or Alexanders, which, when boiled, afford a salutary repast for sailors just arrived from long voyages.

Anglesey is wholly devoid of inland navigation, natural or artificial; but it is pleasingly watered by twelve small streams, which flow from the gentle elevations of the interior in various directions to the sea, among the principal of which are the Cevenny, or Cevni, the Alan, the Fraw, and the Dulas. This island having long been the grand thoroughfare to Ireland, and possessing an abundance of excellent materials for making and mending the roads, these mediums of communication received great improvement in this county, as early as in any other of the principality; and at present the Irish mail road, which runs the whole length of the island, from the shores of the Menai to Holyhead, as also the roads connecting the principal towns and villages, are in good repair. Early in the present century, Lord Bulkeley formed an excellent road, at his own expense, along the beautiful shore of the Menai, from Bangor ferry to Beaumaris; and various other important public improvements and alterations have since taken place, among which may be noticed the erection of the superb suspension bridge over the Menai in the vicinity of Bangor. Great alterations were also made, early in the present century, in the mail coach route from Bangor to Holyhead, by which the distance was reduced from twenty-five to twenty-one miles, and several fatiguing ascents avoided. The mail coach roads from London to Holyhead, by Chester and Shrewsbury respectively, uniting near Bangor, enter this county over the Menai bridge, and take nearly a direct course by the Mona Inn to Holyhead, the station for the Irish packets, which sail regularly thence to Dublin, a distance of twenty leagues: near the bridge a road branches off in a north-eastern direction to Beaumaris.

The remains of antiquity are numerous and of great interest. In ancient times Anglesey formed, as before mentioned, a chief place of refuge for the Druids, when expelled from their former abodes by the progress of the Roman arms, and various memorials of that remote period of its history are yet visible. The parishes of Llanedwen, Llanddaniel Vab, and Llanidan, on the borders of the Menai, include a district abounding with remains indicative of its having been a scene of Druidical worship, which Mr. Rowlands, in his "*Mona Antiqua Restaurata*," attempts to prove was the principal seat of the religious rites of the Druids, and contained the residence of the arch-druid. Among the monuments now existing are two cromlechs, standing contiguous to each other, in the park of Plâs Newydd, the seat of the Marquis of Anglesey, one of which is said to be the largest in the island, the table stone being about thirteen feet long, eleven broad, and four thick. At a little distance is a large carnedd, which, on being opened, was found to contain various singular rude apartments; and at Bôdowyr, in the same vicinity, is a remarkable cromlech, the table stone of which, resting upon three strong supporters, is seven feet long, six broad, and six thick. At Tre'-vry are some small traces of stone circles; but the most remarkable monument of this period yet existing, and around which these and some smaller re-

mains of Druidical antiquity are scattered, is that which has been supposed to be the seat of the arch-druid, at a place called Tre'r Dryw: this, called by Mr. Rowlands the Brein Gwŷn, or royal tribunal, is a circular hollow, one hundred and eighty feet in diameter, surrounded by an immense rampart of loose stones, evidently brought hither from a distance: it has only a single entrance, and near it are the remains of a circle of stones, with a cromlech in the midst, and of a *gorsedd*, or great copped heap of stones, all extremely imperfect: two of the stones of the circle are very large; one, which at present serves for the end of a house, being twelve feet seven inches high, and eight feet broad; while another, yet standing, is eight feet high, and twenty-three feet in circumference. Various other cromlechs are seen in different parts of the island. A very large one is situated in the grounds of Llugwy, in the parish of Penrhôs Llugwy, where are also several Druidical circles, nearly contiguous to each other, comprising numerous upright stones: the table stone of the cromlech is of a rhomboidal form, seventeen feet and a half long, fifteen feet broad, and four feet thick, supported by several upright stones at the height of only two feet from the ground. In a field near the seat called Presaddvedd, in the western part of the island, are two large cromlechs, one yet standing, the other fallen, the table stones of which are about thirteen feet long and nine broad. Near Pentraeth are two small stones standing upright, at the distance of about fifty feet from each other; and another similar one lies prostrate at a short distance: the whole are supposed to have once formed some Druidical monument.

The remains of Roman antiquity discovered in Anglesey are few and inconsiderable. On the summit of Gwydryn hill is a semicircular fortification, called Caer Idris, or Castell Idris, consisting of a triple fosse and vallum, which is also thought to have been of British origin, but to have been afterwards occupied by the Romans. Various remains of fortifications, in which the discriminative peculiarities of Roman workmanship are visible, are yet left standing in the vicinity of Holyhead, among which may be specified the massive walls which nearly surround the churchyard, in the form of a parallelogram, at one corner of which is a circular bastion tower; a long dry wall, twelve feet high, and in many places regularly faced, which runs along the side of the hill called Pen Caer Cybi; and Caer twr, a circular building on the summit of the same elevation, supposed by Mr. Pennant to be the ruins of a *pharos*, or lighthouse. At Tan y Cevn, on the river Braint, and in the neighbourhood of the great assemblage of Druidical remains above-mentioned, are two large quadrangular intrenchments, nearly contiguous to each other; and *Caerleib*, or "the moated intrenchment," in the same vicinity, is also of a square form, having a double fosse and vallum, and comprising within its area the foundations of various buildings, both circular and angular. At a place called Castell, between Llanerchymedd and Tregayan, coins of several Roman emperors have been found. In the parish of Llanvlewyn were dug up, about the commencement of the present century, three golden bracelets and a Roman *bulla* of the same metal; and near Aberfraw have been frequently found the amulets called *gleiniau nadroedd*, or "snake gems," supposed to have been manufactured by the Romans, and given to the superstitious Britons in exchange for the commodities of their coun-



try. On a precipitous hill, called Bwrdd Arthur, or "Arthur's Round Table," in the vicinity of Llangoed, are vestiges of an ancient fortification, surrounded by two lofty ramparts of loose stones, and called Din, or Dinas Sylwy: within the area are the foundations of oval buildings. About a mile from the village of Monachtŷ, or Mynachdŷ, are two circular encampments, formed by single ditches and ramparts, and commonly called Castell Crwn; and another British fortification, called Craig y Ddinas, is situated on a rocky eminence on the sea-shore of the parish of Llanvair-Pwllgwŷnyll. Tregarnedd, a farm-house in the parish of Llangvni, derives its name from an immense carnedd, or piled heap of stones, surrounded by a circle of upright stones: beneath are numerous hollow passages, formed by flat flag-stones laid upon others placed edgewise. In a deep gully leading from Llanddona church to the sea-shore are two round tumuli, supposed by Mr. Pennant to have been thrown up by the Danes for the protection of their vessels, which were often moored in Red Wharf bay, on this part of the coast. About a mile from Monachtŷ also are three of those large upright stones commonly called *meini hirion*, which stand at the distance of about five hundred yards from each other, the intermediate space forming nearly an equilateral triangle; and another, called Llêch-gynvarwydd, stands on an eminence near the church of that name. In the centre of Penmon park, near Beaumaris, stands a very ancient British cross, curiously and richly sculptured.

At the period of the Reformation there were, at Penmon, a priory of Benedictine monks, and at Holyhead a college of prebendaries: at Llanvaes a house of Franciscan friars was existing in the reign of Henry V. There are yet extensive remains of Penmon priory, and part of the ancient conventual church at present serves as the parochial church: the round arches by which the architecture of this edifice is distinguished, and which in England are regarded as evidences of the Saxon or early Norman erection of the buildings in which they are found, are in this instance supposed to be of ancient British construction. The chapel of Llanvaes priory is now used as an outhouse to the seat of Sir R. B. Williams Bulkeley, Bart.; and near the centre of Priestholme island, or Ynys Seiriol, amidst the scattered vestiges of other buildings, is an ancient tower, supposed to have formed part of a religious house, a cell to the neighbouring priory of Penmon. Most of the seventy-four parishes of this island have their churches situated near the sea-shore, and some of them are so placed as to oblige their ministers to regulate the time of divine service according to the state of the tide, which at high water completely surrounds them: such is the case with that of Llangwyvan, on the western side of the island, and with that of Llandysillio, on the shore of the Menai. The churches most distinguished for architectural curiosity are, St. Mary's, at Beaumaris, a handsome edifice; that of Holyhead; and that of Llaniestyn, celebrated for containing a tomb of remarkably curious workmanship and very remote antiquity: that of Llaneilian is distinguished for its handsome tower and spire, of which appendages most of the churches of Anglesey are destitute, having simply at the west end a small turret, with an arched aperture, in which is hung a single bell. Almost the only ruins of any mural fortress at present existing are those of Beaumaris castle, which are very

grand and extensive. Vestiges of a small fort of Norman erection are, however, yet visible at the back of a farm-house at Castell Aber Llieniog, near the sea-shore in the vicinity of Beaumaris. The most remarkable old mansions are Tre'r Castell, in the same vicinity, now occupied as a farm-house; Bôdychan, about half-way between the Menai bridge and Holyhead, now used as a barn; Penmynnedd, near the centre of the island; and Court Mawr, in Beaumaris. Some trifling remains of the ancient royal palace of the princes of North Wales, at Aberfraw, are yet shown in the walls of a barn at that place. The seats of more modern date most worthy of notice are, Plâs Newydd, the residence of the Marquis of Anglesey; Baron Hill, that of Sir R. B. Williams Bulkeley, Bart.; Bôdorgan, that of O. P. Meyrick, Esq.; Cadnant, that of J. Price, Esq.; Fryars, that of Lady Williams; Henllŷs, that of J. H. Hampton Lewis, Esq.; Llanddvyddan, that of Mrs. Lewis; Llangoed, that of the Rev. R. J. Hughes; Llanidan, that of Lord Boston; Llwydiarth, that of W. P. Lloyd, Esq.; Plâs Côch, that of Sir W. Bulkeley Hughes; Plâs Gwŷn, that of B. Panton, Esq.; Presaddved, that of Captain King; Red Hill, that of W. W. Sparrow, Esq.; Trêgayan, that of Admiral Llwyd; and Trê-Iorwerth, that of the Rev. H. W. Jones. A few of the farm-houses and their offices are particularly well built and commodious, but the greater number is of an inferior description; and the cottages are generally of the most wretched appearance. Quickset hedges, as well as timber, flourish on the shores of the Menai; but in the interior the vast expanse of horizon, without any interruption from woods or hedges, is wearisome to the eye: there the common fences are banks of sods, about four feet and a half high, with a ditch on each side. Dry stone walls are not uncommonly used to form enclosures on the larger estates; and of late years great progress has been made in the raising of quickset hedges, notwithstanding the antiquated opinion of its impracticability. Furze is sometimes sown on the banks, and both hawthorn sets and furze seed are imported from Ireland. The common household bread is made of barley or oats. Servants hired by the year generally commence their term of service on the 1st of May. Anglesey confers the title of marquis on the noble family of Paget, the present marquis having been raised to that dignity on the 23rd of June, 1815, in acknowledgment of the bravery and heroism which distinguished his military career during the late continental war.

ARDDR (ARDDAU), a township in the parish of LLANBEDR, hundred of LLÊCHWEDD ISÂV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N. by W.) from Llanrwst, containing, with the township of Dôl y Garrog, 158 inhabitants. The township of the ancient lordship of Arddr, including a part of the extra-parochial demesne of Maenan Abbey, situate between the rivers Dôlgarrog and Dulyn, maintains its own poor, by a regulation lately entered into by the parishioners.

ARGOED, a joint township with YSTRAD, in the parish of TRÊGARON, upper division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, containing, with the market-town of Trêgaton, 655 inhabitants. The name signifies a sheltered position among woods, which, with Ystrad, a dale, is descriptive of the situation of these two townships in the vale of the Teivy. The market town of Trêgaton occupies the banks of the



Berwyn, near its junction with the river Teivy, in this township.

**ARTHOG CHAPEL**, a hamlet in the township of **CREGENNAN**, parish of **LLANGELYNIN**, hundred of **TALYBONT** and **MOUDDWY**, county of **MERIONETH**, **NORTH WALES**,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. S. W.) from **Dôlgelley**. The population is returned with the parish. This place is situated on the road from **Dôlgelley** to **Llwyngwrl**, and on the south side of the river **Maw**, or **Mawddach**, near the influx of which into **Barmouth** bay is an extensive turbary, or peat moss, where a great quantity of peat is dug, and conveyed in small boats down the river to **Barmouth**, and up to **Llanelltyd**, whence it is sent in carts to **Dôlgelley** and its neighbourhood, for fuel. **Arthog**, a modern mansion in the later style of English architecture, is pleasantly situated on rising ground, well sheltered by hills, the sides of which are adorned with plantations, and their summits command extensive and pleasing views, particularly of the sea-port and bay of **Barmouth**, and the vale of **Mawddach**, as far as **Dôlgelley**: in the grounds there is a highly picturesque waterfall, called **Avon Cregennan**. A chapel was erected here, about twenty-five years ago, at the expense of two successive proprietors of the **Arthog** estate, the living of which is a donative, in the patronage of **Reginald Fowden, Esq.**, the present owner. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, to which a Sunday school is attached.



Arms.

**ASAPH (ST.)**, a city and parish, partly in the hundreds of **ISDULAS** and **YALE**, county of **DENBIGH**, but chiefly in the **Rhuddlan** division of the hundred of **RHUDDLAN**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**, 15 miles (W. by N.) from **Flint**, 18 (N. W. by W.) from **Mold**, and 218 (N. W.) from **London**, containing 3144 inhabitants.

The hill upon which the upper part of the city is built, and the township in which the cathedral church is situated, are called **Brÿn-Paulin**; from which circumstance, corroborated by the peculiar adaptation of the spot for a military station, and from its position between two rivers, the proximity of an exploratory post on the brow of the hill called *Bron y Wylva*, or "the watch hill," and the discovery of numerous Roman coins, it is by some writers supposed to have been occupied by the Roman forces under **Suetonius Paulinus**, either in advancing to the conquest of the Isle of **Mona**, now **Anglesey**, or on their rapid return to subdue the revolted Britons under **Boadicea**. The city, which was originally called **Llan Elwy**, derived its origin and name from the erection of a church on the bank of the river **Elwy** by **St. Kentigern**, commonly called **St. Mungo** by the Scottish historians, bishop of **Glasgow**, and primate of **Scotland**, who, about the middle of the sixth century, being compelled to quit his see by a pagan prince of that country, fled for refuge into this part of **North Wales**, where he was kindly received by **Caswallon**, uncle of **Maelgwyn Gwynedd**, then sovereign of this country, who assigned to him the pleasant tract between the rivers **Elwy** and **Clwyd**, the site of the present city. On this spot **Kentigern** built a church of wood, and laid the foundation

of an extensive monastery, similar to that established at **Bangor Iscoed**, which so rapidly increased, that, during the time he presided over it, it is said to have contained not less than nine hundred and sixty-five brethren, of whom part devoted themselves to religious instruction and the performance of the services of the church, and the remainder to labour and secular pursuits. **Maelgwyn**, whose seat of government was then at **Deganwy**, on the river **Conway**, about eighteen miles distant, was at first opposed to this growing establishment; but he became reconciled to it, and **Kentigern** having converted **Prince Maglocunus** to the Christian faith, he allowed it to be elevated into an episcopal see, which he endowed with several lordships, and invested with many privileges and immunities. On the death of the prince by whom **Kentigern** had been expelled from **North Britain**, his successor **Roderic**, King of the **Strath-Clyde Britons**, recalled that prelate to his original charge, and reinstated him in the dignities of which he had been deprived: the latter then appointed **Asaph**, or **Hassaph**, his successor in the see of **Llan Elwy**, which from him subsequently obtained the appellation of **St. Asaph**, by which it has since been known. **Asaph**, who was a native of **North Wales**, and eminently distinguished for his piety, dying in 596, was buried in the cathedral church, which had been probably rebuilt of stone during his prelate: he was subsequently canonized, and his memory was held in such veneration, that the circumstance of his remains having been deposited in the cathedral contributed greatly to its subsequent prosperity, and to the high character for sanctity which it afterwards attained. The history of this see, which includes all events of importance connected with the city, is involved in considerable obscurity. Its situation near the marches exposed the latter to the frequent attacks of hostile armies, by which it was often ravaged; and its being also a barrier, on the line of demarcation between the sovereignties of **North Wales** and **Powys**, made it frequently an object of contention in the intestine wars among the native chieftains, by whom it was alternately laid waste. From these causes the records of the successors of **Asaph**, during a period of nearly five hundred years, are, with the exception only of a few incidents obtained from other sources, entirely lost; and during the long interval from the death of **Asaph** until the **Norman Conquest**, we learn only from the **Welsh Chronicles**, and on the authority of **Spelman**, that the **Bishop of St. Asaph** was among the suffragan bishops of **St. David's** who, in 601, were present at the meeting of **St. Augustine** and his associates. Although the see may have been occasionally vacant during those times of distraction and tumult, **Wharton** considers it as certain that the bishops were regularly appointed, notwithstanding that their names are not to be found upon record, with the exception only of **Chebur**, whom **Wynne**, in his *History of Wales*, states to have accompanied a deputation of learned men to **Rome**, in the year 940, to obtain from the pope a ratification of the celebrated code of laws compiled by **Hywel Dda**, sovereign of all **Wales**, at the making of which the **Welsh Chronicles** and the learned **Spelman** both agree that a bishop of **St. Asaph** assisted. The monastery continued to flourish till nearly the commencement of the ninth century, about which time the monks were dispersed, but their lands and possessions continued with the see, which,



notwithstanding the frequent assaults it experienced, retained possession of its privileges and endowments, and, in the year 1016, the cathedral church was rebuilt of stone, chiefly by the munificence of King Ethelred and the Archbishop of Canterbury, and completed by Canute, soon after he had ascended the throne of England. Though these acts of munificence were obviously intended to conciliate the affections of the Welsh, they failed in producing the desired effect; the latter expelled all the Saxon ecclesiastics, and declared open war against them. The subsequent benefactions of Edward the Confessor, conferred on the see from the same motive, did not produce a different result; but Harold, after he had taken Rhuddlan, was more successful in his efforts for conciliation, and bestowed on the ecclesiastics considerable portions of land in Disserth.

After the Norman Conquest of England, this place suffered dreadful ravages in the fierce conflicts between the Anglo-Normans and the native chiefs: the city was laid waste and almost deserted by its inhabitants, the bishops were plundered and driven from their see; the episcopal chair remained vacant for many years, during this frightful period of war and devastation, and the revenues of the see were seized by the crown. In the reign of Henry I., Hewens, Bishop of Bangor, the first Welsh prelate that ever attended an English council, being present at the synod held at Westminster, in 1102, before Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, described in forcible terms the great distress to which the Welsh prelates were reduced: shortly after, an ecclesiastic named Gilbert was appointed to the see of St. Asaph, and consecrated by Theobald, Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the bishops of London and Rochester; and this authority, which had been previously exercised by the bishops of St. David's, was retained by the archbishops of Canterbury ever afterwards. Gilbert died in 1152, and was succeeded in the prelacy by Galfrid ab Arthur, commonly called, from the place of his birth, or from his archdeaconry, Geoffrey of Monmouth, who holds a distinguished rank among the ancient monkish chroniclers. On the invasion of North Wales by Henry II., in 1157, Owain Gwynedd, the reigning sovereign, encamped his forces for some time at a hamlet in this parish, which was subsequently called *Cil Owen*, or "Owen's retreat," and afterwards, on the nearer approach of the enemy, he retired to a stronger position at Bryn y Pin, five miles to the west of the city, from which post he frequently descended to skirmish with the English. In 1175, Godfrey, then bishop, was driven from his see by the Welsh, and Adam was appointed his successor: at a council held in London, at which Henry II. was present, that monarch gave to the deposed bishop the abbacy of Abingdon. Reyner, bishop of this see in 1188, accompanied Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, who was then preaching the crusades in Wales, and exerted his personal influence in promoting the object of the primate's exertions within his diocese. In 1241, a treaty of peace was concluded between Henry III. and Davydd ab Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, and signed on the part of the latter by the bishops of Bangor and St. Asaph, at Alnet, on the river Elwy, near this city; but on the renewal of hostilities, in 1247, both those prelates having taken part with their countrymen, in resisting the ambitious designs of the English king, had their churches destroyed, and their lands laid waste

by the English forces, and were reduced to such a state of destitution, that they were compelled to abandon their respective sees, and to subsist upon alms: the latter retired to the abbey of St. Mary Osney at Oxford, where he soon afterwards died. After a vacancy of two years, the Dean and Chapter petitioned Henry III., who granted them license to elect a bishop, and Anian, or Einion, was appointed to the see, and consecrated in 1249. His second successor, who had been confessor to Edward I., by whom his appointment was confirmed in 1268, bore the same name, and was distinguished by the surname of de Schonaw: he had been a Dominican friar of Nanney, and was from that circumstance also called, by the Welsh, *y Brawd dŷ o Nannau*, "the black brother of Nannau:" he obtained for his church, in 1271, from John Fitz-Alan, Earl of Arundel and lord of Oswestry and Clun, a grant of one hundred acres of land at St. Martin's, in acknowledgment of which he was to present annually at Midsummer a pair of gilt spurs; and in 1276 he received from Edward I. a confirmation of the rights and privileges of his see. Richard, son of Fitz-Alan, confirmed and materially augmented the benefaction of his father, and, in 1278, Gruffydd Vaughan, Lord of Yale, settled upon the bishop and his successors the manor of Llandegla.

During the invasion of the principality by Edward I., the city suffered great devastation, and, in 1282, the cathedral and the houses of the ecclesiastics were burnt to the ground, by a body of English forces in the service of that monarch. Alarmed at this calamitous event, and sensible of the continual danger to which the establishment was exposed, from the defenceless state of the city, which afforded neither shelter nor security against the frequent outrages, both of the English and the Welsh, Anian was desirous of removing the seat of his diocese to Rhuddlan, about three miles distant, which, being a fortified place, might afford protection from those devastations to which, during the unsettled state of the principality, the city of St. Asaph was constantly exposed. Edward sanctioned the design of Anian, and offered to grant a site for the erection of a new church, and one thousand marks towards the expense of the building; but that design was not carried into effect, either from the reluctance to abandon the ancient seat of its first establishment, which had acquired a high degree of veneration, as the depository of the ashes of St. Asaph, or, as Godwin supposes, by the death of Pope Martin IV., to whom application had been made for license to remove it, or more probably, as Browne Willis states, by the circular letters of the Archbishop of Canterbury, exhorting the bishop and canons to rebuild the cathedral on the former site; and in the year 1284, the building which forms the principal part of the present structure was erected. In the course of the preceding negotiations, matters had been so represented to the king, that he deprived Anian of the prelacy, seized the temporalities for his own use, and entrusted the spiritual management of the see to the Bishop of Wells; but Archbishop Peckham, who visited the see of St. Asaph, in company with the deposed bishop, convinced of the necessity of having a resident prelate, prevailed upon Edward to restore Anian to his see, and he was accordingly reinstated. During the repeated struggles between the Kings of England and the native Princes of Wales, the bishops of St. Asaph were constantly led to em-



brace either one side or the other; and Leoline de Bromfield, Anian's immediate successor, adhering to the party of Edward, repeatedly excommunicated Madoc, son of Llewelyn, Prince of Wales, for his determined opposition and resistance to the English monarch. This prelate, in 1310, gave four portions of the tithes of the parish to the four vicars choral of his cathedral, for serving the cure of the parish; but the latter have now only four portions of five townships of the parish, the corn tithes of the said townships being divided into five portions, of which the bishop receives one. He also appropriated the rectories of Llansilin and Rhuddlan to the canons of the cathedral, who derive their present stipends from that source, and that of Llan-asaph to the cathedral: he died in 1313, and bequeathed considerable property to the church, having obtained special license to that effect from Edward, to whom his goods, like those of other Welsh drelates deceased, would otherwise have escheated. The confirmation of an annual fair on May 1st, the anniversary of the death of St. Asaph, was obtained for the city by Davydd ab Bleuddyn, successor of Leoline, who, besides a grant of certain lands to himself and his successors, also procured a confirmation of the appropriation of the church of Nantglyn to the vicars choral, for saying mass in the chapel of St. Mary, in this parish, which appears to have been erected about this time. William de Spridlington, who succeeded to the see in 1375, procured, on account of its poverty, several livings to be held in commendam with it, and one for the better support of the vicars; and obtained from Edward III. the grant of a weekly market and an annual fair, the former to be held on Monday, and the latter on the 9th of October. Previously to this time, the tenants of the lordship of Llan Elwy, or St. Asaph, were bound to find six labourers to work throughout the year in the quarry called Red Rock, or at such other work as should be appointed by the bishop, for the maintenance of the cathedral church; but, in 1381, this prelate released them from this imposition, on condition of their paying annually the sum of ten marks, which is stated by Bishop Godwin to have been paid in his time, and called *Ardreth y Garreg Gôch*, or "the rent of the red rock." John Trevaure, the second prelate of that name, being detained prisoner in the castle of Flint, in 1399, by Henry Duke of Lancaster, was induced to pronounce sentence of deposition against his sovereign, Richard II., in favour of this ambitious nobleman, by whom, after the accomplishment of his usurpation, he was sent on an embassy into Spain. During his absence in that country, Owain Glyndwr, exasperated at his adherence and that of his clergy to the cause of the usurper, burnt the cathedral, of which he left only the outer walls standing, destroyed the houses of the canons, and reduced the episcopal palace to ashes. Trevaure, on his return, finding the insurrection of Glyndwr increasing, and his party every day gaining ground, went over to the side of that chieftain, for which reason he was expelled from his see, and being sent to Paris, upon an embassy by Owain, died there in 1410. The political troubles of this reign continuing, the see appears to have remained vacant from the time of his expulsion to his death, and the spiritualties were entrusted to the abbot of Shrewsbury, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who issued a mandate to the Archdeacon of Chester, to certify the

names of all such as preached up rebellion in the diocese of St. Asaph. After the accession of Edward IV. to the throne, Thomas, Bishop of St. Asaph, being a strenuous adherent of the House of Lancaster, was expelled from his see, in which, during the short restoration of Henry VI., he was reinstated, with full possession of all its privileges and endowments; but upon the return of Edward to power, he was arraigned on a charge of high treason, and, being convicted, was compelled to purchase his pardon by the surrender of his bishoprick to Richard Redman, a prudent and learned divine, and a zealous adherent of the House of York. The cathedral, after having lain for eighty years in the desolate condition to which it had been reduced by Glyndwr, was rebuilt by the munificence of this prelate, aided by the liberal contributions of the neighbouring gentry. Bishop Redman, having countenanced the pretensions of Lambert Simnel, the feigned duke of York, fell under the displeasure of Henry VII.; but having unreservedly submitted himself to the clemency of that monarch, he continued to preside over the see till his death. The city for a long period exhibited marks of the desolation it had suffered from the insurgents under Glyndwr, and it was not till near a century after, that the episcopal palace was rebuilt by Davydd ab Owen, who also erected a bridge of wood over the river Clwyd, about a quarter of a mile to the north-east of the city, which was afterwards rebuilt of stone, but is still called *Pont Davydd Esgob*, or "Bishop David's Bridge." During the civil commotions in the seventeenth century, this place suffered dreadful havoc: the revenues of the see were sequestered by the parliament, the cathedral was desecrated and converted into a stable for horses and oxen, and the episcopal palace was appropriated as a tavern for the sale of wine and spirituous liquors. In this degraded state it continued till the Restoration, when, after a vacancy of nine years, the see was filled by Bishop Griffith, who restored the cathedral, which was afterwards greatly improved by his successor, Dr. Isaac Barrow, who also rebuilt the episcopal palace, and erected and endowed almshouses for eight poor widows. During the prelacy of Dr. John Wynne, a violent hurricane blew down the upper part of the tower of the cathedral, which, falling into the choir, greatly damaged that part of the building; it was, however, immediately repaired by the bishop and other dignitaries of the see, aided by the liberal contributions of the gentry and clergy resident in the vicinity.

Among the bishops of St. Asaph, many have been eminently distinguished for learning and piety, and for their sedulous attention to the interests of the see. Bishop Hughes, who was promoted to this diocese in 1573, was a great benefactor both to it and to the city: he procured from the Archbishop of Canterbury a faculty to hold in commendam with the bishoprick the archdeaconry of St. Asaph, which has since that time been invariably held by his successors in the see: he died in 1600, and was interred in the cathedral church. The learned William Morgan, an eminent linguist and divine, was one of the principal persons engaged in translating the Bible into the Welsh language, of which the first edition was printed in 1588: he also assisted in the English version, commonly called Queen Elizabeth's Bible: he was translated from Llandaf to this see in 1601, and died in 1604. Parry, the successor of Bishop



Morgan, and his coadjutor in the translation of the Bible, was succeeded by John Owen, who introduced the custom of preaching in Welsh in the parish church of St. Asaph; he repaired and beautified the cathedral, in which he placed an organ of large dimensions, and paved the road between the cathedral and the parish church, a portion of which latter he rebuilt: he also enlarged the episcopal palace, and, having lived to see the revenues of his see sequestered by the parliament, he died at Aber Kinsi, near St. Asaph, in 1651, and was privately buried in the cathedral, under the bishop's throne. Dr. Isaac Barrow, uncle of the celebrated mathematician of that name, was alike eminent for his munificence and his piety; he greatly promoted the interests of the diocese by his prudence and liberality, and the welfare of the city by his benevolence and charity: he died in 1680, at Shrewsbury, from which place his remains were removed to St. Asaph, and interred in the churchyard, near the west door of the cathedral. Dr. William Beveridge, usually styled the "Apostolic Beveridge," was equally eminent as a divine, and for his proficiency in oriental literature: he published a treatise on the excellence of the Hebrew, Chaldee, Syriac, Samaritan, and Arabic languages, with a Syriac grammar, and, among numerous devotional works, one entitled "Private Thoughts," which has deservedly acquired a high degree of admiration, and "the Church Catechism Explained, for the use of the diocese of St. Asaph." Bishop Fleetwood, who succeeded him, expended large sums of money in repairing and beautifying the cathedral, and materially contributed to the obtaining of an act of parliament, in 1712, for abolishing the custom of mortuaries due from the clergy of his diocese, in lieu of which vexatious source of revenue, the sinecure rectory of Northop was annexed to the see. Dr. Thomas Tanner, the celebrated antiquary, and well-known author of the *Notitia Monastica*, for some time presided over the see of St. Asaph: he died in 1735, and left his valuable collection of manuscripts to the Bodleian library.

The city is beautifully situated on the gentle acclivity of an eminence, washed on the eastern side by the river Clwyd, and on the western by the river Elwy, which unite at the distance of about a mile to the north. Over the Elwy, at the extremity of the principal street, is a handsome stone bridge of five arches; and over the Clwyd is a fine bridge of more modern erection, within a quarter of a mile to the east of the cathedral church. The houses in the principal street are of brick, and in general small, though neatly built; the streets are well paved, but not lighted; and, under the provisions of an act of parliament for making a new line of road, several handsome houses and pleasing cottages have been built, which have greatly improved the appearance of the place. In the construction of the new road, which now forms the best street in the town, an elegant bridge has been erected over the river Clwyd, near Bronwylva; the road has been raised several feet, in order to avoid a steep hill; and some beautiful plantations have been formed on both sides of it, which contribute to render the approach to St. Asaph not only commodious but picturesque. The view of the city is peculiarly striking: its elevated situation on an eminence near the termination of the rich and fertile Vale of Clwyd, crowned on its summit with the cathe-

dral, and having the parish church at its base, makes it a conspicuous object from every point of view; and the luxuriant groves of trees in which it is deeply embosomed, give to it a pleasingly romantic appearance. The surrounding scenery, which in every direction abounds with objects of interest and beauty, is seen to great advantage from the eminence on which the city is built, and from the high grounds in the immediate vicinity. From the brow of a hill, about two miles distant from the town, on the road to Holywell, is an extensive and pleasing view of a portion of the Vale of Clwyd, beautifully diversified with corn-fields and meadows, groves and woods, intersected by the windings of the river, and enlivened with numerous picturesque cottages, skirted on all sides with rugged and precipitous mountains, except on the right hand, where a fine view of the sea is obtained, bounded in the distance by dark receding mountains. To the south the prospect embraces a fine view of the town of Denbigh, with the venerable remains of its ancient castle on the lofty summit of an isolated rock, and on the north are seen the ruins of Rhuddlan castle, forming an interesting and picturesque object in the distance. The road from St. Asaph to Denbigh is in many parts beautifully picturesque, the small Vale of Elwy, at the extremity of which is a fine bridge of one arch, eighty feet in the span, over that river, called Pont yr allt Gôch, is richly wooded, and abounds with finely varied scenery: the Elwy, which sometimes rushes through the vale with the impetuosity of a torrent, is beautifully shaded by the luxuriant foliage on its banks. The market is on Friday; and fairs are held on Easter Tuesday, July 15th, October 16th, and December 16th, chiefly for cattle. By the late act for amending the representation of the people in England and Wales, St. Asaph has been added to the other boroughs of this county, now eight in number, which unitedly return one member to parliament: the right of election is vested in every male person of full age occupying, as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the clear yearly value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the number of houses worth ten pounds per annum and upwards is about ninety-three: the boundaries of the borough are minutely described in the appendix to this work: the bailiffs of Flint are the returning officers.



Arms of the Bishoprick.

The diocese of St. Asaph appears originally to have comprehended the whole territory of the ancient Princes of Powys: its jurisdiction at present extends over the whole of the county of Flint, with the exception of the parishes of Bangor, Overton, Hanmer, Hawarden, and Worthenbury; the whole of Denbighshire, except the deanery of Dyfryn Clwyd, and the chapelries of Holt, Iscoed, and Penley; the hundreds of Edeyrnion, Penllŷn, and Tal y bont and Mowddy, in the county of Merioneth; the greater part of the county of Montgomery, including thirty-seven parishes; three parishes in the county of Carnarvon; and eleven parishes and chapelries in the county of Salop; comprehending in the whole one



hundred and thirty parishes and parochial chapelries, all of which, with the exception of seven, are in the patronage of the bishop, as is also the deanery of St. Asaph. The ecclesiastical establishment consists of the bishop, who is also archdeacon; a dean, who is also chancellor of the diocese; a precentor, who holds the prebend of Vaenol, called the golden prebend; a chancellor of the cathedral, who holds the prebend of Llan-Nevydd; a treasurer, who holds the prebend of Meliden; and three other prebendaries, seven canons, four vicars choral, an organist, four lay clerks, four choristers, and other officers. The cathedral consists principally of the structure raised by Bishop Anian, about the year 1284, and, after its demolition by Owain Glyndwr, restored and partly rebuilt by Bishop Redman, towards the close of the fifteenth century, with the exception of the choir, which was partly rebuilt about the year 1770, by the dean and chapter, with funds which had been vested in their hands, as trustees, for that purpose. It is a plain cruciform structure, principally in the decorated style of English architecture, with a low square embattled tower rising from the intersection of the nave and transepts, and having at the north-east angle a square staircase turret: the exterior is of simple, but good design, the buttresses are few and of very bold character, and the arch of the west door is plainly moulded. The nave is of the decorated style, and is separated from the aisles by a lofty range of piers and arches, the details of which are plain, but of good character, and lighted by a range of clerestory windows, square-headed and enriched with ancient tracery, and at the west end by a fine window of six lights, which is an elegant composition in the decorated style, enriched with flowing tracery of exquisite design. The transepts, which are also in the decorated style of architecture, are without aisles, and lighted by a range of windows of appropriate character, but not remarkable for their tracery. The choir, which is also without aisles, is of comparatively modern date, and, though apparently an imitation of the later style, bears but a very faint resemblance to any of the styles of English architecture: the east end is ornamented with a window, which is said to be a fac-simile of the east window in Tintern abbey, in Monmouthshire, and in 1810 was filled with stained glass, at the expense of the dean and chapter, aided by the contributions of the gentry in the neighbourhood, whose armorial bearings are emblazoned in some of the compartments: the choir is very small, scarcely affording accommodation for more than the officiating clergy. The south transept is partly fitted up as a chapter-house and library, containing a valuable collection of more than two thousand volumes, which is open to the use of the clergy of the diocese. The whole length of the cathedral, from east to west, is one hundred and seventy-nine feet, the length of the nave one hundred and nineteen feet, the whole breadth along the transepts one hundred and eight feet, and the length of the choir sixty feet: the height of the roof from the pavement is sixty feet, and that of the central tower ninety-three feet. There are few monuments of any interest, and, though many of the bishops have been interred within the walls, scarcely any memorials of them have been erected. An altar-tomb, with a recumbent figure in episcopal robes, is said to commemorate the munificent prelate, Davydd ab Owen, who was interred here in 1512; and near the

west door is a plain tomb in the churchyard, with an inscription to the memory of Bishop Isaac Barrow, who died in 1680. A monument of white marble, to the memory of Dean Shipley, was erected by subscription about the close of the year 1829, at an expense of about £600, consisting of a full-length figure of the dean in his canonicals, in a sitting posture. The churchyard was enclosed with a wall and handsome palisades in 1815, and in the following year it was planted with trees and laid out in good taste; and the cathedral is now undergoing a course of repair, the expense of which will be defrayed out of the funds arising from the tithes of the parish of Llanrhaiadr in Mochnant, granted by act of parliament in the 54th of George III., for that purpose. The episcopal palace, situated at a short distance to the west of the cathedral, is now being rebuilt, upon a more extensive scale and in an appropriate style, at the expense of the present bishop. The deanery, about a quarter of a mile from the cathedral, and on the west bank of the river Elwy, has recently been rebuilt by the present dean. The canon's houses, which were demolished by Owain Glyndwr, have never been rebuilt. The bishop holds his consistory court, which is the only court exercising ecclesiastical jurisdiction within the diocese, either himself or by his surrogate, in the chapter-house, as occasion may require, generally about nine times in the year.

This parish is in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph. The four vicars choral of the cathedral perform the ecclesiastical duties in rotation, dividing equally among them a part of the tithes of the parish, and also four out of five portions of those of the parish of Gwyddelwern, in the county of Merioneth, of which the vicar of that parish receives the fifth; but they have no cure of souls in the parish of St. Asaph: in addition to this they receive a small stipend, styled "Preaching Money," from the members of the chapter. The parochial church, dedicated to St. Asaph and St. Kentigern, is situated at the base of the eminence of which the cathedral occupies the summit, and consists of two parallel aisles, called respectively Eglwys Asaph and Eglwys Cyndeirn, St. Asaph's and St. Kentigern's churches. It is a small edifice without a tower, and is supposed to have been erected about the year 1524: the interior contains two monuments of white marble, one of which is to the memory of Thomas Humphreys, of Bôd-Elwyddan, commonly called Bôdlewyyddan, Esq., who bequeathed an annual sum to the poor and for catechising the youth of the parish. In the churchyard, which is very spacious, are some ancient tombs, said to have been brought from Rhuddlan abbey, two miles distant: they are of stone, and in the form of coffins, having on the lids a sword and spade sculptured: one of them, which wants this ornament, has in lieu of it a shield with a lion rampant, beneath which passes a sword grasped by a hand, and round it the inscription "*Hic jacet Ranulfus de Smalwode.*" There are places of worship for Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Certain lands were assigned by Bishop Hughes for the endowment of a free grammar school, but the grant being conditional, and the contingencies referred to not happening, it did not take effect. The school is endowed, however, with lands here given in trust to the vicars of St. Asaph, by Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, of



Chamber Wen, by will dated October 25th, 1729, and now producing £60 per annum, of which £40 is paid to the master, for the instruction of twenty-four boys of the parish; and his salary has been increased by the interest of £200, bequeathed by Mr. Hutchinson of Wrexham, in 1829. A National school will shortly be erected, the expense to be defrayed from trust money in the hands of the vicars choral, an annual payment from the Dean and Chapter, and any subscriptions that may be received from the clergy. Almshouses for eight poor widows were founded and endowed with £12 per annum by Bishop Barrow, in 1678, who also gave £100 towards the maintenance of a free school at St. Asaph, which he intended to have erected, but died at Shrewsbury in 1680, before he had carried the design into effect: the almshouses, having fallen into decay, were rebuilt by Bishop Bagot, and the widows are appointed alternately by the bishop and dean, and the families of Cevn and Llanerch. In addition to the above endowments, various minor sums have been given for charitable uses, the principal of which are, a rent-charge of £2 by Dr. Smith, in 1680, for apprenticing a poor boy; £30 for clothing poor persons in the townships of Bôdlewyyddan, Pengwern, and Vaynol, £10 to the poor of Brÿn Paulin and Gwernglevryd, and £20 to the almswomen of St. Asaph, by Thomas Humphreys, in 1696; £20 each by Margaret Lloyd, in 1720, and Ellin Lloyd, in 1726, to the poor of Cevn Meriadog and Wygvair; £10 by Alice Morris, in 1724,—£100 by the Rev. William Lloyd, in 1732,—£10 by the Rev. Richard Lloyd, in 1736,—and £20 by Susannah Lloyd, in 1750,—for the benefit of the poor of the parish in general; £60 by the Rev. Robert Lloyd, to the poor of Bôdlewyyddan, Brÿn Paulin, Cevn Meriadog, Gwernglevryd, Talar, Vaynol, and Wygvair; and a portion of land by Thomas Foulkes, in trust to the vicars of St. Asaph, for clothing poor people. Near the river Elwy, in the township of Wigvair, is Fynnon Vair, or "the well of Our Lady," situated in a richly wooded dell: this spring, which is enclosed in a polygonal basin of hewn stone, beautifully and elaborately sculptured, discharges about a hundred gallons per minute: the water is strongly impregnated with lime, and was formerly much resorted to as a cold bath. Adjoining the well are the ruins of an ancient cruciform chapel, which, prior to the Reformation, was a chapel of ease to St. Asaph, in the later style of English architecture: the windows, which are of handsome design, are now nearly concealed by the ivy which has overspread the building; and the ruin, elegant in itself, derives additional interest from the beauty of its situation. There are numerous elegant mansions within the parish, among which the most conspicuous are, Bôdlewyyddan, the seat of Sir John Williams, Bart., lately rebuilt by its proprietor in the English castellated style; Pengwern, the seat of Lord Mostyn, built about the beginning of the last century; Cevn, the seat of Edward Lloyd, Esq., now being rebuilt in the Elizabethan style of architecture; and Bronwylva, the residence of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Henry Browne, erected in the year 1660, and enlarged in 1816. In this last mansion are some valuable trophies, taken during the late war, among which are Napoleon Buonaparte's travelling map and books of roads of the French empire, in splendid morocco cases, emblazoned with the imperial arms, taken from his

library at Fontainebleau by Sir Henry, in 1815; and a French field-marshal's baton, two feet three inches in length, covered with purple velvet ornamented with golden bees, and surmounted with an imperial crown, taken in Silesia, in 1812, by a division of Blucher's corps. In the township of Cevn Meriadog are some magnificent natural caverns, extending for a considerable distance into the limestone rocks: in some parts of these the roof is more than forty feet in height, and near the river Elwy the base of the rock is perforated by a lofty natural arch, twenty-one yards in length, and thirty-six feet high, through which is a road capable of admitting a waggon loaded with hay. Various fossil remains have been found in these caverns; among which are, the skull of some remarkably large animal, with the teeth, of corresponding size, perfectly enamelled; and the tongue of an animal, as large as a deer's tongue, of which the form and grain were perfect, though the relic itself was completely petrified. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the city and parish amounts to £1209. 14.

ASTON, a township in the parish of HAWARDEN, hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. by W.) from Hawarden, containing 237 inhabitants.

ASTON, a township in that part of the parish of LYDHAM which is in the lower division of the hundred of MONTGOMERY, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (S. E. by E.) from Montgomery, containing 84 inhabitants. This township, which is situated on the border of Shropshire, on the road from Bishop's Castle to Montgomery, formerly composed part of the manor of Teitrêv, or the three townships, which had a chapel attached; but subsequently this manor was divided, and Aston was connected with the parish of Lydham, the greater part of which is in the hundred of Purslow, county of Salop. It now forms one of the eighteen parishes and townships which are incorporated for the support of their poor in the house of industry at Forden: the average annual assessment for this purpose is £24. 7.

ATHAN (ST.), a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. S. E.) from Cowbridge, containing 312 inhabitants. This place, according to Dr. Malkin, derives its name from St. Tathan, a nephew and one of the disciples of St. Illutus, who lived here in retirement, about the commencement of the sixth century, and founded the parish church, in which, returning after an absence of several years, he was interred, and of which he became the tutelary saint. The parish is pleasantly situated in the most fertile part of the vale of Glamorgan, bordering upon the Bristol channel, to which the village extends, near the small port of Aberthaw, which is a creek to the port of Cardiff. The scenery is beautifully diversified with hill and dale, and the air is remarkably salubrious: the neighbourhood abounds with excellent limestone, the working of which affords employment to such of the poorer inhabitants as are not engaged in agriculture; and its proximity to the port of Aberthaw confers upon this place a small degree of commercial importance. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £15. 9. 7., and in the patronage of Robert Jones, Esq. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. On the edge of an



abrupt acclivity, in this parish, are the venerable remains of East Orchard castle, erected by Roger Berckrolles, or Berelos, one of the twelve knights who accompanied the Norman adventurer, Fitz-Hamon, upon whom this lordship was bestowed at the time of the Conquest. A small rivulet winds pleasingly round the base of the eminence on which the castle is built, and the ruined walls, mantled with ivy, present an object highly picturesque. Berelos is said to have divided his lands with the original proprietor of the whole, and out of his reserved moiety to have afforded subsistence to other families, who had been dispossessed of their property by the Norman usurpation. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £261. 6.

ATPAR, a borough and township in the parish of LLANDYVRIOG, upper division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, adjoining the town of Newcastle-Emlyn. The population is returned with the parish. This place was formerly one of the contributory boroughs within the county, which were united in returning one member to parliament; but, according to Dr. Meyrick, it forfeited its franchise by misconduct, and was deprived of the privilege by a vote of the House of Commons, in 1742: it has, however, by the bill for amending the representation of the people in England and Wales, been restored to the enjoyment of the elective franchise, and, in conjunction with Aberystwith and Lampeter, shares with Cardigan in the return of one member: the right of election is vested in every male person of full age occupying, as owner, or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the clear yearly value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the number of these tenements within the limits of the borough, which are minutely described in the Appendix to this work, is sixty-eight: the mayor of Cardigan is the returning officer. The borough, which is said to have been a borough by prescription, was anciently governed by a portreeve, recorder, and two bailiffs: the burgesses were made upon the presentment of a jury, which consisted apparently of the proprietors of burgages, and were accustomed to vote, whether resident or not, for the election of a member: at present there are no burgesses alive. A belief prevails amongst the inhabitants that the charter was destroyed by a fire which occurred within the memory of some now living, in which, there can be no doubt, many of the documents of the borough perished. Atpar is situated on the northern bank of the river Teivy, and is connected, by means of a stone bridge across that river, with Newcastle-Emlyn, of which town it is usually considered as forming part. It comprises within its limits an elegant villa, called Atpar Hill, the seat of John Beynor, Esq.

## B.

BÂCHYMBYD, a joint township with Ysceibion, in that part of the parish of LLANYNYS which is in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. W.) from Ruthin. The population is returned with the parish. It is situated near the left bank of the Clywedog, which falls into the river Clwyd a short distance off. Lord Bagot has a fine seat here,

remarkable for its pleasant situation, and the extent of its ancient woods, some of the chesnut trees having acquired a very large growth: the estate came into the possession of this noble family by marriage of Sir Walter Bagot with Jane, daughter and sole heiress of Charles Salusbury, Esq.

BADLAND, a joint township with Kennarton, in the parish of OLD RADNOR, within the liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. E.) from New Radnor. The population is returned with Kennarton.

BAGILLT, a township in the parish of HOLYWELL, Holywell division of the hundred of COLESHILL, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (E. by S.) from Holywell. The population is returned with the parish. This place, which is divided into Bagillt-Vawr and Bagillt-Vechan, is situated close on the southern shore of the æstuary of the Dee, on a branch of the great road from Chester to Holyhead, which, branching off at Northop, passes through Flint, and joins the main line at Holywell. The Halkin mountain, rich in mineral treasures, rises on the south-west; and on the western side of this eminence the ancient line of demarcation, called Wat's Dyke, passes through this township to its junction with the Dee, near Basingwerk abbey. Here are very extensive collieries, affording employment to upwards of two hundred and fifty men, and yielding annually more than forty thousand tons of coal, which is chiefly exported coastwise to Chester, Liverpool, and the distant parts of North Wales. There are also three separate and extensive establishments for smelting lead-ore, which annually produce upwards of one hundred thousand tons of that metal, and connected with them are refineries for extracting from the lead the proportion of silver which it contains: the amount of the latter metal, thus annually procured, averages about forty-two thousand ounces. Subordinate to these principal establishments are also extensive works for manufacturing the lead into sheets, pipes, and bars; and in the various departments nearly three hundred men are constantly employed. Steam-vessels, which maintain a constant communication between Holywell and Liverpool, ply daily between the latter place and the quay at Bagillt. There are places of worship for Independents, and for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Between Gadlys and Pentre Bagillt is an eminence, called Brÿn Dychwelwch, or "the Return Hill," from a tradition that it is the spot on which Henry II. gave the order to his forces to retreat, when engaged in the battle of Counsylvllt, or Coleshill, for the particulars of which, see the article on HOLYWELL.

BAGLAN, a parish in the hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S.) from Neath, on the road to Cardiff, comprising the townships of Higher Baglan and Lower Baglan, each maintaining its own poor, and containing 410 inhabitants, of which number, 58 are in Higher Baglan, and 352 in Lower Baglan. This small parish, which comprises not more than two thousand five hundred acres, is delightfully situated in the midst of rich and beautifully diversified scenery, bounded on one side by mountains, the acclivities of which are thickly wooded, and commanding over the lower grounds a magnificent view of Swansea bay. The beauty of its situation, and the local advantages which it possesses, have made it a favourite place



of residence; and within its circumscribed limits, in addition to the many neat cottages which are profusely scattered over its surface, there is a greater number of gentlemen's seats than is usually found in so small a parish. The village has an air of rural simplicity, and a prepossessing appearance of cheerfulness and tranquillity. The soil is of different kinds, part being meadow and grazing land of good quality, and some tolerably good arable land; but the greater portion of the parish consists of mountainous ground, affording pasturage for sheep, and on the side next the sea are extensive banks and plains of sand. There are several veins of coal, of a good bituminous quality, of which some are worked; and a considerable quantity of fire clay is obtained, part of which is used in the manufacture of earthenware, and part conveyed to the different copper-works in the neighbourhood, together with some iron-ore, which is smelted at the Neath Abbey iron-works. A creek, called Baglan Pill, which falls into the Neath a little below Briton-Ferry, affords a facility for conveying the produce of the mines, and other commodities, in small craft of from twenty to thirty tons' burden. The living is a consolidated vicarage with that of Aberavon, both of which are endowed with the great tithes, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf. The church, dedicated to St. Baglan, is a neat and appropriate building, and the churchyard is shaded with yew trees of luxuriant growth. A small sum of £2 per annum, chargeable upon the turnpike trust, is annually distributed among the poor. Of the gentlemen's seats with which the parish is decorated, the principal are, Baglan House, the property of the Earl of Jersey, and the residence of Watkin Homfray, Esq., once the residence of the Rev. William Thomas, by whom it was built, the friend of Mason and Gray, who were his occasional visitors; Baglan Hall, the seat of Griffith Llewellyn, Esq.; Baglan Cottage and Greenfield Lodge, two ornamental cottage residences on the road side, both the property of that gentleman; and Baglan Lodge, the property of the Rev. Edward Thomas, patron and incumbent of Aberavon *cum* Baglan. Mynydd Gaer, in this parish, a small circular intrenchment, is supposed to have been either of British or of Danish origin. There is a separate assessment for the support of the poor of each portion of the parish, the average annual expenditure of the Higher division being £85. 6., and of the Lower £85. 3.

BALA, a township, and a market and assize town, in the parish of LLANYCIL, hundred of PENLLŶN, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 18 miles (N.E.) from Dôlgeley, and 204 (N.W. by W.) from London. The population is returned with the parish. This place derives its name, which signifies "a running out," from its situation near the efflux of the Dee from the adjoining lake of Llŷn Tegid. Its early history is involved in obscurity, and nothing peculiarly remarkable has been with certainty recorded of it. A high artificial mount, called Tommen y Bala, at the south-eastern extremity of the town, is thought to have been constructed by the Romans, who built a small fortress upon its summit, to protect the pass towards the sea, and overawe the turbulent inhabitants of the district: this mount was afterwards used by the Welsh, as one of a chain of forts which they established across this portion of the principality, terminating at the sea on the confines of

Flintshire, for the purpose of defending themselves against the invasions of the lords-marcher. A castle was erected here, in 1202, by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, probably, as Mr. Pennant supposes, on or near the site of a more ancient castelet, called "Castell Gronw Bevr o Benllŷn:" some vestiges of it are still traceable on the eastern side of the Dee, near the point where that river emerges from the lake. Bala was probably dependent upon the castle of Harlech, and, in the reign of Edward II., was committed to the custody of Einion de Stanedon, constable of that castle: in that of Edward III. both these places were given in fee-farm to Walter de Manni, a distinguished military commander, who was appointed sheriff of this county for life.

The town, which consists of one wide street and a smaller one, not lighted, but well supplied with water, is situated on the road from Dôlgeley to Corwen, near the north-western extremity of the lake; and, although standing in an unfertile district, and destitute of all the advantages derived from water carriage, yet in appearance it is excelled by few towns in the principality. The surrounding country consists chiefly of wild moors and heathy mountains, from which circumstance this has become the general rendezvous of gentlemen resorting to this part of Wales for grouse-shooting. A book society was established here in 1828. Bala and its neighbourhood have for a long series of years been noted for the knitting of woollen stockings, socks, and gloves, but this manufacture has of late been on the decline: in the year 1830, thirty-two thousand dozen pair of stockings, ten thousand dozen pair of socks, and five thousand five hundred dozen pair of gloves, were made. The hosiery is distinguished for the softness of its texture, which causes it to be held in high esteem for winter wear, and universally recommended by the medical faculty. The market, which is on Saturday, is well attended; and fairs are held on the Saturday before Shrovetide, chiefly for the hiring of servants, and May 14th, July 10th, October 24th, and November 8th, chiefly for the sale of live stock; that in July is a great fair for lambs. Bala was anciently incorporated, under the government of two bailiffs and a common council: it is under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates. The spring assizes, and the winter and summer quarter sessions, for the county are held here; and the county court, for the recovery of debts under forty shillings, is held once a month, by the deputy sheriff, either here or at Dôlgeley. The town-hall is a plain substantial building, standing in the principal street: attached to it is one of the county bridewells, which is under the regulation of the magistrates for the hundred, but is too small to admit of an extended system of classification. A chapel of ease was erected by subscription, in 1811: it is a small plain structure, with a low tower, surmounted by a spire. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists, with Sunday schools attached. A grammar school was founded and endowed, in 1712, by Dr. Edmund Meyrick, chancellor of St. David's, who bequeathed, in trust to the Principal and Fellows of Jesus' College, Oxford, land then let for £15 per annum, for the instruction of children: thirty boys are now clothed and educated for four years on this foundation, and the master, who is appointed by the Principal and Fellows, receives a salary



of £40 per annum, with a rent-free residence: the sum of £60 is annually applied towards clothing the children. A branch of the Roman Watling-street, passing from the station *Mediolanum*, in Montgomeryshire, to that of *Heriri Mons*, near Festiniog, proceeded through or very near the present town of Bala; and at the upper end of the lake, the remains of a Roman station, now called *Caer Gai*, are very conspicuously situated, around which a great quantity of Roman bricks lies scattered. The Rev. T. Charles, formerly of Jesus' College, Oxford, one of the founders of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and an indefatigable promoter of Sunday schools and circulating charity schools, resided at this place, where he died in 1814, and was interred in the parochial church: he also distinguished himself as the author of an extensive work, in the Welsh language, entitled *Geiriadur Ysgrythyrol*, or a "Scriptural Dictionary." Bala lake, called also *Llŷn Tegid* and *Pimble mere*, is the largest in Wales, being about four miles in length, and in some places nearly one mile in breadth: its greatest depth, which is opposite *Brŷn Goleu*, is about forty-six yards. Its overflowings, when the wind rushes from the mountains at the upper end, occasion great damage: in stormy weather it receives a great accession of water from the mountain torrents, and rises to the height of seven or eight feet above its ordinary level, covering a considerable portion of the vales of *Penllŷn* and *Edeyrnion*, and even endangering the security of the town itself. The river *Dee* has its source under *Aran Penllŷn*, a high mountain at the head of the lake, through which it has been said, by *Giraldus Cambrensis*, *Drayton*, and others, to flow without mingling its waters; as the *Rhone* is fabled to pass through the lake of *Geneva*, and the classic *Alpheus* through the *Adriatic sea*. This assertion is partly founded on the circumstance that salmon, which are plentiful in the river, are never found in the lake; nor are *gwyniaid*, which swim in shoals in the lake, ever seen, except rarely, in the river; but this may be accounted for by the instinct which all creatures exhibit, in resorting only to those haunts most congenial to their habits, and most convenient for feeding and shelter. The lake abounds with pike, perch, trout, and eels; and there are also a few roach, and innumerable *gwyniaid* (so called from the whiteness of their scales), a species of fish found only in Alpine waters, and resembling whittings in flavour, which spawn in December, and are caught in great numbers in spring and summer. The fishery, in the thirteenth century, belonged to the abbot and monks of *Basingwerk*: the whole is now the property of *Sir W. W. Wynne, Bart.*, who has a handsome villa, called *Glŷn Llŷn*, pleasantly situated upon the margin of the lake. From the summit of *Tommen y Bala*, at the north-eastern extremity of this fine sheet of water, the view to the south-west is exceedingly grand: on the right it is fringed by a line of rich meadows, and on the left is the bridge, under which the *Dee* passes: a large rocky hill, the sides of which are well clothed with wood, rises over it in picturesque beauty, and hence the eye is directed along a ridge of craggy elevations, to the lofty *Arans*, with their two pre-eminent summits, *Aran Mowddwy* and *Penllŷn*. On the north-west soar the *Arenigs*, *Vawr* and *Vach*, with the cloud-encircled summit of *Cader Idris*, terminating the prospect. The local tradition vulgarly connected with the formation of this lake, in common with most other

large pieces of water in the principality, is, that it occupies the site of the palace and grounds of a rich, haughty, and irreligious prince, whose wealth, acquired by acts of rapine and murder, was preserved by oppression and the violent exercise of arbitrary power; till at length, disregarding the warnings he had often received from a superhuman agent, he drew down upon himself the vengeance of an offended God, and his magnificent mansion was suddenly swallowed up, whilst celebrating the birth of his eldest son's first-born, and surrounded by a gay concourse of lords and ladies, whom he had invited as friends to participate in the festivity: the towers and parapets of the palace are credulously reported to have been frequently seen, by the superstitious boatmen of former times, when the bright full moon reflected its refulgent lustre upon the glassy surface of the unruffled waters. Some flourishing plantations of young trees have within the last thirty years been formed at *Cyfty*, *Caer Leon*, and *Tal y Bont*, in the vicinity of this town, by *W. M. Thackeray, Esq., M.D.*

**BANGOR**, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of *TROEDYRAUR*, county of *CARDIGAN*, *SOUTH WALES*,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E.) from *Newcastle-Emlyn*, containing 210 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the river *Teivy*, the banks of which, in this part of its course, are richly ornamented with finely varied and beautifully picturesque scenery. The land, which is mostly enclosed and in a good state of cultivation, usually produces good crops of corn. *Blaen Dyfryn*, the property of *John Lloyd Davies, Esq.*, to whom it passed by marriage with *Miss Price*, niece of the late proprietor, is pleasantly situated within this parish. The living is a discharged rectory, with that of *Hênllan* annexed, in the archdeaconry of *Cardigan*, and diocese of *St. David's*, rated in the king's books at £5. 6. 8., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the *Bishop of St. David's*. The church, dedicated to *St. David*, is a small plain building, occupying a remarkable situation above a bold reach of the river. Near it is a circular mount, surrounded by a moat, called *Castell Pistog*, which is said to have been the site of a mansion anciently belonging to a family of that name, who were proprietors of the lordship. The average annual assessment for the support of the poor is £32. 6.

**BANGOR**, a city, port, and parish, in the hundred of *ISGORVAI*, county of *CARNARVON*, *NORTH WALES*, 9 miles (N. E.) from *Carnarvon*, and 243 (N. W. by W.) from *London*, on the great road to *Holyhead*, containing 4751 inhabitants. The origin of this small, but ancient, city is involved in very great obscurity. *Leland*, on the

authority of the *Chronicle of John Harding*, states that, prior to the establishment of Christianity in Britain, *Condage*, a prince of the early Britons, erected in this place a temple, which he dedicated to *Minerva*. Upon the correctness of this testimony alone rests the supposition of its having existed during the continuance of the Roman empire in Britain, and the sole evidence of its having been occupied by the Romans is derived from



Arms.



a hewn block of gritstone, three feet four inches in length, and eighteen inches broad, found at Tŷcôch, a short distance from the city, bearing a Latin inscription of undoubted antiquity, and which is the only relic of the Romans known to have been discovered in the neighbourhood. The earliest authentic account of this place occurs in the history of the first religious establishment founded here, which, according to some authorities, originated with Deiniol, or Daniel, son of Dynawd, or Dúnothus, abbot of the monastery of Bangor Iscoed, in the county of Flint, who is said to have built a college for the instruction of youth, and for the support of the clergy, in this part of North Wales, about the year 525. This college continued to be dependent on the parent establishment at Bangor Iscoed, from which it is supposed to have derived its name, till the year 550, when Maelgwyn Gwynedd, King of North Wales, called by Gildas "Maglocunus," endowed it with lands and divers privileges, and erected it into a see, of which Daniel was consecrated first bishop, by Dubricius, Archbishop of Caerleon. Daniel died about four years after his consecration, and was buried in Ynys Enlli, or Bardsey isle, at that time the usual place of interment for men of distinguished sanctity. According to other authorities, it appears that Dúnothus, abbot of Bangor Iscoed, who, in the year 597, headed a deputation of seven bishops and a great number of learned men, to meet St. Augustine, whom Pope Gregory had sent into Britain to propagate the Christian faith, founded a small establishment on or near the site occupied by the present cathedral, as a cell to the abbey of Bangor Iscoed, and placed in it monks from that establishment. This small monastery afterwards became the asylum of the few brethren that escaped the subsequent massacre of the monks of Bangor Iscoed, by Ethelfrith, King of Northumberland, who, in 607, advancing to Caerlleon ar Ddyvrddwy, now Chester, against the Britons, whose army he defeated in a decisive battle, fell with fury upon the monks of Bangor Iscoed, who had assembled near that place to assist their countrymen with their prayers, and put twelve hundred of them to death. About fifty only saved themselves by flight into the mountains, and afterwards united with the brethren at this place in forming a religious establishment, to which they transferred the name of their ancient monastery, then reduced to ruins, and which afterwards, from its increasing importance, obtained the appellation of Ban côr the "chief society," or Bon côr, the "good choir." Notwithstanding the uncertainty of the original foundation of the religious fraternity at Bangor, it appears that it was erected into a see about the year 550, and that Deiniol was the first bishop: it continued, no doubt, to be a suffragan bishoprick to the archiepiscopal see of Caerlleon, though no regular succession of its bishops is recorded for a space of nearly three hundred years. The first of Daniel's successors, of whom there is any mention, is Elvod, who, according to the *Annales Menevenses*, died in 811; and the see is said to have been endowed with additional lands by Rhodri Mawr, and also by his son and successor, Anarawd, in gratitude for his victory over the Saxons, on the banks of the Conway. In 925, Sisylt ab Clydauc gave some lands to the church, and King Athelstan is stated in the archives of the cathedral to have been a benefactor to the see. Mordav, Bishop of Bangor, in 940, together with

Chebur, Bishop of St. Asaph, accompanied Hywel Dda, King of Wales, to Rome, in order to obtain from the pope a confirmation of that monarch's celebrated code of laws.

In 973, Iago, sovereign of North Wales, having been expelled from his dominions by a rival prince, named Howel, applied for assistance to Edgar King of England, who, desirous of fomenting the quarrel, advanced with an army to Bangor, and compelled Howel to allow him an equal share in the sovereignty. The English monarch, during his continuance in this city, assumed a sovereign authority in Wales: he confirmed the privileges of the see, and augmented its possessions with lands and other gifts, erecting also, on the south side of the cathedral, a church, which he dedicated to St. Mary, and which, according to Browne Willis, was used as a parochial church till the reign of Henry VII. In 1071, the city suffered material injury, and the cathedral was destroyed, by an English army which invaded this part of the principality; and about the year 1080, Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, in order to assist his descent upon the Isle of Anglesey, and to secure the conquests which he had already made in North Wales, erected a castle, about a quarter of a mile to the north of the city, on the ridge of hills which bounds the vale. Of this castle, no particular event is recorded in the history of the principality: probably, after the restoration of Gruffydd ab Cynan to the throne from which the earl had expelled him, it was either destroyed immediately, or suffered to fall gradually into ruins. The city recovered from its devastation, but the cathedral remained in a ruinous state till 1102, when a synod was held at Westminster, for the reformation of the church, at which Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, presided, assisted by Girard, Archbishop of York, Roger, Bishop of Salisbury, and others, and at which also Hervé, or Herveus, Bishop of Bangor, the first Welsh prelate that had ever attended a council in England, and who was consecrated in 1093, by Thomas, Archbishop of York, was present. The members of this synod, lamenting the decay of religion in this part of North Wales, which they attributed in a great degree to the destruction of the cathedral, gave large sums of money towards its restoration. Giraldus, who accompanied Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, in his circuit to preach the crusades through Wales, relates in his Itinerary, that they visited Bangor in 1188, and were well received by the bishop of that diocese, with whom they remained one night; and on the following day, after the celebration of mass by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Guianus, Bishop of Bangor, was compelled by his importunity to take the cross, to the infinite regret of all his people. From this time Bangor appears to have remained in a flourishing state till the year 1211, when King John, invading North Wales, encamped his forces on the banks of the river Conway, and detached a portion of his army to burn the city, which they accomplished; and, entering the cathedral, took Robert the bishop (who had succeeded to the see upon the death of the prelate elected in place of Giraldus, who declined the office) from before the high altar, and made him prisoner, but afterwards liberated him, on the payment of a heavy ransom. During this reign, Bangor suffered great devastation in the wars that were carried on between King John and Llewelyn; and, in the reign of Henry III., it was dreadfully ravaged by the continued struggles for empire between that monarch



and David ab Llewelyn, whom Richard, at that time bishop of Bangor, and a partisan of the King of England, excommunicated. In these wars, the cathedral was again destroyed, and the bishop, taking refuge in England, was honourably entertained for nearly twenty years in the monastery of St. Alban's.

On the final invasion of Wales by Edward I., the neighbourhood of Bangor became the scene of several engagements, and, in particular, of that disastrous conflict in which fifteen knights, thirty-two esquires, and one thousand soldiers, were slain by the Welsh forces under Richard ab Walwyn, after crossing the Menai strait, at low water, by a bridge of boats. At this time Anian, Bishop of Bangor, being in high favour with Edward, obtained from that monarch the restoration of its various endowments, which had been confiscated during the preceding reign, together with many additional grants and extended privileges: he procured also a grant of Bangor House, in Shoe-lane, London, as a town residence for the prelates, when attending their duties at court. For the better maintenance of the episcopal dignity, he obtained by letters patent from the crown the return of all writs, with all waifs and estrays, in his several manors, and also in the villages of Tregaian, Abydon, and Bôdychan. In 1284, having had the honour of baptizing the young prince Edward, who was born that year in Carnarvon castle, he received a grant of the ferries of Porthaethwy and Cadnant, and the manors of Bangor, Castell-Mawr, and Garthgogo in the county of Carnarvon, with the cantred of Trefos, in the Isle of Anglesey, and, two years afterwards, a confirmation to himself and his successors of a third part of the tithes issuing out of the king's demesnes, mills, and lead mines, in England and Wales. When Edward I. made his extent, or survey, of the revenues of the Prince of Wales, the Bishop of Bangor procured a commission from Chancery, to enquire into the tenures of his see, which survey, called the Bishop's Extent Book, is still preserved among the Harleian Manuscripts in the British Museum. In 1329, Matthew de Englefield obtained for the inhabitants the grant of an annual fair, on the eve, day, and morrow of St. Luke, and of another on the eve, day, and morrow of St. Trillo. During the reign of Henry IV., John Swaffham, having written a book in confutation of the doctrines of Wickliffe, was advanced to the see, as a recompense for his services; and during the rebellion of Owain Glyndwr, Llewelyn Bifort, a Welshman, having been promoted to the bishoprick by that chieftain, without the sanction either of the king or of the Archbishop of Canterbury, his name appears, in 1406, among the chief persons who were outlawed for the part they took in that rebellion: this prelate was taken prisoner, in 1408, by the king's troops, in the battle fought in Yorkshire, in which the Earl of Northumberland was slain; but not having taken any active part in the engagement, nor having borne arms against his sovereign, his life was spared. The conspiracy excited by Owain Glyndwr against the authority of Henry IV., is said to have been contrived chiefly in the house of David Daron, Dean of Bangor, who was also outlawed by that monarch. During this insurrection the city was devastated, and the cathedral destroyed; the latter continued in a state of ruin for nearly ninety years, till Bishop Dean, or Denny, rebuilt the choir, and, on his subsequent translation to the see of Salisbury,

left his mitre and crosier, which were of considerable value, to his successor at Bangor, on condition that he should complete those other parts of the building which he had already begun. In the reign of Richard III., Dean Kyfin, who was instituted about the year 1480, was a zealous and active partisan of the Earl of Richmond, the success of whose enterprise he materially contributed to promote, and from whom, after his accession to the throne by the title of Henry VII., he obtained a grant of lands, and permission to endow a chantry in the south transept of the cathedral, at the entrance of which he was interred. During the civil commotions in the reign of Charles I., the city became the scene of great desolation; the services of the church were suspended, and the cathedral was used as a stable for the horses of the parliamentary troops; the monuments, shrines, and other decorations of this venerable structure were defaced and mutilated, and the revenue of the see was alienated and appropriated to the use of the parliament. It was, however, restored to the see after the interregnum; and, in the first of James II., Humphrey Lloyd, bishop of the diocese, obtained an act of parliament for augmenting the revenues of the see, providing for the repair of the cathedral, and for the maintenance of the choir. The same act annexes to the bishoprick the archdeaconries of Bangor and Anglesey, and to the chapter the sinecure rectory of Llanrhaiadr yn Kinmerch and two-thirds of the comportionate rectory of Llandinam. The celebrated Bangorian Controversy originated in this city, from which it took its name, between Dr. Benjamin Hoadley, who presided over the see from 1715 to 1721, when he was translated to Salisbury, and Dr. Thomas Sherlock, who succeeded him in this diocese, and was also translated to Salisbury in 1738, on the advancement of Dr. Hoadley to the see of Winchester.

The city is delightfully situated in a pleasing vale, bounded on the south by lofty and precipitous rocks, and having at the eastern extremity a fine opening towards the adjacent straits of the Menai, and commanding an extensive view of the beautiful bay of Beaumaris, bordered on the opposite side by the rocky shores of Anglesey and the town of Beaumaris. It consists principally of one main street, from which others branch off on the north side, and of some smaller streets on the acclivity of an eminence near the sea: it is neither lighted nor paved. The neighbourhood comprehends a variety of pleasing and picturesque scenery, and in many parts is characterised by features of striking grandeur. At the distance of a few miles, on one side, are the lofty and rugged mountains of Snowdonia, and on the other the wide expanse of waters in the bay of Beaumaris; and in the immediate vicinity of the town are extensive and varied walks and rides through a tract of country abounding with objects of romantic interest. The vast sums expended by government in the improvement of the Holyhead road, and the stupendous works which have been raised in prosecution of that object, have, from their partial locality, contributed to the importance of the city, which, combining with the natural advantages it possesses, might elevate it to a very prominent rank among the commercial towns of the principality. Bangor, which is a member of the port of Beaumaris, carries on little or no trade of importance: coal and the common necessities of life are the only goods brought



to it, and are landed from the ships upon the coast, and conveyed away in carts at low water, without the aid of quays or wharfs. The coast is accessible to ships of three hundred tons' burden, which can enter the bay at all states of the tide; and all vessels, however large, can ride securely in the channel, well sheltered from storms, except in violent easterly gales, to which only they are exposed: steam-packets ply regularly between Bangor and Liverpool. The market is on Friday, and, during the summer, a market is also held on Tuesday; they are well supplied, but provisions of all kinds are dear. The fairs are on April 5th, June 25th, September 16th, and October 28th; and there are also large cattle fairs, called "Borth fairs," held at the Menai bridge, in this parish, on August 26th, September 26th, October 24th, and November 14th, to which a greater number of cattle is brought than to any other fairs in North Wales. By the late act for amending the representation of the people in England and Wales, Bangor has been constituted one of the six contributory boroughs within the county, which unite in the return of one member to parliament: the right of election is vested in every male person of full age occupying, as owner, or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the clear yearly value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the number of tenements of this value within the limits of the borough, which are minutely described in the Appendix of this work, is about one hundred and seventy. The bailiffs of Carnarvon are the returning officers. The town-hall and shambles are situated nearly in the centre of the town.

Prior to the union of England and Ireland, a variety of plans was suggested for conducting the great road from London to Dublin over the Menai strait, in lieu of the ancient ferry; but it was not until the increased communication between the two countries, subsequently to the union, had invested the subject with so much additional importance, that it obtained the consideration of government; and in consequence of this, official instructions were given, in 1801, to Mr. Rennie, to survey the strait, and to propose a plan and estimate for a bridge. Pursuant to these, that eminent engineer prepared four designs, two for crossing, by means of a cast-iron arch, or arches, with others of stone at each extremity, at the rock called Ynys y Môch, or "Pig's Island," about one hundred yards from the ferry, where the present suspension bridge has since been erected; and two for crossing at the Swelly rocks, half a mile further southward. But, though no objection was offered to the plans, they were not at that time carried into execution; and nothing further was done regarding the measure until the year 1810, when a parliamentary committee was appointed to enquire into the state of the roads from Shrewsbury and Chester to Holyhead. This committee having reported that no injury would result to the navigation of the Menai by the construction of a bridge across that strait, as proposed by Mr. Rennie, notwithstanding the propagation of contrary opinions, by meddling or interested persons, instructions were issued from the Treasury to Mr. Telford, the engineer, to survey the above-named roads, and to take into consideration the best lines that could be adopted, and the best mode of crossing the strait. This gentleman proposed two

designs, one applicable to the Swelly rocks, and the other to Ynys y Môch: the latter, which was intended to consist of a cast-iron arch, five hundred feet in the span, was accompanied with his decided preference, and both were transmitted by the Lords of the Treasury to the parliamentary committee again appointed, in 1811, to enquire into the state of these roads; but, although the erection of a bridge on one of the plans furnished by that able engineer was strongly recommended by the committee, no means were then adopted for carrying it into effect. In 1815, the state of the Irish road through Wales having been again brought under the consideration of parliament, an act was passed appointing a commission to direct the accomplishment of the proposed improvements, and authorising a grant of money from the Treasury. The commissioners appointed Mr. Telford their principal engineer, who, in 1817, was requested to state his opinion regarding the erection of a bridge, on the principle of suspension, across the Menai, and, if he deemed it practicable, to prepare a plan and estimate. Early in the following year, therefore, this gentleman presented to the commissioners a report, design, and estimate, fixing upon Ynys y Môch as the most proper situation. This is a mass of solid rock, rising steeply from the edge of the water, and situated nearly adjacent to the Anglesey shore, with which it is connected by a narrow reef, dry at low water. The opposite, or Carnarvonshire, shore is composed of clay, shale, sandstone, &c., lying in strata much resembling coal measures; and rises from the surface of the water perpendicularly to the height of about forty feet, above which the ground still rises to the ridge separating the valley of the strait from that of the city of Bangor: the breadth between the shores, at high water, is three hundred and six yards, and at low water one hundred and sixty. Mr. Telford proposed that the distance between the centres of the supporting pyramids should be five hundred and sixty feet, the roadway to be preserved uniformly one hundred feet above the reach of spring tides, and the height of the pyramids to be fifty feet above the level of the roadway: the main chains were to be sixteen in number, with a deflection of thirty-seven feet; and their extremities were to be secured in a mass of masonry built over stone arches between each of the supporting piers and the adjacent shore, four on the Anglesey side, and three adjoining the Carnarvonshire shore, each arch to be fifty feet in the span. The roadway was divided into a carriage-way on each side, twelve feet wide, with a foot-path between them, four feet in width. This design having been approved of by the commissioners, a report was made to the Lords of the Treasury, which was laid before parliament, and a grant of £20,000 was obtained for commencing operations, which took place in July 1818. Quarries of limestone, both of a dark and mottled colour, were opened at Penmon Point, the north-eastern extremity of Anglesey, for the erection of the piers, &c.; railways of small extent, for conveying the stone, carpenters' and smiths' shops, a storehouse, office, kiln for burning lime, and quays for the vessels to unload, were soon completed; barracks were erected for the accommodation of the men employed in the quarries; and, notwithstanding that the opposition to the erection of the bridge was revived, on the alleged ground of injury



to the navigation, the most active measures were adopted for prosecuting the undertaking. In 1819, the commissioners, in spite of considerable opposition, obtained another act of parliament, which not only empowered them to build the bridge, levy tolls, and purchase Bangor ferry, but to make a new road from the bridge across the Isle of Anglesey to Holyhead. All these preparatory objects having been accomplished, and a considerable quantity of limestone procured from Abergthaw, in Glamorganshire, to be burnt into lime for mortar, the first stone was laid on August 10th, at which period the number of men employed amounted to upwards of two hundred, and of vessels occupied in bringing stone from the quarries, five. In the early part of 1821, it was determined, in lieu of securing the chains over stone arches, to carry them through tunnels, and fasten them to the solid rock that lines the shore: this alteration in the original plan allowed the arches to be sprung at the distance of sixty-five feet above high water mark, those next the main piers being made semicircular, and those towards the land gradually diminishing segments, the crowns of the whole being parallel with the superincumbent roadway. Thus, there is only as much masonry over the arches as is necessary for a proper entablature and cornice; and the small piers being tapered from ten feet to seven and a half in thickness at the spring of the arches, whereby the latter were increased from fifty feet to fifty-two and a half in the span, a greater degree of lightness and elegance has been imparted to the structure. At this period, about four hundred men were employed on the work; and the first cargo of iron-work was delivered on the 3rd of August, the whole having been contracted for to be made of the best hammered iron at Shrewsbury, whence it was conveyed by canal to Chester, and from that port hither by sea; and a machine was subsequently constructed for proving its quality by actual straining. In 1822, application was made to parliament for an act to extend the period for completing the bridge, which, as stated in the former act, would have expired in July 1823; and the number of workmen, owing to the forwardness of the work, was gradually reduced towards the close of this year. The new act, which received the royal assent on the 7th of July, 1823, besides extending the time for completing the bridge to July 1825, invested the commissioners with additional powers; and the Lords of the Treasury were authorised to issue £108,498. 18. for completing the bridge, and for payment of the sum awarded by a jury for the purchase of Bangor ferry, *viz.*, £26,394. The fixing of the main chains was commenced on October 24th; and, to prevent the roadway sinking in the middle below a horizontal line, by their expansion, it was determined that the roadway and side railing should have a rise of two feet towards the middle; and, in order that the deflection of the main chains might not be lessened to the same extent, it was also resolved to increase the height of the pyramids, so as to make their elevation fifty-two feet above the level of the roadway under the archways. Experiments having been made to prove the lateral tension of the chains with various degrees of deflection, in order to ascertain what strain would be exerted in stretching the main chains to their required curvature, a plan was adopted for putting up the

main chains, by building the central portion of each upon a raft, then floating it to the bridge, and raising it into its proper place by capstans and other suitable machinery: the first main chain was hoisted on the 26th of April, in presence of a great concourse of spectators. The two middle lines of chains having been suspended, a pathway was formed between them by resting joists on the lower chains of each series, and placing planks upon them parallel with the chains, the three upper chains on each side forming the parapet. The last chain was raised on the 9th of July, and the whole of their suspended parts having been connected by the end of August, the suspension of the roadway bearers was commenced, and a passable roadway was formed by the 24th of September, on which day many of the gentry and other inhabitants of the neighbourhood crossed the bridge. The roadway is formed of deal planks, resting upon sleeping rods, and consists of two carriage-ways, each twelve feet in breadth, with a footway, four feet wide, secured by iron railings running the whole length between them: these roads are formed of two tiers of deal planks, three inches thick, lying longitudinally, with a third, and upper tier, placed transversely, and secured at each end by guards of oak, to prevent the carriage wheels injuring the vertical rods. The approaches to this stupendous structure were next undertaken, and it was determined that the bridge should be opened on January 30th, 1826; and, as the expense of the work had been defrayed by a loan from the public, the first vehicle allowed to cross it was the London and Holyhead mail, on its way downward, about half-past one in the morning, which was followed by the Chester and Holyhead mail, about half-past three; and during the whole day there was a crowd of carriages, horses, and foot passengers on the bridge, whilst the roads leading to it in every direction presented a busy and animated scene. Very soon after its completion the bridge sustained considerable damage from a very violent tempest, owing to the motion of the main chains; to remedy which, four sets of transverse braces were introduced between each series of chains, to prevent them from coming closer together. Between each two lines of braces, consisting of cast-iron tubes, there is a diagonal lacing of wrought-iron, which, with the tubes and bolts, forms a stiff frame, between each series of chains. The completion of the bridge was considerably retarded by gales during the spring; but the additional securities suggested in consequence of the late storms were carried into effect in the early part of the summer, and have served the intended purpose; this magnificent work having braved, uninjured, the storms of succeeding years.



Arms of the Bishoprick.

The see, of which the origin and history have been anticipated in the account of the city, with which it is almost identified, is perhaps the most ancient in the principality. It comprises the whole of the Isle of Anglesey; the whole of the county of Carnarvon, with the exception only of four parishes in the hundred of Creuddyn; about one-half of the county of Merioneth; the deanery of Dyfryn Clwyd, in the county of Denbigh;



and seven parishes in the county of Montgomery; and is divided into the three archdeaconries of Anglesey, Bangor, and Merioneth, of which the two first were annexed to the see by an act of parliament passed in the 1st of James II. The ecclesiastical establishment consists of a bishop, dean, chancellor, precentor, treasurer, archdeacon, two prebendaries, three canons, two vicars choral, an organist, lay clerks, choristers, and other officers. The cathedral church, dedicated to St. Daniel, and, after repeated demolitions, principally rebuilt and restored by the liberality of Bishops Dean and Skeffington, is a handsome cruciform and embattled structure, principally in the later style of English architecture, displaying portions in the early and decorated English styles, with a low massive square embattled tower at the west end, crowned with pinnacles. The whole of the edifice, though not highly enriched with architectural embellishment, has a pleasing symmetry in its proportions, and an appropriate simplicity of character, which is much improved by its situation in a spacious open area, on one side of which is a fine avenue of trees, forming in summer a pleasant promenade. The interior is extremely well lighted by ranges of six windows, in the later English style; in each of the aisles of the nave and transepts, and at the extremities of the latter, as well as at the east end of the choir, are larger windows of elegant design and lofty dimensions. The nave is one hundred and forty-one feet in length, sixty feet wide, including the aisles, and thirty feet high; the roof is supported by ranges of six obtusely pointed arches, resting on octagonal fluted columns, on square plinths, and ornamented with annular capitals, which separate it from the aisles, and is lighted by ranges of circular-headed clerestory windows. Between the eastern extremity of the nave and the choir, and also forming entrances into the transepts, is an area, of which the roof, of loftier elevation, is supported by four obtusely pointed arches, resting upon corbel heads, originally intended to sustain a central tower. The choir, which is a well-proportioned Latin cross, is of the same height as the nave, and is sixty-three feet in length to the altar screen, above which rises to the roof the large east window, twenty-seven feet high, and thirteen feet and a half in width, which was put up about forty years since. The transepts are ninety-six feet in length, from north to south, and thirty-two feet and a half in width, and are partly in the decorated and partly in the later style of English architecture. The present internal arrangement, which is rendered necessary from the want of a parish church, differs materially from that of cathedrals in general. The organ screen is placed across the nave, nearly in the centre, dividing it into two portions, of which the eastern is connected with the choir, and contains the bishop's throne and family pew, and the prebendal stalls, which are of highly enriched tabernacle work. The prebendal stalls are ranged in this portion of the nave, twelve on each side, commencing from the organ screen, and the remainder, together with the choir and the transepts, is regularly pewed and fitted up for divine service. The western portion of the nave is appropriated to the performance of morning and evening service, every Sunday, in the Welsh language, according to the usual ceremonies of the church; in addition to which there are two full cathedral services in the choir, which are performed in the English language. The whole length of the

cathedral is two hundred and fourteen feet, and its breadth along the transepts ninety-six feet; the tower is sixty feet high, and, but for the premature death of Bishop Skeffington, would have been raised to the height of one hundred and twenty feet. There are few monuments of importance, either for their antiquity or for their architectural character; the tomb of the renowned Gruffydd ab Cynan, King of North Wales, on the left side of the altar, was formerly surmounted by a shrine, which was destroyed during the parliamentary war; and under an arch at the south end of the transept is the effigy, in stone, of his successor, Owain Gwynedd, recumbent on a sarcophagus ornamented with a cross fleury. Several of the bishops have been interred in the cathedral, but there is nothing worthy of notice in the small monuments which have been raised to their memory. A gravestone marks the place of interment of William Wynne, M. A., author of a history of Wales, chiefly compiled from the chronicles of Caradoc of Llancarvan. The north aisle of the choir has been separated from the remainder, to serve the purposes of a chapter-house, consistorial court, and library: in the last is preserved a manuscript of Bishop Anian, forming a folio volume of moderate size, entitled *Liber Pontificalis Dñi Anniani Bangor Episcopi*, containing a missal, which, in addition to the rubric, includes thirty-two offices and numerous anthems set to music for the use of the cathedral of Bangor and other churches. This volume appears to have been drawn up by the bishop about the year 1291, and to have formed one of those provincial diversities in the mode of performing the service of the church, which were prohibited by the statute of Uniformity, in the preamble of which it is expressly named. During the commotions in the time of Owain Glyndwr, this volume was lost, but was restored to the church by Bishop Ednam, in 1485; and during the occupation of the cathedral by the parliamentary troops, in the reign of Charles I., it was again carried away, but was afterwards recovered by Bishop Humphreys. The episcopal palace, in which Mr. Pennant, in 1770, observes that "the prelate is indifferently lodged," was, after its previous demolitions, almost entirely rebuilt by Bishop Skeffington, in the early part of the sixteenth century; it was much improved by Bishop Warren, and other alterations and additions have since been made by his successor, Dr. Majendie. The deanery, a handsome building to the north-west of the cathedral, and adjoining the cemetery, was erected towards the close of the seventeenth century. The parish of Bangor, of which the city forms but a small portion, was united with that of Pentir previously to the year 1402, when the latter was wrested from it by the abbot of Valle Crucis, who, in 1444, was compelled to restore it, and they were re-united, but again separated at the Reformation: in an action tried at Shrewsbury, however, in 1657, they were again re-united, and have ever since been reputed to form one parish, of which Pentir is considered only a township, and to which its church is now deemed a chapel of ease. The tithes of the whole are equally divided between the vicars choral, who perform the parochial duty, previously to which arrangement, the vicars were accustomed to begin the service in the choir, and, after proceeding to the first lesson for the day, in the English language, to retire to the nave and finish the service in the Welsh language. The living is thus a



consolidated comportionate vicarage, not in charge, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, and in the patronage of the Bishop. Of the ancient parochial church, founded by Edgar, and dedicated to St. Mary, not a single fragment is remaining. The site of an old chapel was sold, some years since, and the money applied to the redemption of the land-tax: a house has been built near the church on another plot of ground, as a vicarage-house, in which one of the vicars resides. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The free grammar school was founded in 1557, by Geoffrey Glynn, L.L.D., advocate of the court of Arches, and brother to Dr. William Glynn, Bishop of Bangor, who bequeathed the friary house, with all its appurtenances, and all his lands in North Wales, or elsewhere, in trust to the bishops of Bangor and Rochester, and their successors for its foundation and endowment, and also £400 in money, to be invested in the purchase of land, of the yearly value of £20, to be divided equally among ten poor scholars on the foundation. The trustees dying before the intentions of the testator could be carried into effect, the completion of the design devolved upon Sir William Petre and others, who, with the concurrence of the bishop, determined upon the statutes and regulations for its government, which were drawn up by Dr. Alexander Nowell, Dean of St. Paul's, and the school was established by letters patent in the third year of the reign of Elizabeth. The revenue arising from the endowment is £230. 13. 10.; there are at present about forty day pupils, but the school is free for one hundred boys, being "poor men's children;" and the master has the privilege of taking boarders. Two scholarships were founded in Jesus' College, Oxford, by Bishop Rowlands, in 1609, to which, after his own kindred, the scholars of Bangor and Beaumaris have the preference. The ancient friary was formerly appropriated to the use of this establishment, but early in the present century it was taken down and a handsome brick building erected upon its site, comprising a good house, with twenty acres of land adjoining it, for the head master, a house with land for the usher, and a commodious school-room, to which a play-ground is attached. Bishop Rowlands also bequeathed an estate for the endowment of an almshouse, which he had founded during his lifetime, for six single men, of whom one was to be of the parish of Penmynydd, two from those of Aberdaron and Meylltyn, and the rest from the town and parish of Bangor, and the parishes of Llangrystiolys and Amlwch, to each of whom were allowed two shillings per week, and six yards of frieze, annually for clothing: these almshouses have been rebuilt, upon an enlarged scale, on the south side of the cemetery of the cathedral, and afford two rooms to each of the inmates, who, from the increased value of the land, receive each seven shillings per week, with a suit of clothes annually, and a proper supply of bedding, linen, and coal. In addition to these, the same benefactor bequeathed £100 for the repair of the cathedral; and Dean Jones, in 1719, gave £100 for purchasing an altar-piece, the whole of his books to the chapter library, and £100 towards the establishment of a permanent parochial school for poor children. A National school for boys, and another for girls, were erected in 1822, by subscription, aided by a grant of £90 from the society in London:

in these schools, which are adapted to the reception of three hundred children, one hundred and fourteen boys, and one hundred and nine girls, are at present gratuitously instructed. Another National school, in which seventy-five children are taught, was built at Vaenol, in this parish, in 1816, by subscription, aided by a grant of £30 from the society; and a third has been erected at the village of Pentir, near the church, containing about sixty scholars. An infant school has been recently established, which is well supported and promises to be highly beneficial. At a short distance from the town, on the London road, is the Carnarvonshire and Anglesey Loyal dispensary, instituted in 1809, in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the accession of George III. to the throne, as a testimony of loyalty and affection to their sovereign, by a party of gentlemen, who had determined to celebrate that day by the establishment of some permanent charity, and finally resolved upon building a dispensary for gratuitously supplying the poor with medical and surgical assistance. A substantial and commodious building has been erected for the purpose, and the benefits of the institution, under the conduct of proper officers, are extensively and advantageously administered. The whole expense of the establishment is liberally defrayed by subscription among the gentry resident in the neighbourhood. A house of friars preachers was founded here prior to the year 1276, and was probably enlarged or rebuilt about the year 1299, by Tudor ab Gronow, Lord of Penmynydd and Treacastle, who, from that circumstance has been commonly regarded its founder, and who was interred in the chapel of that establishment, in 1311: in the seventh of Edward VI., the site was granted to Thomas Brown and William Breton, and it subsequently became the property of Dr. Geoffrey Glynn, who bequeathed it, with other possessions, as above related, for the endowment of the free grammar school. Of the castle erected near the city, by the Earl of Chester, there are only some slight vestiges: a few traces of the walls may be discerned, which appear to have extended one hundred and twenty yards on the south-east, and about sixty-six yards on the south-west, terminating in a precipice; on the north-east they appear to have extended for more than forty yards, and on the north-west the natural strength of its situation rendered any other defence unnecessary. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £1438. 12.

BANGOR-ISCOED, a parish comprising the townships of Eyton, Pickhill, Ryton, and Sesswick, in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, and the township of Bangor, in the hundred of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, all which separately support their own poor, and containing 1389 inhabitants, of which number, 648 are in the township of Bangor, 5 miles (S.E.) from Wrexham, on the road to Whitchurch. This place, which has received the adjunct of Iscoed, to distinguish it from the city of Bangor in Carnarvonshire, was the station *Banchorium* of Richard of Cirencester, and is generally thought to have been the *Bovium*, or *Bonium*, of Antonine. It was the site of the most ancient and extensive monastery founded in Britain, which, having also been intended as a school for religious instruction, became a great seminary for learning: from this institution, the foundation of



which is ascribed to Lucius, King of Britain, under whose auspices Christianity was firmly established in this country, it obtained its British name *Ban-Gôr*, which was changed by the Saxons into *Banchorna-byrig*, a name descriptive of its importance as a privileged town. Pelagius, the noted arch-heretic, who is affirmed to have been a native of Britain, and whose paternal name was Morgan, was educated in this monastery, of which he became abbot, about the commencement of the fifth century: the Pelagian heresy was principally eradicated by St. Germanus, who is said to have introduced considerable improvement into this institution. Augustine, having been sent by Pope Gregory to re-establish Christianity in England, by converting the Saxons, endeavoured to extend the power of the church of Rome, by usurping an authority over the British prelates. But the latter resisting, a great council of the clergy was convened, at which seven bishops and many learned men from the monastery of Bangor were present: the British deputies continued firm in their refusal to submit to St. Augustine, or aid him in his intended conversion of the Saxons; in consequence of which the mortified missionary denounced against them the judgment of God, predicting that, as they would not accept peace with their Christian brethren, they would soon have war with their pagan enemies, and that they would speedily find death by the swords of those to whom they had refused to preach the word of life: this threat was accomplished, a few years afterwards, in the battle of Chester, by the slaughter of eleven hundred and fifty, out of twelve hundred, monks who had gone forth to pray for the success of their countrymen, the Welsh, against the Northumbrian Saxons, by whom, under Ethelfrid, that ancient city had been attacked. The Saxons, having defeated their opponents and taken possession of Chester, advanced to Bangor, where they entirely destroyed the monastery, and committed its valuable library to the flames: they then intended to penetrate into Wales, but their passage over the Dee at this place was disputed by Brochwel Yscithrog, Prince of Powys, who successfully resisted all their attacks, until relieved by Cadvan, King of North Wales; Meredydd, King of South Wales; and Bledrus, sovereign of Cornwall. The confederate princes called to their aid the services of Dunawd, or Dunothus, abbot of Bangor, and one of the fifty monks that had escaped the general massacre of his brethren, who delivered an oration to the army, which he concluded by ordering the soldiers to kiss the ground, before the action commenced, in commemoration of the communion of the body of Christ, and to take up water in their hands out of the river Dee, and drink it, in remembrance of his sacred blood. This act of devotion infused a confident courage among the Welsh, already ardent for revenge for the calamities which they had recently endured; and they encountered the invaders with such bravery as entirely to defeat them, with the loss of above ten thousand men, compelling Ethelfrid, with the remainder of his army, to retreat into his own country. From this disastrous infliction the monastery of Bangor never recovered: the surviving monks were dispersed throughout the interior of the country, many of them having settled in North Wales, and others probably serving as a supply to the ministry of the church in South Wales, and in Armorica. At one period the entire establish-

ment here is said to have consisted of two thousand four hundred brethren, of whom one hundred officiated by turns for one hour, thus performing divine service both day and night, whilst many of the others laboured for the benefit of the community. Of the vast pile of buildings that composed the monastery, the ruins of which are described by William of Malmesbury, a short time after the Norman Conquest, as consisting of numerous half-demolished churches and mutilated remains, the only vestiges are parts of the foundations, extending for a considerable distance along the eastern bank of the river Dee, which flows between the sites of two of the ancient gates, of which they still retain the names; the one being called "Porth Kleis," one mile to the south of the church, on the road to Overton; and the other "Porth Wgan," one mile and a quarter west-north-westward from it, on the road to Wrexham.

The village is pleasantly situated on the eastern bank of the Dee, which is navigable to this place, and is here crossed by a handsome bridge of five arches, connecting the counties of Denbigh and Flint. The parish contains about eight thousand acres, of which about five thousand are composed of a stiff clay, the remainder being meadow land, generally of a sandy loam: the ground is chiefly flat, and about two thousand acres are subject to inundation from the overflowing of the Dee. The adjacent scenery in many places is beautiful and richly picturesque, the noble sweeps of the Dee being frequently overshadowed by thick hanging woods, which fringe its elevated banks. The living is a rectory, with the perpetual curacy of Overton annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Chester, rated in the king's books at £39. 6. 8., and in the patronage of the Marquis of Westminster. The church, dedicated to St. Dinoh, who was abbot of the monastery when Augustine landed in England, and canonized after his death, appears to have been built at various periods, though the greater part of it is of modern erection. The communion table of white marble, and the floor within the rails, of black and white marble, were the gift of Mr. Lloyd; and the altar-piece and tablets of mahogany, with gilt mouldings, were presented by Mr. Peter Lloyd, in 1775: the font, which is very ancient, is ornamented with sculptured heads and shields bearing the Cross of Calvary, surmounted by the Welsh plume. The arms of the several rectors of the parish, from the year 1662 to the present time, with the dates of their respective induction, are arranged in the hall of the rectory. A parochial free school was founded in 1728, by Lady Dorothy Jeffreys, widow of Chief Justice Jeffreys, who gave £500 to be laid out in the purchase of lands for teaching and apprenticing poor children. There are several charitable donations and bequests for distribution among the poor, of which the principal are, a legacy of £60 by Mr. Thomas Lloyd, £50 by Mr. E. Price, Sen., a tenement in Iscoed by Mr. E. Price, Jun., £50 by the Rev. Hugh Morris, £40 by Thomas Tunna, a plot of ground by Margaret Lloyd, and a tenement called the Graig and £200 in money by Mr. Peter Lloyd, the proceeds of which are periodically distributed in bread and money. The Roman road to the station *Banchorium* passed through the village, a little to the south of the church; and, in digging graves in the churchyard, Roman pavements are occasionally found. The average annual expenditure of the parish for the support of its poor



amounts to £598. 6., of which sum £197. 1. is assessed on the township of Bangor.

**BARDSEY ISLE**, a small island in St. George's channel, near Cardigan bay, an extra-parochial district, locally in the parish of Aberdaron, in the hundred of DINLLAEN, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, lying off the promontory of Llyn, from which it is separated by Bardsey Race, three miles in breadth, containing 84 inhabitants. This island, from the remotest known period of antiquity, appears to have been the resort of devotees, who, retiring from the cares of the world, sought an asylum here, where they passed the remainder of their lives and were buried. St. Dubricius, Bishop of Caerleon, resigning his see to St. David, retired to this solitary spot, where, dying about the year 612, he was interred; but his remains were afterwards removed to Llandaf. After the slaughter of the monks of Bangor, not only the brethren who survived, but numerous other Britons, who had embraced the Christian doctrines, took refuge in the island. Prior to the time of St. Dubricius, this was probably a retreat of the Culdees, the first religious recluses in Britain, for whose secret worship of the Almighty its retired situation was peculiarly auspicious. Before the death of St. Dubricius, a monastery was founded in the island, probably by the monks who joined him after the massacre at Bangor, and dedicated to St. Mary, which subsequently became more eminent for its sanctity than for the extent of its endowments. In the reign of Edward II., a petition was, according to the Sebright manuscripts, presented to that monarch by the abbot, complaining of exaction on the part of the sheriff of Carnarvon, which procured redress. The monastery continued to flourish till the dissolution, at which time its revenue amounted to £58. 6. 2. There are only some small portions of the abbey remaining: the site was granted by Edward VI. to Sir Thomas Seymour, and afterwards to the Earl of Warwick. The island, now the property of Lord Newborough, is two miles and a half in length, and one and a half in breadth. From the violence of the current which runs through the sound, it obtained the British name Ynys Enlli, or the island in the current, and by the Saxons it was, from its being a favourite retreat of the bards, named Bardsey, or the island of the bards. The shores and sand-banks in this part of the channel render the navigation exceedingly dangerous, and numerous vessels have been lost: to prevent the recurrence of similar disasters, a lighthouse, with a flashing light, was erected on the island, in 1821, and lighted for the first time on the 24th of December in that year. The tower is a substantial and handsome square structure, seventy-four feet high, surmounted by a lantern ten feet high; and, being built on an elevation sixty-two feet above the level of the sea, the light is one hundred and forty-six feet above high water mark at spring tides. The south side of the island being the first headland that appears in navigating the channel, the erection of this lighthouse became an object of the greatest importance, and its completion has been attended with the utmost benefit to the numerous vessels connected with the port of Liverpool.

**BARELAND**, a joint township with BORVA, in the parish of OLD RADNOR, liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (S. W.) from Presteign, containing, with the town-

ship of Evenjobb, 369 inhabitants. It is situated on the border of Herefordshire, and is passed on the west, at the distance of about half a mile, by that remarkable work of the Saxons, Offa's Dyke. It is assessed jointly with the township of Evenjobb for the support of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £228. 12.

**BARMELE**, a township in the parish of HAWARDEN, hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, containing 115 inhabitants. .

**BARMOUTH (ABER-MAW)**, a small sea-port and market town, in the parish of LLANABER, hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 10½ miles (W. by S.) from Dôlgeley, and 222 (W.N.W.) from London. The population is returned with the parish. The present name of this place is an Anglicism of the original name Aber Maw, denoting its situation at the mouth of the river Maw, or Mawddach, and was adopted in 1768, at a meeting of the masters of vessels belonging to the port, when, in consideration of the increase of the shipping, it was deemed expedient to have an English name inscribed upon the sterns of the vessels. The town is beautifully situated on the northern side of the river, at the point where it pours its waters into Cardigan bay: the æstuary of the Maw, which forms its port, is a mile in breadth at high water. The beach is a fine smooth sand, extending from the harbour northward to Traeth Artro, where the small river Artro falls into the sea, and is peculiarly adapted to the purpose of sea-bathing, for which the water of the bay is still more efficacious than on other parts of the coast, owing to the frequent agitation of the tides, which in St. George's channel are violent, and dash furiously on the rocks that line this part of the coast. The air is rendered mild and salubrious by the situation of the town at the base and on the acclivities of high hills, which shelter it from the north and north-east winds. The view from the beach is strikingly magnificent: the hills on the opposite shores of Carnarvonshire are seen in the distance towards the west, and towards the north the view of the sea is bounded by lofty mountains, apparently forming majestic ramparts for the defence of the coast, and beyond which, in clear weather, may be seen the peak of Snowdon, towering above the rest. The appearance of the town, as viewed from the sea, is peculiarly romantic: the houses, rising in successive tiers from the base nearly to the summit, are scattered along the brow of the mountain, which is a barren rock, and assume a character singularly picturesque. On the banks of the river is found a profusion of scurvy grass, the efficacy of which, in conjunction with the benefit of sea-bathing, is supposed to have originally made Barmouth a place of resort for invalids; and the salubrity of the air, the fineness of the beach, the beauty of the surrounding scenery, and the varied and interesting excursions which the environs afford, have contributed to render it a place of fashionable resort during the summer months, and to raise it to an eminent rank among the watering-places on this part of the coast. There is an excellent hotel, provided with every accommodation, to which a capacious boarding-house is attached; and numerous respectable lodging-houses have been erected for the accommodation of families. Warm and cold sea water baths have been constructed by the proprietor of the hotel, by whose exertions many improve-



ments have been made, and are now in progress, in the town: opposite to the hotel is also a billiard-room, erected by the same gentleman; and assemblies are held at the hotel during the season. Among the interesting excursions in the neighbourhood are, a pleasing ride to Harlech castle, about ten miles to the north of the town, a great part of which is over the fine sands that stretch along the coast; and the ride from Barmouth to Dôlgelley, about the same distance towards the east, which comprehends a finer range of varied scenery, and of interesting and magnificent objects, than can be found within the same distance, either in this or perhaps in any other country: the road is conducted along the slope of a vast mountain, which impends over it for about two miles, and on the opposite side is skirted by the river, which forms a small arm of the sea, and at high water reflects the masses of barren rock which rise from its steep banks, occasionally interspersed with hanging woods, and varied with spots of luxuriant verdure. Beyond this point, the road winds beautifully through the lower hills, at a small distance from the river, which is seen through the different openings, partly concealed by intervening eminences, and sometimes expanding into a broad lake, from the margin of which, on either side, rise lofty and abrupt promontories, some of them rugged and barren, others half clothed with purple heath, and others again richly wooded. The banks of the river are occasionally enlivened by a few scattered rural dwellings, erected on the acclivities, at a great height above its channel; and on the opposite side, several rivulets, descending from the mountain with impetuosity, and after rains swelled into torrents, discharge themselves into the river. In the back ground, towering above the mountains which bound the view, is seen the lofty Cader Idris, on the other side of Dôlgelley. Throughout the whole of this beautiful ride the most pleasing and the most sublime features of landscape are strikingly grouped, and the most interesting varieties are beautifully combined. The waterfalls in the neighbourhood of Dôlgelley, and the Druidical remains on the road to Harlech, are objects of great attraction, and are deservedly admired.

Barmouth is a creek to the port of Aberystwith. Prior to the late war with France, the inhabitants carried on a commercial intercourse with Ireland, Spain, and Italy; but the trade is now principally coastwise, and consists chiefly in the exportation of timber, poles for collieries, bark, copper and lead ore, black jack, manganese, turnery, webs, and slates; and in the importation of corn, flour and meal, coal, limestone, American and Baltic timber, hides, and grocery. The harbour is formed by the mouth of the river Maw being partially closed by a small island, called Ynys y Brawd, or the Friar's Island, and a gravel beach to the south: this island defends it from the billows of the ocean, and anciently afforded pasturage for sheep and cattle, but, owing to the shifting of the sands, a great part is now inundated. The entrance is rendered somewhat difficult and dangerous, in consequence of these sands, the principal of which are the banks called the North and South Bars; so that vessels of considerable burden can only enter and depart at spring tides. In the year 1802, the harbour was greatly improved by the erection of a small pier, or embankment of stone, under the authority of an act of parliament, and at a total ex-

pense of £1660, by which the depth of water was increased, and the loading and unloading of vessels considerably facilitated: at the same time a new quay was also constructed. A buoy has been laid down upon each of the bars, and a beacon has been erected near the pier; so that the natural obstacles opposed to the growth of the commerce of this port have been in a great measure removed. The river Maw, over which there is a ferry at this place, is navigable for boats under twenty tons' burden to within two miles of Dôlgelley. The sea has made considerable encroachment on this part of the coast: to the north of the town there was formerly a verdant plain, about half a mile long, and a quarter of a mile broad, now entirely covered by its waters, and over which passed the line of road which has since been cut along the rocky elevations to the right. Ship-building and the tanning of leather are carried on here, the latter to a considerable extent. A great quantity of peat is obtained in a neighbouring turbary, through which a canal has been cut, walled on each side with stone, by means of which and the river Maw this species of fuel is conveyed in vessels either to Barmouth or Dôlgelley. Here are two weekly markets, on Tuesday and Friday; and fairs are held on Shrove-Monday, Whit-Monday, October 7th, and November 21st. In 1830, a chapel of ease was erected, at an expense of £2000: it is a neat cruciform structure, in the later style of English architecture, containing four hundred and seventy sittings, half of which are free, in consideration of a grant of £300 from the Incorporated Society for building, enlarging, and repairing churches and chapels. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, to which are attached Sunday schools, supported by subscription. A branch establishment, belonging to the Merchants' Hospital in London, was established here, in 1828.

BARRY, a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (S. W.) from Cardiff, containing 72 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the shore of the Bristol channel, by which it is bounded on the south, and comprises but a small tract of country, of which the surface is pleasingly diversified and richly ornamented with woods of luxuriant growth, and thriving coppices of underwood. The surrounding scenery is generally pleasing, and the views extending over the channel and the adjacent country are interesting and extensive. The soil, though various, is in general fertile and productive, and the inhabitants are principally employed in agriculture. The living is a rectory, not in charge, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of R. Jones, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Nicholas. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £28. 13.

BARRY ISLAND, in the parish of BARRY, hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (S. W. by S.) from Cardiff. The population is returned with the parish. This small islet, situated in a sandy bay of the Bristol channel, is separated from the main land only by a narrow isthmus, which is dry at low water: it is about one mile and a half in circumference, and comprises about three hundred acres of land, let as one farm, but chiefly in a wild state of heath and warren, abounding with rabbits, and



producing only a scanty herbage for a few sheep and cattle. Lead-ore and calamine are stated to have been formerly obtained among the limestone of which the island consists. It is supposed to have derived its name from St. Baruch, a disciple of Gísalch, who was interred here in the year 700, and, in later times, was in the possession of the family of de Barri, one of the most distinguished members of which was Giraldus de Barri, otherwise, Cambrensis, who was born at Manorbeer, in the county of Pembroke, where the remains of their castle may still be seen; some of the descendants of this family afterwards settled in Ireland, and became ennobled. Leland describes it as bearing "very good Corne, Grasse, and sum Wood;" and says, "There ys no Dwelling in the Isle, but ther is in the midle of it a fair litle Chapel of S. Barrok, wher much Pilgrimage was usid." Since his time a house has been erected, as a residence for the farmer, which is fitted up in summer for the reception of persons desirous of enjoying in retirement the salutary pleasure of sea-bathing. On the western side of the island, opposite to the ruins of Barry castle, are faint vestiges of a similar structure, and of two ancient chapels, in one of which the hermit St. Baruch was interred. Towards the southern side, at a place called Nell's Point, there is a well, much resorted to on Holy Thursday by females, who, having washed their eyes with the water, each drop a pin into it, the memorial of some ancient custom, or offering to the presiding saint. Giraldus Cambrensis, in his description of the island, gives an account of a small cavity in a rock near the entrance to it, from which, on applying the ear, proceeded a noise resembling that of blacksmiths at work, the blowing of bellows, strokes of hammers, grinding of tools, and roaring of furnaces; and is at a loss to conjecture its cause, as the same sounds were heard at low water, as at the ebb and flow of the tide, which might produce this effect by the influx of the waters under the cavities of the rocks. Modern writers, however, have not been able to discover any cavity whence these subterraneous noises issue, and the phenomenon, if it ever existed except in a fanciful imagination, exists no longer.

**BATTLE**, a parish in the hundred of MERTHYR-CYNOG, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  miles (N.W. by W.) from Brecknock, containing 192 inhabitants. This place, though traditionally said to have derived its name from a battle, in which the last of the Brechinian princes, Bleddyn ab Maenyrch, was defeated and slain by Bernard de Newmarch, is, with greater probability, supposed to have been so called in honour of the monastery of Battle, in the county of Sussex, to which abbey the priory of Brecknock was made a cell by its founder Bernard de Newmarch, the whole, or greater part, of this parish having belonged to the latter priory. Prior to the commencement of the fourteenth century, it was a hamlet in the parish of St. John the Evangelist, in the town of Brecknock, in the church of which the inhabitants have still a chapel, to which they resorted for divine service prior to the erection of their church, and in which they still occasionally bury their dead. The village is situated near the river Yscir, which falls into the Usk at Aberyscir; and the neighbourhood, in which are several neat villas and handsome seats, abounds with romantically beautiful and richly varied scenery. Pennoyre, the seat of John Lloyd Vaughan Watkins, Esq.,

is a handsome modern residence, surrounded by a very extensive demesne, of which the grounds are laid out with appropriate taste: the approach is by an avenue of great length, which is not yet completed: the views from the house are extensive, and comprehend an expanse of scenery which is at once superb and sublime: through a small vista on the east are seen the village of Llandew, and Peytyn Gwŷn, the latter, in the early part of his lifetime, the residence of the celebrated Sir David Gam; and in the back ground are the Black mountains, in the direction of Talgarth. On the west is a fine view of the beautiful Vale of Usk and the grounds above Penpont, beyond which is Abercamlais, skirted behind by the mountains of Llywel and Devynock. The view from the south is richly magnificent; nearly opposite to the house is the knoll of Venny-Vâch, luxuriantly clothed with wood, beyond which the precipitous and majestic summits of the Beacons lift their aspiring heads. The appearance of the Beacons, which from this spot are seen to great advantage, is always interesting, though varying according to the state of the atmosphere: in fine weather the whole outline may be distinctly traced, in all the irregularity of its extent; and in cloudy or rainy weather, the clouds, which are continually hovering over, or breaking on, their summits, assume an appearance indescribably beautiful. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Trustees of the late John Browne, Esq.: there is neither parsonage nor glebe attached to the living. The church, dedicated to St. Cynog, is supposed to have been built by the prior and convent of St. John's, Brecknock, at the commencement of the fourteenth century, when it first became parochial: it is a small unadorned edifice, situated on an eminence above the Yscir, commanding a fine view of one reach of the Usk, with the wood of Venny-Vâch in front, and the beautiful plantations of Penpont and Abercamlais, fringing the slopes down to the very margin of the river, in the western horizon: the east window, for the repair of which the sum of twelvepence was bequeathed in 1573, is in the later style of English architecture: the sacramental cup, on which the letters W. P. D., and the date 1576 are engraved, is supposed to be the oldest in the county. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported by subscription. In the neighbourhood are several objects, the names of which are supposed to allude to the battle before mentioned: these are Heol y Cymry, "the Welshmen's lane;" Cwm gwŷr y gad, "the wood of the vale of battle;" and Fynon Pen Rhŷs, or "the well of Rhŷs' head," near which the unfortunate Rhŷs ab Tewdwr, who had just escaped from the battle of Hîrwaun Wrgan, after being defeated by Robert Fitz-Hamon, is said to have lost his head: there is also a *maen hîr*, or long upright stone, situated to the south of the church; and the remains of a Roman encampment, where fragments of military weapons and several coins have been found, are discernible. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £88. 15.

**BAUSELEY**, a township in that part of the parish of ALBERBURY which is in the lower division of the hundred of DEYTHUR, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (N. E. by E.) from Welshpool, containing 365 inhabitants. This township, situated on the bor-



der of Shropshire, separately maintains its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £105. 15.

**BAYDEN**, a chapelry in the parish of **LLANGONOYD**, hundred of **NEWCASTLE**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. W. by N.) from Bridgend, containing 167 inhabitants. This chapelry is also called **Lower Llangonoyd**: it contains some well-wooded enclosures on the southern declivity of an extensive common. The chapel, which is supposed to have been a private one, is now in ruins. There is a small charitable bequest for such poor persons as do not receive parochial relief. This place separately maintains its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £45. 3.

**BAYVILL**, a parish in the hundred of **KEMMES**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 3 miles (E. N. E.) from Newport, containing 160 inhabitants. This small parish, which is situated in the northern part of the county, and within a short distance of the coast, is intersected by a tributary stream, which rises to the north of the church, and falls into the river **Nevern** near its influx into the sea at **Newport bay**. The living is a discharged vicarage, consolidated with that of **Moylegrove**, in the archdeaconry of **Cardigan**, and diocese of **St. David's**, rated in the king's books at £5, and endowed with £800 royal bounty. The church is dedicated to **St. Andrew**. There is a place of worship for **Independents**. The poor are supported by an average annual assessment amounting to £24. 5.



Arms.

**BEAUMARIS**, a sea-port, borough, market town, and chapelry, having exclusive jurisdiction, in the parish of **LLANDEGVAN**, locally in the hundred of **Tyndaethwy**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**, 8 miles (N. N. E.) from **Bangor**, and 249 (N. W. by W.) from **London**, containing 2497 inhabitants. This place, which is the county town of **Anglesey**, was anciently called **Porth Wgyr**: it derives its present name from its situation in a fine open flat, formerly marshy, but now a fertile plain, on the western shore of the **Menai strait**, near its junction with the **Irish sea**, where it expands into a good roadstead, called **Beaumaris Bay**. For some centuries prior to the erection of the present town, which owes its origin and progress to the castle subsequently built here by **Edward I.**, **Beaumaris** had attained a considerable degree of importance, and was distinguished as one of the three principal ports of the **Isle of Britain**. In 818, a sanguinary engagement took place in the immediate neighbourhood, between the **Welsh** and the **West Saxons**, the latter led by their king **Egbert**, who, having subdued the country as far as **Snowdon**, took possession of the **Isle of Mona**, which was henceforward called by the **English** **Angles-ey**, or **Anglesey**, signifying "the **Englishmen's Isle**." But the **Welsh** sovereign, **Mervyn Vrych**, continually on the alert to recover his possessions and repel the invaders, carried on a desultory and successful warfare; and **Egbert** and his **Saxon** forces, unable to contend with that valiant chieftain and with the severities of a hard winter, abandoned the island, and returned into his own kingdom.

In 1096, **Hugh Lupus**, **Earl of Chester**, and **Roger de Montgomery**, **Earl of Shrewsbury**, entering into a confederacy, united their forces, and carried slaughter and devastation through the whole of **North Wales**; and, having landed a powerful army at **Cadnant**, they advanced against this town, of which they made themselves masters. To secure their conquests, they erected, in the immediate neighbourhood, the fortress of **Llewiniog**, or **Aberllienawg**, by means of which, in conjunction with the castle of **Bangor**, they commanded the whole of the **Menai strait**, and reduced the islanders to the lowest state of vassalage and degradation. But their career of usurpation and tyranny was interrupted by the unexpected arrival of **Magnus**, son of **Harold**, **King of Norway**, whose landing was opposed by the confederate earls; but **Magnus**, who was standing upon the prow of his ship, called to his side an expert archer, and both discharged their arrows at the **Earl of Shrewsbury**, who, in complete armour, was standing on the shore, and an arrow entering his brain through the eye which was undefended by the vizor of his helmet, he fell dead on the spot. The **Earl of Chester** was soon after driven from the island, and compelled to retreat to **Bangor**, where he for some time fixed his abode, carrying on a desultory warfare with the inhabitants of **Anglesey**, whom he annoyed with frequent aggressions, which led only to slight skirmishes. From this period nothing of historical importance is recorded of this place, till the time of **Edward I.**, when that monarch, having reduced the whole of **Wales** under his authority, and erected the splendid castles of **Carnarvon** and **Aberconway**, found himself still unable to retain quiet possession of his newly-acquired dominions, and exposed to continual insurrections of the native princes and chieftains. The **Isle of Anglesey** at this time was the principal rendezvous of all the native chiefs, who, notwithstanding their formal submission to the authority of **Edward**, were constantly endeavouring to throw off the **English yoke**. **Llewelyn**, **Prince of North Wales**, and after him **Madock**, his illegitimate son, made this the theatre of their several insurrections for this purpose; and **Edward** saw the impossibility of putting an end to these, while **Anglesey**, without an **English** garrison, afforded such facility for combinations, which threatened the stability of his government in **Wales**. He therefore found it necessary to erect a castle, equal in strength and importance to those which he had previously built at **Carnarvon** and **Aberconway**, and to place in it a formidable garrison, to counteract the efforts of the unsubdued spirit of the **Welsh**. For this purpose he selected **Porth Wgyr**, which at that time had acquired the appellation of **Bonovr**, and was peculiarly adapted from its situation to command the island; and, from the low site on which he built it, **Edward** gave to the castle the name of **Beaumaris**. The ground on which the fortress was erected being private property, **Edward** gave to the owners other lands in exchange for it, of equal or superior value; and its low situation on a flat on the sea-shore afforded the opportunity of surrounding it with a deep fosse, which might at any time be filled from the sea, and of cutting a canal by which vessels might deliver their cargoes under the walls of the castle.

This fortress was completed in the year 1296, and in the same year **Edward** incorporated the inhabitants of the town by charter, investing them with valuable and



important privileges, and appointing the constable of the castle to be also captain of the town. Most writers state that the town owes its origin to the erection of this castle; but, from reference to the records of the corporation, it appears that it must have attained some degree of importance prior to that era, and probably Edward, who, after the completion of the castle, surrounded the town with walls and made considerable additions to it as a fortified place, may, from that circumstance, have been regarded as its founder. The first governor appointed to the command of the castle was Sir William Pickmore, a Gascon, with an annual salary of forty marks, afterwards increased to £40; and, according to the Calendar of the patent rolls in the Tower, published by the commissioners of the public records, the custody of the castle was granted for life, by Richard II., to Gronow ab Tudor, and afterwards by Henry IV., together with the whole county and dominion of Anglesey, to the renowned Henry Percy, surnamed Hotspur. The garrison, which usually consisted of twenty-four men, were frequently involved in disputes with the inhabitants of the town, and, in the reign of Henry VI., a sanguinary conflict took place between them, in which Davydd ab Evan ab Howel and many others were killed. The maintenance of the castle was found extremely burdensome to the country, and, in consequence of continued complaints of the general misconduct of the men, the garrison was withdrawn in the reign of Henry VII., with the exception only of the governor, Sir Rowland Villeville, who was continued in his office of constable of the castle. From this time the castle was without a garrison, till the year 1642, when Thomas Cheadle, deputy of the Earl of Dorset, then constable, placed in it a body of men and supplies of ammunition, in order to retain possession of it for the king during the civil war, which now threatened to become general. The year following, Thomas Bulkeley, Esq., soon after created Lord Bulkeley, succeeded to the governorship of the castle; and his son, Col. Bulkeley, and several gentlemen of the county, held it for the king till 1646, when it was surrendered on honourable terms to General Mytton. Charles' subsequent captivity produced, in 1648, together with partial insurrections in other parts of the country, that general revolt of the inhabitants of Anglesey, which is more fully noticed in the article on that county, and which gave rise to the parliamentary expedition for the reduction of this island. As soon as the parliamentary forces, under the command of General Mytton, appeared on Penmaen-Mawr, the greatest demonstrations of defiance were made by the inhabitants of this place, by whom they were desecrated from Beaumaris Green; but, after a slight skirmish near Cadnant, with Major Hugh Pennant's troop of horse, General Mytton advanced with his forces, without further opposition, to Orsedd Migin, where they held a rendezvous the morning after their landing, and whence they marched immediately upon Beaumaris, by way of Red Park, and drew up in order of battle upon the hill. The islanders, commanded by Col. Bulkeley and Col. Roger Whiteley, drew up in the fields below the hill, assisted by the town's company, commanded by Captain Sanders. The parliamentary forces began the attack, but were resolutely repulsed by the town's company, and at the same time charged by the cavalry; but the rest of the infantry on the side of the royalists soon fled in

disorder, and the remainder being overpowered by numbers, and the town being closely pressed, the islanders were dispersed, and the royalist commanders, with most of the officers, retired into the castle. Captain Lloyd, of Penhênllŷs, who had been ordered to defend the church, locked his men within it, and ran away, taking the key with him; but the men, notwithstanding, climbed upon the roof and the steeple, and, firing upon the assailants, killed a considerable number, among whom were three of the parliamentary officers. General Mytton, having at length entered the town, immediately despatched a messenger to the castle, to demand the persons of Colonels Bulkeley and Whiteley, threatening, unless they were given up to him, to put to death all the prisoners he had taken in the course of the day, about four hundred in number; and these officers, to prevent the effusion of blood, immediately surrendered themselves, and remained prisoners at the Old Place, in Beaumaris, the seat of the Bulkeley family, till they were ransomed. The garrison, unable to withstand the superior force of the enemy, soon afterwards capitulated on honourable terms; and General Mytton, who was appointed governor by the parliament, made Captain Evans his deputy-constable of the castle, and lieutenant-governor of the town. After the death of General Mytton, the constablenesship was given to Hugh Courtney, who was succeeded in that office by Colonel John Jones, a zealous puritan, and one of the parliamentary commissioners for the reduction of the island; and his successor, Sir John Carter, of Kinmael, in the county of Denbigh, who received his appointment from General Monk, held it till the Restoration, when Viscount Bulkeley, who had been ennobled, in reward for his sufferings and attachment to the royal cause, was appointed to that office, which was held by his descendants till the death of the last Lord Viscount Bulkeley, in 1822.

The town consists of several streets, of which that leading to the castle is spacious, and contains some handsome houses. Considerable improvements have been made within the last few years, among which may be noticed the levelling, widening, and paving of the streets, and the erection of several handsome modern buildings, both in the town and neighbourhood; and others are now in progress, which, when completed, will render Beaumaris one of the most elegant towns in the principality. A new line of road, leading from Bangor ferry to Beaumaris, was constructed in 1805, by Lord Viscount Bulkeley, which, passing through the woods and plantations of Baron Hill, that nobleman's seat, at a considerable elevation above the shores of the Menai, and continued for near five miles in length, forms one of the most picturesque drives in the country. This road was thrown open to the public in the following year, since which time it has been extended to the Menai bridge at one extremity, and connected at the other with a recently-formed entrance into the town of Beaumaris. The ancient walls by which the town was defended are, in several parts, still remaining entire; but, on the side towards the sea, a considerable portion was taken down during the summer of 1831, in order to furnish materials for building a new hotel, and for completing other improvements. In front of the town is the fine open bay called Beaumaris Roads, formed by the bold curvature of the strait, the shores of which are



here composed of a fine, firm, level sand, affording a pleasant marine promenade, much frequented by the inhabitants, and by the numerous visitors, who, during the summer season, resort to this place for the purpose of sea-bathing. Warm and cold baths have been erected, and bathing-machines are ranged along the beach. The delightful situation of the town, the salubrity of the air, and the numerous objects of grandeur, beauty, and interest, which impart to the surrounding scenery a charming variety, and combine in forming a splendid and richly diversified landscape, have made Beaumaris the favourite residence of many families during the summer season, and contributed to render it one of the most fashionable bathing-places in North Wales. The view from the Green is one of the most extensive and magnificent in the principality. Among the numerous striking objects which it embraces are, the Irish sea, the noble æstuary of the Menai strait, Beaumaris Roads, the city of Bangor, the suspension bridge, Port Penrhyn; the village, church, and waterfall of Aber; the stately castle, park, and grounds of Penrhyn; Puffin Island; Penmon Point; the priory of Penmon, and the friary of Llanvaes; Great Orme's Head, the summit of Penmaen-Mawr, and the other stupendous mountains of Carnarvonshire; the castles of Beaumaris and Llienog, the luxuriant plantations of Baron Hill, and other seats in the vicinity; and numerous other objects, which contribute to enrich and beautify the scene. A considerable portion of the bay is left dry when the tide is out; and this tract, which extends for several miles along the opposite coast, is called the Lavan Sands, and is supposed to have been once inhabited, prior to its being inundated by an encroachment of the sea, in the sixth century. Its ancient name, Traeth Lavan, or Traeth Wylovain, of which the present is a contraction, signifies the place of weeping, and appears to have reference to the lamentations of the inhabitants when their lands were overwhelmed. Over these sands is a ferry to Aber, in Carnarvonshire, a distance of four miles: it originally belonged to the crown, and, in the reign of Edward II., an order was given to Robert Power, chamberlain of North Wales, to inspect the state of the boat, which was then out of repair, and either to repair it, if practicable, at the expense of the bailiwick, or to build a new boat, at the expense of the crown. It appears that the inhabitants paid annually into the Exchequer the sum of thirty shillings, for the privilege of this ferry, which was granted to the corporation, by charter of Elizabeth, in the fourth year of her reign. These sands, at low water, are firm and safely passable on foot; but, during certain intervals of the tides, they are extremely hazardous, and consequently great precaution is necessary, in order to pass them with safety. The passage may be effected in the interval between two hours before, and two hours after, low water, but at other times it is attended with difficulty and danger, and several persons have perished in the attempt. During foggy weather, the great bell of Aber is rung to direct passengers to the point of their destination, from which they would be otherwise in danger of wandering, and probably of being overwhelmed by the influx of the tide.

The port, which is the principal in North Wales, has jurisdiction over those of Aberconway, Amlwch, Barmouth, Carnarvon, Holyhead, and Pwllheli, and all other harbours in this part of the principality are creeks

within its limits. The situation of the port is extremely advantageous for commerce: its central position, with respect to the whole of North Wales; its intimate connexion with Liverpool and the principal manufacturing districts, and its proximity to the Irish coast, afforded it every facility of extending its trade; but, since the growth and increase of Liverpool, its commercial importance has materially declined, and at present its chief trade arises from the importation of the supplies requisite for the mineral works of the island, and the exportation of their produce: the principal articles of importation are coal, timber, and general merchandise; and the chief exports are copper-ore, marble, and slates. The number of registered vessels belonging to it is three hundred and eighty-nine, of the aggregate burden of twenty-two thousand and seventy-six tons. In the year ending January 5th, 1831, five hundred and sixty vessels entered inwards, and seven hundred and ninety-five cleared outwards, at this port. A regular and expeditious communication by steam-packets has been established between Beaumaris and Liverpool, Carnarvon, and Dublin. The harbour is accessible, at low water, to vessels of four hundred tons' burden, which can approach close to the walls of the town; and the bay affords good anchorage and secure shelter to numerous vessels which occasionally ride here in safety during the severest gales. Extensive sea walls have been constructed for the protection of the pier, and spacious and commodious quays and warehouses have been erected, with every requisite accommodation for facilitating the business of the port. The custom-house, which is situated on the Green, near the water's edge, is a commodious building, well adapted to the purpose. The markets, which are abundantly supplied with corn and provisions, at a very moderate price, are held on Wednesday and Saturday; and four fairs for cattle, and various articles of general merchandise, are held annually on February 13th, Holy Thursday, September 19th, and December 19th.



Corporate Seal.

The inhabitants received their first charter of incorporation, in the same year in which the castle was completed, from Edward I., who conferred upon them considerable privileges, and assigned to the corporation the estates of four of the principal proprietors of land, whom he removed by exchange, on the erection of the castle, to be held by them *in capite*; and, among various other immunities, he granted them a free prison within the castle, with descent of property to their heirs, whether they died testate or intestate. The charter of Edward I. was confirmed and extended by one of Elizabeth, in the fourth year of her reign, under which the government is vested in a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, and twenty-one capital burgesses, assisted by a town-clerk, coroner, clerk of the market, water-bailiff, two serjeants at mace, two constables, and other officers. The mayor and bailiffs are annually chosen from among the capital burgesses by the corporation, on the Monday before the feast of St. Michael, and sworn into office on the Monday following; and, with



the exception of the recorder, who holds his office for life, all the other officers are appointed by the corporation at the same time. The elective franchise was conferred in the 27th of Henry VIII., and the first return was made in the 33rd of the same reign, in conjunction with Newborough, to which town the assizes and sessions for the county were removed in the reign of Henry VII., upon a false representation to this monarch, after they had been held at Beaumaris for two hundred and fifty years previously. In the second of Edward VI., Newborough was exempted from contributing to the support of a parliamentary representative, the privilege thus becoming limited to Beaumaris; and by statutes of the 2d and 3rd of this monarch, the great and quarter sessions, together with the county court, for Anglesey, were removed back to this town, after they had been held at Newborough for forty-five years. The burgesses of Newborough, nevertheless, still claimed a share in the return of the member for Beaumaris, which, however, they seem henceforward never to have exercised; and, in 1709, it was decided by the House of Commons, that this right was vested in the mayor, bailiffs, and capital burgesses of Beaumaris only. By the act for amending the representation of the people in England and Wales, recently passed, the newly created boroughs of Amlwch, Holyhead, and Llangvni now share with Beaumaris in the return of one member to parliament: the right of election is vested in the former constituency, who are resident within the limits of the borough, or within seven statute miles from the place where the poll is taken, if duly registered according to the provisions of the act; and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act demands: there are, within the town, about one hundred and ten houses of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, and some more within the borough, of which the commissioners for ascertaining the boundaries of boroughs, under the late act, were unable to obtain the exact number: the mayor is the returning officer. The freedom is obtained only by grant of the corporation. The mayor, recorder, and bailiffs, are justices of the peace, and exercise exclusive jurisdiction within the borough and liberties, which latter comprise, besides the chapelry of Beaumaris, the whole of the parish of Llanvaes, about one-half of that of Llaniestyn, and part of the parishes of Llanddona, Penmon, and Llanvihangel-Din-Sylwy. They hold quarterly courts of session for determining on all offences within the borough, except capital charges; and occasionally hold a court of record, for the determination of pleas and the recovery of debts to any amount, in which the mayor and bailiffs preside, assisted by the town-clerk, with power to issue process to hold to bail in all actions for debt, to any amount. The town-hall, erected by the corporation in 1790, and situated in Castle-street, nearly in the centre of the town, is a commodious and handsome building, containing on the basement story the public office, shambles, and market-house, above which are a noble room and other apartments, appropriated to the holding of the borough sessions and the transaction of municipal business, and occasionally to the holding of assemblies: the great

room, which is the most spacious in the county, is the most splendid ball-room in North Wales. Since the decline of Newborough, Beaumaris has been the county town of Anglesey, as it more anciently was, and the assizes and general quarter sessions for the county, and the election of knights for the shire, still take place here. The county-hall, erected in 1614, is a small edifice without any pretensions to architectural character, but recently much improved in its adaptation to the holding of the assizes and sessions, and the transaction of the public business of the county. The common gaol and house of correction for the county, a large and commodious building, erected in the year 1828, comprises twenty-three wards, six day-rooms, and six airing-yards; but the number of prisoners tried at the assizes and sessions is very inconsiderable, not amounting to more than four or five annually.

The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llandegvan, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, is a spacious and elegant structure, in the later style of English architecture, with a lofty square embattled tower crowned with crocketed pinnacles. It consists of a nave, chancel, and north and south aisles, and was greatly embellished in 1825, at considerable expense: each of the aisles is separated from the nave by an elegant range of lofty clustered columns and gracefully pointed arches; and the east window of the chancel is of elegant and elaborate design, and is embellished with some remains of beautiful ancient stained glass. The north aisle is called St. Mary's chapel, and the south St. Nicholas': in the former there is a beautiful altar-tomb, bearing recumbent figures of a knight and his lady, in white alabaster, removed from the priory of Llanvaes, on the dissolution of that house: the tomb is decorated with diminutive figures of monks and knights, finely sculptured, and with shields of armorial bearings; but the latter are so obliterated, that they afford no means of ascertaining the persons whose memory the tomb was intended to perpetuate. On the south side of the altar is a tablet to the memory of Sir Henry Sidney, Lord Deputy of Ireland, who died in 1586; Sir Anthony St. Leger, also Lord Deputy, and others; and above it is a mural monument, of black marble, in memory of Thomas, sixth son of Sir Julius Caesar, Master of the Rolls, who was rector of Llanrhuuddlad, in this county, and died in 1632. Near the castle was formerly situated an ancient chapel, or oratory, dedicated to St. Meugan, of which there are no vestiges. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The free grammar school was founded in 1609, by David Hughes, of Woodrising, in the county of Norfolk, who gave the house which he had lately built at Beaumaris for the use of a grammar school, and endowed it with all his lands in the county of Anglesey, for the payment of the salaries of the master and usher, for the maintenance of scholars in that establishment, and for keeping the building in repair; directing his trustees to appropriate the surplus in placing one or two of the scholars in either of the universities of Oxford or Cambridge, and in erecting an almshouse for eight indigent persons, who have two apartments each, an allowance of six shillings per week, and six yards of frieze annually on St. Thomas' day; three of the almsmen to



be chosen from the parish of Llantrisant, where the founder was born, two from that of Rhodogeidio, two from that of Llêchynvarwydd, and one from that of Ceidio; and after providing for these, if any thing remained, the founder directed that it should be distributed among the poor of the parish of Llantrisant. The founder's intentions respecting the forwarding of boys to the university, and otherwise, were carried into effect by the trustees, who paid £20 with every scholar who entered there, and also apprenticed several others, according to the state of the funds, till the year 1826, since which time the affairs of this charity have been under the investigation of the Court of Chancery, and the exhibitions and apprentice fees have been suspended. The present income is £600 per annum, out of which the salaries of the master, usher, and writing-master are paid: there are sixty boys on the foundation, who are gratuitously instructed in the classics and in writing and arithmetic, and are eligible to one of two fellowships founded in Jesus' College, Oxford, by Dr. Henry Rowland, Bishop of Bangor, in 1616; to certain exhibitions, of £10 per annum each for four years, founded by Dr. Lewis; and to others founded by Dr. Meyrick, in Jesus' College, Oxford, to all which boys from this school have the preference. A National school was founded in 1816, and the school-rooms, with houses for the master and the mistress, were built by subscription, at an expense of £550, on a plot of ground given by the late Lord Bulkeley, by whom, during his lordship's lifetime, it was supported; but since his decease, in 1822, it has been maintained by voluntary contributions, the principal of which is an annual donation of £30 by Sir R. B. Williams Bulkeley, Bart.: it is conducted in a most praiseworthy manner, and affords gratuitous instruction to one hundred and twenty boys and the same number of girls. Mrs. Elizabeth Gould, in 1780, bequeathed £50, directing the interest to be annually divided among aged widows, decayed housekeepers of Beaumaris; and there are several other charitable donations and bequests, which are judiciously distributed among the poor, according to the intention of the several benefactors. Of the numerous benevolent societies formed in this town, the most remarkable for the extent of its charitable benefactions is the Society of Ancient Druids, established here in 1772, and patronised by many of the principal nobility, clergy, and gentry of the neighbourhood. It consists of an Arch-Druid, and Sub-Druid, who are annually elected, and an unlimited number of brethren, who celebrate their anniversaries in September, and upon those occasions vote various sums of money for benevolent purposes. The principal of these are donations to the hospitals, infirmaries, and dispensaries in the neighbouring counties both of Wales and England; premiums for apprenticing poor boys; rewards for humane and meritorious exertions in saving from destruction the lives and property of shipwrecked seamen, and for various other laudable objects; to which beneficent purposes various sums, amounting to nearly £2000, have been appropriated from their funds within the last thirty years.

The site and remains of the once important castle of Beaumaris were purchased from the crown in 1816, and are now the property of Sir R. B. Williams Bulkeley, Bart., who has made great improvements in the

grounds, by laying out walks, ornamented with plantations and shrubberies, and has thrown them open to the public as a promenade. The splendid remains of the castle, though less conspicuous from the lowness of its situation than those of Carnarvon and Aberconway, prove that it was scarcely inferior in beauty and extent to either of those structures: it consisted of two courts, the outer comprehending a spacious quadrilateral area defended by fourteen circular towers, of which those at the angles are much larger than the rest, and having the principal entrance towards the sea, flanked by two strong round towers, between which is a pointed archway defended by a portcullis. Near this entrance is a long, narrow, advanced work, with a platform, called the Gunners' Walk, which was anciently carried over the moat by a lofty arch, still remaining, and near which is one of the iron rings anciently used for mooring the vessels that delivered their supplies under the castle walls. Within the outer wall, and equidistant from it in every part, is the inner quadrangle, one hundred and ninety feet in length and nearly the same in breadth, surrounded by the principal range of buildings, which are much loftier than those of the outer court, and defended by ten circular towers, of which those at the angles are also more massive than those in the centre, and are in nearly a perfect state. Within this quadrangle are the principal state apartments: on the north-west side is the great hall, seventy feet in length and twenty-four in width, of lofty dimensions, and lighted by a noble range of five lofty windows, embellished with tracery. To the east is the chapel, an elegant structure in the early style of English architecture, and nearly perfect: the roof is elaborately groined, and is supported on arched ribs, springing from clustered pilasters richly ornamented. The walls are embellished with a series of twenty-one elegantly canopied niches, between which are lancet-shaped windows of peculiar delicacy, and behind them are recesses gained in the thickness of the walls, and probably appropriated to the principal officers of the garrison, or to persons of rank residing at the castle. A narrow corridor, formed within the walls, is carried nearly round the whole building, with the exception of the north-west side, affording communication with the principal state apartments, which, though unequal in splendour to those of Carnarvon and Aberconway, display abundant evidence of departed grandeur. Within the area are a tennis-court and a bowling-green, which are open to the public; and the pleasantness of the situation, and the taste with which the grounds have been laid out, render this place a favourite resort of the inhabitants of the town. Baron Hill, the seat of Sir R. B. Williams Bulkeley, Bart., originally built, in 1618, by Sir Richard Bulkeley, a distinguished personage in the reign of James I., and afterwards much enlarged and improved by its late possessor, under the superintendence of the late Mr. Samuel Wyatt, architect, is beautifully situated on an eminence above the town, to which it is open in the front, from which an extensive lawn slopes gradually towards it, and is sheltered in the rear and on each side by extensive woods of luxuriant foliage. The view from this mansion is justly esteemed one of the finest in the principality, extending over the bay of Beaumaris, with the grand opening of the Menai strait, bounded by a noble range of rocks and mountains, rising in the form of a vast amphi-

*H. L. J. asks in Arch. Camb. 1869 "Was it a purchase or was it only the granting of a lease by the Crown?"*



theatre, and including some of the principal mountains of Snowdon, whose summits of varied form soar in romantic grandeur above the surrounding heights, and whose verdant and well-cultivated bases slope gradually to the margin of the water. The great promontory of Penmaen-Mawr, and the vast rock of Llan-Dudno, or Great Orme's Head, of barren and rugged aspect, form a striking contrast to the milder features of the scenery in the neighbourhood of this noble mansion, and aid in producing that picturesque and pleasing variety which constitutes its superior richness and beauty. Within the grounds is the stone coffin in which the princess Joan, daughter of King John, and wife of Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, was interred in the priory of Llanvaes, from which place, after the dissolution of that establishment, it was removed, and, after lying neglected on a farm near the spot for many years, was brought by the late Lord Bulkeley, and placed under a temple which that nobleman erected in the park, in honour of her memory. Among the other seats in this neighbourhood may be enumerated Red Hill, the residence of W. W. Sparrow, Esq.; Hênllŷs, belonging to J. H. Hampton Lewis, Esq., anciently the seat of Gweirydd ab Rhŷs Gôch, one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales, and of his posterity until the conquest of Wales by Edward I., who removed them to Bôdlewyyddan, in the county of Flint, together with other ancient freeholders, by an exchange of property, granting their estates to the corporation; the Friary, the residence of Lady Williams; Plâs Llangoed, the seat of Mrs. Hughes; and Cadnant, the residence of J. Price, Esq. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £669. 10.

BEESTON, or BISTON, a township in that part of the parish of WREXHAM which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES,  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile (S. W.) from Wrexham, containing 106 inhabitants, who are assessed separately for the maintenance of their own poor, according to a regulation entered into in 1830.

BEGELLY (BUGELI), a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. by E.) from Narberth, on the road to Tenby, containing, with the chapelry of Williamston, which supports its own poor, 996 inhabitants. The substratum of the soil in this parish is coal, of excellent quality, and in great request for the drying of malt and hops by the proprietors of breweries and distilleries: it is chiefly procured by a company under Sir R. B. P. Philipps, Bart., and J. M. Childe, Esq., who are the chief proprietors of the soil, and receive one-sixth part, as their share of the produce: there are also some smaller proprietors, who exact one-fifth, and even one-fourth, part from those who work only on a limited scale. A railway has been commenced from the mines, leading over King's Moor to Saundersfoot, in the parish of St. Issels, which is now in progress, and which, when completed, will greatly contribute to promote the interests of the surrounding neighbourhood. Iron-ore is also found, both above and below the strata of coal, and, during the existence of the Pembrey Iron Company, was procured in great quantities and with considerable benefit to the proprietors; but, since the stoppage of those works, the search for it has been discontinued. The shale which is found with the coal exhibits many interesting specimens

of the fern and reed plants, and pyrites of iron have also been discovered. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £12. 19. 2., and in the patronage of Sir R. B. P. Philipps, Bart. The church is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a lofty tower, and is pleasantly situated near Begelly Hall, by the trees surrounding which it is partly concealed. The chapel of Williamston is a rude structure without a tower, standing in the hamlet of that name. The parsonage-house is situated on part of a stratum of coal, which has been wrought all round it, and, if the excavation had been continued, it would have endangered the stability of the building. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. Near the parsonage-house are the remains of a cromlech, which has been thrown down; and in its vicinity is a tumulus, supposed to have been raised to the memory of some unknown chieftain. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £84. 16.

BEGUILDY (BUGEILDY), a parish in the hundred of KNIGHTON, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. W. by W.) from Knighton, comprising the upper and lower divisions, and containing 1043 inhabitants, of which number, 591 are in the upper, and 452 in the lower, division. This parish is situated on the river Teme, and, towards the north, borders on the county of Montgomery: it is in general mountainous, but there is a long narrow tract of great fertility, affording good pasturage for cattle, and on the hills are fed vast numbers of sheep, which form the principal dependence of the farmers, very little of the land comparatively being in a state of tillage. The neighbourhood abounds with pleasing and picturesque scenery, and the higher grounds command extensive and finely varied prospects over the counties of Radnor, Montgomery, and Salop. Part of the borough of Cnwclas is within this parish, the remainder being in that of Heyop, and the court-house in which the burgesses of that place are elected is situated in the township of Beguildy. The parish comprises four townships, namely, Beguildy, Crûg y Byddar, Mudwalledd, and Pennant; which are distinct as regards the collection of the county stock and the repair of the roads, but are united for the maintenance of the poor. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 15. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, consists of a nave and chancel, but is not remarkable for any architectural character. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists at Velindre, in this parish. The free school is endowed with a rent-charge of £10, given by Lord Robert Wharton, on an estate called Maesgwynne, formerly the property of the noble family of Harley, but sold by the late Earl of Oxford. The Rev. John Davies, in 1741, bequeathed £100, now secured on a tenement called Pen y Garragl, to poor housekeepers of this parish; the Rev. Vavasour Griffiths, in 1741, bequeathed £20; and there are also some other charitable donations and bequests for distribution among the poor. Here are the remains of an ancient British fortification, said to have been occupied by the renowned Uthyr Pendragon; and at the foot of a hill is a place called the Bloody Field, where a battle is said to have been fought. On the south-western border



of the parish is the site of Cnwclas castle, on the summit of a conical artificial mound. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £363. 16.

**BERRIEW (ABER-IW)**, a parish partly in the hundred of CAWRSE, liberties of the borough of WELSHPOOL, but chiefly in the lower division of the hundred of NEWTOWN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (S. S. W.) from Welshpool, containing 2429 inhabitants. This place derives its name from being situated at the junction of the river Rhiw with the Severn, from which point the village is distant about three quarters of a mile, on the banks of the Rhiw, on the road between Welshpool and Newtown. The parish is very large, and wholly enclosed; the waste lands, amounting to about fifteen thousand acres, in the manor of Cedewain, having been allotted pursuant to an act obtained in 1796. Flannel is manufactured to a limited extent. The Montgomeryshire canal passes through the parish, and is carried over the Rhiw, near the village, by an aqueduct of four arches. The high grounds, especially the Byrwydd, about three miles north-west of the village, command very extensive and richly diversified prospects of the fertile vales of Severn, Montgomery, Salop, and Manavon, watered by their respective streams, and studded with numerous villages and mansions, and of the principal mountains in North Wales, Salop, &c. The village presents a cheerful and pleasing appearance, containing several good houses and neat white-washed cottages. The ancient mansion of Vaenor occupies an elevated situation in a park tolerably well wooded: it formerly belonged to the family of Price, an heiress of which being married to George Devereux, Esq., in the seventeenth century, it became the property of the Viscounts Hereford, but is now in the possession of Mrs. Winder, relict of the late John Winder, Esq. There are also several other genteel residences in the parish, among which are, Glân Severn, the property of W. Owen, Esq., a handsome stone edifice, situated among grounds beautifully laid out, through which the river Severn pursues a winding course; and Bôd Heilin, the seat of John Humphreys, Esq., occupying a romantic situation on the slope, and near the summit, of a hill, which is well wooded, and commands a delightful view of the vales of Severn and Montgomery. The petty sessions for the lower division of the hundred are held at Berriew on the first Saturday in every month.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £13. 6. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Beuno, is a neat modern structure with a square tower, surmounted with pinnacles. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Humphrey Jones, Esq., of Garthmael, by will dated February 26th, 1652, devised to trustees the rectory of Bettws, and certain lands and tenements, called Cwm Madoc Ucheldre, in the parish of Trêgynon, which he held as a security for the sum of £400 advanced on mortgage, for the foundation and endowment of a free school at Berriew, but, in the event of the mortgage being redeemed, the testator directed that the sum should be invested in the mortgage of other premises, for that purpose. This having taken place, the sum of £400 was, in 1754, together with £50 belonging to the poor, expended in the purchase of an estate, called Penarth, in the parish of

Llanvair, now producing about £70 per annum to the charity. The old school-house, being in a dilapidated state, was pulled down in 1819, and a neat and substantial structure was erected at an expense of £1400, defrayed partly from the funds of the charity, which had accumulated during a suspension of the school, and partly by subscription: at present about forty boys are instructed. Various minor bequests have also been made for the benefit of the poor, to be applied in the distribution of bread and clothes, and in apprenticing children. This is one of the parishes incorporated, by an act passed in the 32nd of George III., for the maintenance of their poor in a house of industry erected at Forden. In the township of Allt, between the road leading to Welshpool and the canal, there is a tumulus; and on the top of Cevn yr Allt are the remains of a British encampment: there is also an encampment near the road from Berriew to Castle Caer-Einion, in the township of Frith. Maen Beuno, a stone pillar bearing the name of the patron saint of the church, is still standing in the township of Berriew, between the road to Welshpool and the river Severn. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £996. 13.

**BERSHAM-DRELINCOURT**, a chapelry in that part of the parish of WREXHAM which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (W. by N.) from Wrexham, containing 1240 inhabitants. There are extensive paper-mills in this chapelry, situated upon the river Clywedog, affording employment to a considerable number of persons; and the whole of this district abounds with valuable and extensive mines of iron, lead, and coal, for working which several establishments have long been formed on a large scale. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £16 per annum private benefaction, £600 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The chapel, known by the local name of "Capel Madam," is situated at the south-western extremity of the township of Broughton. Attached to it is a school for the instruction, clothing, and maintenance of ten poor female children, founded in 1762, by Anne, the Hon. Dowager Viscountess Primerose, who endowed it with lands, &c., in the vicinity, under the superintendence of trustees, including the Bishop of St. Asaph, the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, and others. That celebrated relic of Anglo-Saxon antiquity, Wat's Dyke, passes in the vicinity, nearly in a direction from south to north, and is perfect throughout the whole of its course here. The inhabitants are assessed separately for the maintenance of their poor, pursuant to an arrangement made in 1830.

**BERWICK**, a hamlet in the parish of LLANELLY, hundred of CARNWALLON, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, containing 802 inhabitants. Here was formerly an ancient chapel, which is now in ruins.

**BERWYN**, a joint township with Croes, in the parish of TRÊGARON, upper division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3½ miles (E. by S.) from Trêgaron. The population is returned with Croes. In this wild and mountainous district is the small lake Llŷn Berwyn, from which issues a stream, called the Berwyn, which, after joining the Croes, falls into the Teivy, a little below the town of Trêgaron.



BETHGELART (BEDD-CELERT), a parish partly in the hundred of EIVIONYDD, Eivionydd division, and partly in that of ISGORVAI, Arvon division, of the county of CARNARVON, and partly in the hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 16 miles (S. E. by S.) from Carnarvon, and containing 777 inhabitants. This very extensive parish, anciently called Llan Ybor, derived its present name from a priory of Black canons, of the order of St. Gilbert, founded, according to some writers, about the year 1198, and dedicated to St. Mary, by Llewelyn the Great, in gratitude for the preservation of his infant son from the attack of a wolf, which, during the absence of the family upon a hunting excursion, had entered the house, and which his favourite greyhound Celert had killed, while attempting to seize the child in its cradle. According to the well-known legendary story, Llewelyn, on his return from the chase, perceiving the mouth of the dog stained with blood, hastened to the nursery, and finding the cradle overturned, and the floor streaming with blood, hastily concluded that his son had been killed by the hound, and instantly drew his sword and stabbed the faithful animal, while caressing his master. But, on removing the cradle, he found his child unhurt, and sleeping quietly by the side of the wolf, which the watchful Celert had slain. Stung with remorse, Llewelyn erected a tomb over the dog's grave, on which spot the conventual church was afterwards built; and from this circumstance the priory obtained the appellation of Bedd Celert, or "the Grave of Celert." But Mr. Rowlands has traced the existence of this monastic establishment to a period long anterior to the above, even prior to the reign of Owain Gwynedd, from whom it received an endowment of lands, &c., which was augmented by Llewelyn. The priory having been nearly destroyed by fire, about the year 1283, was repaired by Edward I., assisted by Anianus, Bishop of Bangor, who granted ample indulgences to all who should contribute towards the rebuilding of it; and in his edicts for this purpose, he describes it as being, with the exception of those of Bardsey and Bangor Iscoed, the oldest religious establishment in the principality. The priory flourished till the time of Henry VIII., who annexed it to the abbey of Chertsey, in the county of Surrey, and it was subsequently, together with that establishment, given by the same monarch to Bisham abbey, in the county of Berks: its revenue, at the dissolution, amounted to £69. 3. 8. There are no remains of the building, the materials of which are supposed to have been used in the erection or repair of the parish church; nor can its site be at present distinctly ascertained. All the lands in the county of Carnarvon, belonging to the priory, were granted to Robert and Henry Bodville, by Edward VI., in the second year of his reign.

The parish is situated in the heart of an extensive mountainous district, abounding with strikingly romantic and with grand and magnificent scenery, richly diversified with lofty mountains of various elevation and character, luxuriant vales, expansive lakes, woods, groves, and plantations of the richest verdure, and comprehending an almost endless variety of views and prospects of surpassing beauty and interest. Its limits reach to the summit of the towering Snowdon, including nearly the whole of its southern side and base, as well as the mountains Moel Hebog, Aran, Graig Gôch, and Myn-

ydd-Mawr, with part of Siabod, all of which, though secondary to Snowdon, are mountains of lofty elevation. The village, which is small, but in which a spacious and commodious inn has been built, for the accommodation of the increased number of persons who visit this interesting neighbourhood, is delightfully situated at the confluence of the rivers Glâslyn and Colwyn, which rise in the adjacent mountains, and consists only of a few scattered cottages, principally inhabited by shepherds, whose flocks feed upon the neighbouring mountains. To the north-west of it the road passes between the small lakes Llŷn y Cader and Llŷn y Dywerch, beyond which is the broad lake Llŷn Cawellyn, at the base of Mynydd-Mawr, a mountain of lofty and precipitous elevation, which in this part, receding in a semicircular curve, forms a bold and rugged barrier to this fine sheet of water, which is more than a mile and a half in length, and about three quarters of a mile broad: the water is beautifully transparent, and abounds with red char, a fish peculiar to mountain lakes. At the extremity of the lake, and upon a bold rocky precipice in the mountain, are the ruins of Castell Cidwm, a fortress erected by Cadwaladr, to defend this important pass into the regions of Snowdon, which from the earliest ages had been the secure retreat of the native Welsh, in cases of extreme danger, and the rallying point of their efforts in repelling the invaders of their country. To the west is the mountain pass called Drws y Coed, where are some productive copper mines, and beyond are two fine lakes adjoining each other, called Llŷniau Nantlle, from which spot is obtained a view of the summits of Snowdon, all of which are seen through a vista between the intervening mountains, with singular grandeur of effect. To the north-east of the village, an opening between the mountains forms the beautifully romantic pass of Nant Gwynant, memorable for the sanguinary battle which was fought between the forces of the Earl of Pembroke and those of Ieuan ab Robert, in the reign of Edward IV. Through this delightful vale, the name of which implies the vale of waters, passes the road to Capel Curig, extending for five or six miles through a continued succession of richly varied scenery, unsurpassed for picturesque beauty and sublimity. In some parts are seen alternately clear and expansive lakes, reflecting either the rugged and sterile precipices, or the richly wooded sides, of the lofty mountains by which they are enclosed; and luxuriant meadows and fertile plains, intersected by numerous rivulets; and in others craggy cliffs, over which the mountain torrent forms frequent cataracts, barren rocks, and the most dreary sterility. On the margin of Llŷn Gwynant, one of the principal lakes in this romantic vale, are the ruins of a small ancient chapel, called Capel Nant Gwynant, formerly belonging to Bethgelart; and not far distant is the isolated rocky eminence called Dinas Emrys, celebrated as the spot where Vortigern is said to have assembled his council of wise men, or magicians, in 449, and also as the residence of the renowned Merlin. The summit of this rock forms an extensive area, which is defended with walls of loose stones, and accessible only on one side: the entrance appears to have been guarded by two towers, and within the area are the foundations of circular buildings of loose stones, the walls of which are about five feet in thickness. The road to Capel Curig extends beyond the point of the mountain Sia-



bod, where it joins the pass of Llanberis, through which a road to Carnarvon was opened in 1831. To the south of the village is the pass of Pont Aber Glâslyn, the entrance to which is somewhat narrow, but becomes gradually more contracted by the approach of the mountains, leaving scarcely room for the river, which rushes with violence through its rocky channel. The scenery in this vale is rudely magnificent: the mountains rise to an amazing height, and towards the vale present a series of huge precipices, towering above each other at irregular intervals, and rugged masses of projecting cliffs, threatening every moment to detach themselves from their lofty heights, and fall into the vale. At the extremity of the pass is Pont Aber Glâslyn, a bridge of one arch, thirty feet in the span, thrown over a chasm of tremendous depth between two steep precipices, which here bounds the counties of Carnarvon and Merioneth, and forms the principal communication between them. This spot is celebrated as the place where the princes of Meirion received the sign of the cross from Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, when preaching the crusades throughout the principality. Near the bridge is a cataract, formed by a mountain torrent obstructed in its descent by shelving ledges of projecting rock. The lake Glâslyn, or the Blue Lake, so called from the transparency of its waters, is the source of the river of that name; and within the parish are numerous other lakes, besides those already described, among which may be noticed Llyn Cwmstrallyn, Llyn Dinas, Llyn Llydaw, Llyn yr Adar, and Llyn Duwaunydd. A little to the south of the village, and near Pont Aber Glâslyn, copper-ore has been found in great abundance, and mines of it have been worked for many years; but the copper was so intermixed with other ores, as to render it very difficult of separation with any advantage to the proprietors. About the year 1800, the high price of ore induced some adventurers to renew the works, from which great quantities of ore were obtained for some years; but they were again discontinued, and remained in a neglected state till 1819, when they were re-opened, and since that period many hundred tons have been procured annually. The principal mines are those of Drws y Coed, at the base of Mynydd-Mawr, in the district of Llyniau Nantlle, which afford employment to four hundred men: the ore obtained here is of very good quality, and is sent in great quantities, by means of a rail-road leading from the works, eight miles in length, to the wharfs at Carnarvon, from which it is shipped to Swansea, Staffordshire, and other parts of England. Fairs are held here on August 18th and September 23rd and 27th.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Mrs. Priestly. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a lofty and spacious structure, containing some portions in the early style of English architecture: in the north wall are two lofty sharply pointed arches, which appear to have communicated formerly with some other building, probably a chantry, and at the east end is a good lancet-shaped window of three lights; these are evidently of much older date than the rest of the building, being probably parts of the ancient priory. There is in the village a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, who have four others in various parts of the parish, in which

also are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Wesleyan Methodists. W. Wynne bequeathed a rent-charge of £2. 13. for providing coats for six poor men of this parish, and other uses; Maurice Wynne gave a rent-charge of £2. 13. 4. for educating one poor boy in the school at Bangor; and Mrs. Jones, in 1743, bequeathed £50, directing the interest to be distributed annually among ten poor widows. Some beautiful quartz crystals are found in the mountains in this parish, more particularly in Snowdon, of a clear diamond-like transparency, and in the form of a regular hexagonal prism, which are known by the appellation of Welsh diamonds. In the township of Nanmor resided two distinguished bards of the fifteenth century, Rhys Gôch o Eryri, the favourite bard of Owain Glyndwr, and Davydd Nanmor, both of whom were natives of the parish, and were interred in the churchyard. Bethgelart is principally the scene of Dr. Southey's poem of "Madoc." At Dôlvriog, in the vicinity, considerable plantations have been formed within the last thirty years, by W. M. Thackeray, Esq., M. D., which are now in a flourishing state. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £377. 14.

BETTESFIELD, a township in the parish of HANMER, hundred of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (E. N. E.) from Ellesmere, containing 359 inhabitants. It is situated on the border of Shropshire, and the road from Ellesmere to Whitchurch passes through it. This was the ancient residence of the family of Hanmer, and the birthplace of Sir Thomas Hanmer, Speaker of the House of Commons in the reign of Queen Anne, who died in May 1746, and was interred in the family burial-place in Hanmer church, where a monument has been erected to his memory: a superb edition of Shakspeare's Plays, with annotations by Sir Thomas, was published in six volumes by the University of Oxford, to which he presented the manuscript. The tithes of Bettesfield were bequeathed by Sir John Hanmer, Bart., in 1624, to the support of a learned preacher in the parish church of Hanmer. This township separately supports its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £199. 5.

BETTWS, a parish in the hundred of ISKENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S.) from Llandilo-Vawr, comprising the upper and lower divisions, and containing 830 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated within a short distance of the turnpike road leading from Llandilo-Vawr to Swansea, is about five miles in extent, from east to west, and about a mile and a half in breadth. A considerable portion of the surface is mountainous, and coal is supposed to abound in various parts, but very little of it has hitherto been worked. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Llandebye, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £1000 parliamentary grant. The church is dedicated to St. David. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £117. 8.

BETTWS, a parish in the hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N.) from Bridgend, containing 362 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the river Ogmor, not far from its confluence with the Severn, and is watered by the rivulets Llynvi and Garw, which bound it on two sides. The surrounding scenery is pleasing and picturesque,



and in the immediate neighbourhood are some handsome seats. Coytrehene, the seat of Morgan Popkin Traherne, Esq., is a handsome mansion, occupying a retired, but agreeable situation on the declivity of a hill, surrounded with luxuriant plantations, with the river Ogmere flowing at its base, and commands a beautiful view of the surrounding country, and of the confluence of that river with the Severn in the distance: it was anciently the property of the Powells, from whom it passed by marriage to the families of Popkin and Traherne. Within half a mile of Coytrehene, a small, but elegant residence, in the Elizabethan style of architecture, has been recently erected, under the direction of Mr. Traherne, for his sister, the widow of the late George Jenner, Esq., of Doctors' Commons. The parish abounds with excellent coal, which till lately was procured only for the supply of the inhabitants of the district; but a vein has recently been opened by John Edwards Vaughan, Esq., of Rheola, in the Vale of Neath, which is worked on a more extensive scale, and for the readier conveyance of which a tram-road has been constructed by that gentleman, communicating with the rail-road leading from Bridgend to the shipping-place at Porthcawl. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of New-castle, which is endowed with the rectorial tithes of this parish, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf. The church, dedicated to St. David, is not distinguished by any architectural features. There is a place of worship for Unitarians, which has a small endowment. The Coytrehene estate is charged with an annual payment of £2, and £1. 10. per annum is secured by a deed poll on the Bridgend turnpike trust, for distribution among the poor. Dr. Richard Price, an eminent nonconformist divine, and moral and political writer, was born at Tyn-ton, in this parish, in February 1723; he died at Hackney, in Middlesex, on the 19th of April, 1791, and was interred in the burial-ground in Bunhill-Fields. As one of the staunchest advocates of civil and religious liberty, his publications on the events of the American and French Revolutions acquired for him a high reputation as a political writer, besides various honours from public societies, and distinguished him for a soundness of judgment and power of observation and reflection, which were equally conspicuous in his theological and metaphysical productions. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £122. 13.

BETTWS, a township in the parish of LLANVAWR, hundred of PENLLŶN, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES. The population is returned with the parish.

BETTWS, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of NEWTOWN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N. by E.) from Newtown, containing 890 inhabitants. This place is pleasantly situated on the small river Bechan, which falls into the Severn at Aber-Bechan. The western branch of the Montgomeryshire canal to Newtown passes through the eastern part of the parish, which is also intersected by the turnpike road from that town to Welshpool; another road from Berriew to Llanwnnog passes through the village. The parish contains about six thousand acres of land, all enclosed, the commons having been divided pursuant to an act for enclosing the waste lands within the manors of Cêdewain, Hopeton, and Gorddwr Uchâv, obtained in 1796. The road leading from Brynderwen Bridge to Garthmael is beautifully picturesque; the high grounds

on the north side are richly planted, from the base to the summit, with trees and shrubs of various kinds, and the scenery, which is enlivened by the meandering of the river Severn and the canal, presents, especially in the Autumn, when every variety of tint is seen to advantage on the wood-crowned heights, one of the most pleasing and interesting spectacles in this part of the principality. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £10, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Beuno, a saint of the sixth century, originally belonged to the ancient nunnery of Llanllugan, founded prior to 1290, for sisters of the Cistercian order, and endowed with a revenue amounting at the dissolution to £22. 14. It is a plain neat structure, with a handsome tower, which was built in the year 1531, by John ab Meredith, whose effigy, engraved on a brass plate bearing a Latin inscription, ornaments a tablet of porphyry erected to his memory on the north side of the chancel. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. An almshouse was founded and endowed in 1709, for four poor persons of this parish, and for four of the adjoining parish of Trêgynon, by Arthur Weaver, Esq., who also left £4 per annum to keep it in repair, and to purchase fuel for the use of the inmates. About half a mile to the north-west of the village is Pen y Gaer, a British camp defended by a triple intrenchment; there are also several smaller encampments in various parts of the parish. On the summit of a lofty conical hill of steep ascent, commanding an extensive prospect of the Vale of Severn and the surrounding country, is *Castle Dôl y Vorwyn*, or the Castle of the Virgin's meadow. The name is supposed to allude to the traditionary story of Havren, daughter of Locrinus, the son of Brutus, first king of Britain, by Essylt, daughter of the king of Germany, whom Locrinus had taken captive in his wars against Humyr, king of the Huns. Locrinus, having espoused Essylt, in violation of a former pledge given to Gwenddolau, daughter of Corineus, who had accompanied Brutus into Britain, was compelled by a threat of hostilities to fulfil his engagement to the latter; and, concealing Essylt, whom he pretended to have banished from the kingdom, married Gwenddolau, according to his engagement. On the death of Corineus, which followed soon after, Locrinus divorced Gwenddolau, and declared Essylt queen; but, on the death of Locrinus, Gwenddolau assumed the government, and in retaliation caused Essylt and her daughter Havren to be drowned in the river Severn. From this circumstance the river is supposed to have derived its name, originally "Ys Havren," and by contraction Savern, from which are deduced the Latin name *Sabrina* and the English *Severn*. The castle is said by Camden to have been originally built by Prince Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, between the years 1063 and 1073; but Dugdale refers its erection to Davydd ab Llewelyn, about the year 1245. In the Welsh Chronicle (*Brût y Tywysogion*) it is said to have been taken by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, in 1269. It was besieged in the year following by the Earl of Lincoln and Roger Mortimer, to whom the garrison, being in want of water, surrendered it: the latter, in 1278, obtained from Edward I. a grant of it, together with the castles of Cêdewain and Kerry. The castle was of a quadrangular form, about fifty yards in length, and twenty-five in width, and built of the small



ragstone found in the neighbourhood: a small portion of the north wall, with some parts of the interior, are the only remains. On the more accessible sides of the hill on which the castle is built it is defended by deep intrenchments cut in the solid rock, and the base is surrounded by a deep dingle, thickly planted with wood, in which rises a small stream, which, after pursuing a course of nearly a mile, falls into the river Severn. A brass pot, an earthen jug, and some other ancient relics, were dug out of the ruins, some years since, and are at present preserved at Gregynog. In the township of Dôlvorwyn there is a mineral spring, strongly impregnated with sulphur and iron, which is esteemed highly efficacious in cutaneous diseases. The ancient mansion of Gregynog, in this neighbourhood, was the residence of the late Arthur Blayney, Esq., who was distinguished for his hospitality to strangers of every degree, his unwearied endeavours to promote the prosperity and comfort of his tenantry, and his public-spirited encouragement, regardless of the sacrifices made by himself, of every undertaking calculated to advance the interests, or conduce to the convenience, of the county. His house was always open for the hospitable reception and entertainment of travellers; his tenants were aided in every suitable attempt to improve their farms, which were invariably held at a moderate rental, and their convenience was carefully studied in the construction and alteration of the farm-houses and offices; the habitations of the cottagers on his estates were always comfortable, and had a small plot of ground attached, for the support of a cow during summer, for which he gratuitously supplied them with hay in the winter; and the roads in the neighbourhood were greatly improved, and the churches repaired and embellished by him; whilst his beneficence was extensively diffused among the poor, rather in the more praiseworthy solicitude to seek for and relieve deserving objects, by affording them that timely assistance which might enable them to provide for themselves in future, than in indiscriminate almsgiving to idle vagrants and clamorous mendicants; his object in mitigating the pangs of distress being to foster industry, and to discourage idleness by withholding relief. This benevolent man died at Gregynog, at an advanced age, in the year 1795. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £529. 9.

BETTWS-BLEDRWS, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. E.) from Lampeter, on the road to Trêgaron, containing 235 inhabitants. At a short distance from the road is Dery Ormond, the seat of John Jones, Esq., an elegant modern mansion, erected in 1827, and beautifully situated under the shelter of a lofty hill covered with luxuriant plantations: the grounds, which are tastefully laid out, are ornamented with a small sheet of water, formed by the expansion of a rivulet by which they are intersected, and over which there is a bridge of handsome design. Though not upon a very large scale, this is one of the best houses in the county, and forms an interesting feature in the scenery of the place. Lead-ore is supposed to lie under the surface of this parish, but no attempt has been hitherto made to work it. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 7. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., endowed with £400

royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Bleddrws, is a very neat well-built edifice, altered and repaired in 1831, with a tower surmounted by a well-proportioned spire cased with slate: the interior is appropriately fitted up, and furnished with ranges of seats with high backs, elevated above each other, instead of pews, similar to the chapel of St. David's college, Lampeter, which were erected at the expense of John Jones, Esq., of Dery Ormond. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. Between Dery Ormond and the Teivy there is an ancient intrenchment, called Castel Goeddrêv, situated on a farm to which it gives name. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £89. 17.

BETTWS-CLYRO, or CAPEL-BETTWS (BETTWS-CLAERWY), a chapelry in the parish of CLYRO, hundred of PAINSCASTLE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N. by W.) from Hay, containing 250 inhabitants. This place partakes, in common with the parish in which it is situated, of the scenery by which this part of the principality is characterized: the views embrace a pleasing variety of landscape, enlivened by the windings of the river Wye. The chapel is distant about two miles from the church of Clyro. There is a separate assessment for the support of the poor: the average annual expenditure amounts to £158. 14.

BETTWS-DISSERTH (BETTWS-DISERTH), a parish in the hundred of COLWYN, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N. E.) from Builth, containing 141 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated near the source of the river Edw, or Edwy, and on the turnpike road leading from Kington to Builth. It is of considerable extent: the soil is various, but in general fertile and productive, and the substratum in some parts of the parish has been thought to consist of coal; but an endeavour to procure this fossil, made some time since, on a farm called Tyncoed, was unattended with success, and though a shaft was sunk to a considerable depth, no indications of coal were discovered. The surrounding scenery, though generally pleasing, is not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature from that which prevails throughout this part of the principality. The living is a rectory not in charge, consolidated with that of Dissertth, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. This is one of the parishes from which a child is to be annually apprenticed, under the will of the Rev. Rees Powell of Boughrood, with a premium of £5. Mrs. Elizabeth Lewis, in 1746, bequeathed a rent-charge of £2, on a farm called Gwern-Vawr, in this parish, to be given to the poor at the discretion of the minister and six of the principal inhabitants. A rent-charge of £1 was bequeathed by an unknown benefactor; and Elizabeth Jones, in 1746, bequeathed £40 in money, of which the interest was paid for some years by the executor, but was afterwards discontinued. There are some sulphureous springs in the parish, but they are not strongly impregnated, nor are they used for medicinal purposes. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £56. 17.

BETTWS-GARMON, a parish in the hundred of ISGORVAI, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S. E.) from Carnarvon, on the road to Bethgelart, containing 128 inhabitants. The scenery in the neigh-



bourhood is magnificently grand and strikingly varied : part of the base of Snowdon is within the limits of the parish, and, previously to the foundation of the new line of road to Llanberis and Capel Curig, the principal ascent to that mountain was from this place, at which was a small house, occupied by a guide, who was constantly in attendance to conduct the adventurous traveller to its summit. Behind the parish church is the mountain Moel Eilio, which rises to the height of two thousand three hundred and seventy-seven feet above the level of the sea; and on the south of it is Mynydd-Mawr, of less elevation, though seen to greater advantage from the road: both these mountains abound with copper-ore, but, from the great influx of water, the expense of obtaining it is too great to allow an adequate remuneration. On the summits of both mountains are the remains of watch towers, or exploratory stations, erected to defend the pass; and at the foot of Mynydd-Mawr is a bold rock, called Castell Cidwm, supposed to have been the residence of some ancient British chieftains. The abrupt and mountainous elevations, which form so prominent a feature in the scenery of this district, are finely softened and contrasted by divers lakes within the parish, which are much resorted to by tourists and by artists, who find, in the beautiful scenery around them, some of the finest subjects for the pencil. Of these, the principal are Fynnon Lâs, Llŷn Cŏch, Llŷn y Nadroedd, and Llŷn Fynnon y Gwâs, which are the several sources of the river Avon, or Tarddeni. Llŷn Cawel-lyn, one of the most celebrated lakes in this part of the principality, is partly within this parish; in which also is Nant Mill, remarkable for its beautiful cascade, which has engaged the attention and employed the pencil of numerous artists. Fairs are held here on August 17th and September 22nd and 26th. The living, usually styled a perpetual curacy, is vicarial, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Lord Newborough. The church, dedicated to St. Garmon, is a small edifice, in a dilapidated condition, romantically situated in a vale bounded by lofty mountains. On the side of a hill, about one mile to the west of it, there is a fine spring of water, called St. Garmon's well, of reputed efficacy in the cure of rheumatic and eruptive disorders. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £38.

BETTWS-GWERVIL-GŌCH, a parish in the hundred of EDEYRNION, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W.N.W.) from Corwen, containing 273 inhabitants. The village is situated on the road from Bala to Ruthin, and on the small river Alwen, over which there is a bridge of three arches. The vale of Alwen is pleasingly picturesque, particularly at Point Llŷn y Gigvran, where the hills along the banks of the stream, from the base to the summit, are thickly clothed with trees: the Alwen is here crossed by a bridge of one wide arch. The parish is about ten miles in circumference, and not more than one-half is under cultivation: it forms part of the district which is noted for the knitting of woollen hose. A farm, called Bot-tegŷr, in the county of Denbigh, is within its limits, and was the residence of Col. William Salusbury, who bravely defended the castle of Denbigh, for fourteen weeks, against a besieging body of parliamentarians under Major-General Mytton, and then surrendered only

upon the most honourable terms. Fairs are held here on June 22nd, August 12th, September 16th, and December 12th, for horned cattle, horses, sheep, and pigs; that in August is one of the largest lamb fairs in North Wales. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £5. 4. 7., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is in the early style of English architecture: near the entrance there is a piscina. Close to the church is a well, called St. Mary's. It is in contemplation to erect a National school, for the benefit of poor children of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £107. 9.

BETTWS-IEUVAN, or EVAN (BETTWS-IEUAN), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of TROED-YRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, containing 386 inhabitants. This parish is situated a short distance to the east of the turnpike road leading from Cardigan to Aberystwith. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed, with that of Brongwŷn, to the vicarage of Penbrŷn, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. John, has been recently repaired, and has received two hundred and fifty additional sittings, of which one hundred are free, the Incorporated Society for the building and enlargement of churches and chapels having granted £25 towards defraying the expense. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £124. 6.

BETTWS-LEIKE (BETTWS-LEICI), a chapelry in that part of the parish of LLANDEWY-BREVI which is in the upper division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N. by E.) from Lampeter, containing 381 inhabitants. It is situated in the pleasant vale of the Aëron, and on the left bank of that river. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Perpetual Curate of Llandewy-Brevi. This chapelry separately supports its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £59. 9.

BETTWS Y COED, or BETTWS-WYRION-IDDON, a parish in the hundred of NANTCONWAY, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S.) from Llanrwst, on the road to Holyhead and Dublin, containing 348 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from an ancient religious establishment, called *Bettws Wyrion Iddon*, or "the bead-house of the children of Iddon," on the site of which the present church was built; and was formerly only a township in the parish of Llanrhy-chwyn, from which it was separated in the sixteenth century. The village is delightfully situated in a beautiful vale, surrounded on all sides by the Carnarvonshire and Denbighshire mountains, and near the confluence of the rivers Conway and Llugwy. Over the former of these rivers, about half a mile above the church, is an iron bridge of one noble arch, beautifully ornamented with the rose, thistle, and shamrock, with an inscription in Roman capitals, purporting that it was constructed in the year in which the battle of Waterloo was fought, and thence called Waterloo bridge; and over the latter is a bridge of singular construction, called Pont y Pair, consisting of four arches resting upon masses of rugged precipitous rocks of romantic



appearance, which in high floods exhibit below the bridge several beautiful cataracts of striking magnificence. This picturesque structure was projected and partly raised by one Howel, a mason from Penllŷn, who, about the year 1468, had previously erected a bridge over the Lleder, at a spot where his passage had been obstructed by a flood, whilst on his journey to Aberconway, to attend the Merionethshire assizes, to which place he removed, and, having built the bridge at his own expense, received no other remuneration than the voluntary donations of travellers: he then removed to this place, where he commenced Pont y Pair bridge, but died before its completion. The scenery around this spot consists of rocky mountains fringed with wood, in the fissures of which are found trees of stately growth, and the whole neighbourhood abounds with strikingly magnificent and finely contrasted features. The three rivers, Conway, Llugwy, and Lledr, unite within the parish, and, in their course through the mountainous districts, form numerous and majestic cataracts, for which this parish is celebrated. Of these the principal are the falls of the Conway, Machno, and Llugwy: the first, rushing with impetuosity through rocks of tremendous height, which contract the passage of the waters, after descending from a great height, forms four smaller falls, which are seen in succession from the same spot; and just below the confluence of the Conway and the Lledr there is a deep, wide, and still piece of water, called Llŷn yr Afanc, or "the beavers' pool," from its being the resort of that animal, the skin of which was anciently prized more highly than that of the ermine. About two miles from the village is the cataract of Rhaiadr y Wenol, or "the waterfall of the swallow," formed by the river Llugwy, which, after pursuing its course for a considerable distance through a strait rocky channel, along narrow meadows enclosed by mountains of majestic elevation, falls into a hollow of amazing depth, the sides and summit of which are shaded with trees, that have taken root in the fissures of the rocks. The whole of the neighbouring mountains abound with lead-ore, but none of the mines have been worked for some time, on account of the great reduction in the price of that article, which has recently taken place: a few of the inhabitants are engaged in the spinning of woollen yarn and the knitting of stockings. A considerable variety of quartz chrystal, of a beautiful whiteness, is found in the parish. Fairs are held here annually on May 15th and December 3rd. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Lord Willoughby de Eresby. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a small, but interesting edifice, romantically situated near the confluence of the Conway and Llugwy, and occupying the site of the ancient religious house before noticed: the interior contains, among other ancient monuments, an altar-tomb to the memory of Gruffydd ab Davydd Gôch, son to Davydd Gôch, natural son of Davydd, brother of Llewelyn, the last prince of Wales, on which is a recumbent effigy in plate armour, with an inscription in a very perfect state: this beautiful relic, which is the production of the thirteenth century, is injudiciously concealed by the erection of a pew over the monument. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A charity school, open to all the poor

children of the parish, was founded in 1821, by the Right Hon. Lord Willoughby de Eresby, and is supported solely at his lordship's expense. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £152. 12.

BETTWS-YN-RHÔS, otherwise BETTWS-ABERGELAU, a parish in the hundred of ISDULAS, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S. S. W.) from Abergele, containing 912 inhabitants. The village is pleasantly situated at the base of a lofty mountain, by which it is sheltered on one side, and has a fine opening towards the north, commanding a full view of the Irish channel. Coed Côch, the seat of John Lloyd Wynne, Esq., is a splendid mansion, with an elegant portico of five fluted columns of Penrhŷn slate stone. Fairs are held on February 20th, May 8th, August 15th, and November 20th. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £12. 15. 5., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, was, previously to the Reformation, a chapel of ease to Abergele. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school has been erected by subscription, aided by a grant of £39 from the National Society, in which about fifty children from the adjoining parishes at present receive gratuitous instruction. The school is supported partly by subscription, and partly by a rental of £10 issuing from a tenement called Aelwyd Uchâv, assigned on the enclosure of waste lands: the master also receives £13. 10. per annum from the rental of three other tenements, called Gydar, Dôlwyd Bâch, and Rhŷd y Saeson, in the parish of Llansaintfrïd Glan Conway, amounting to £35. 10., of which the remainder is divided among the poor in clothing and money on St. Thomas' day. A rent-charge of ten shillings on Pen y Bryn farm is also applied for the benefit of the poor. About a quarter of a mile from the village there is a copious chalybeate spring, which was much resorted to a few years since, but its efficacy has been greatly weakened by the influx of other waters. The average annual assessment for the support of the poor is £561. 16.

BISHOPSTON, or LLAN-DEILO-VERWALT, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6½ miles (S. W. by W.) from Swansea, containing 476 inhabitants. This place derives its name from having formerly belonged to the bishops of Llandaf, who held the manor in free alms. The custom of the manor is that copyholds not only descend to the youngest son or daughter, but also in the collateral line, to brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, &c.; and there is an ancient tenement, called Culver House, which is held by service of grand serjeantry at the king's coronation, the tenure having been recognised by the last court of claims. The village is pleasantly situated in a fertile vale near the sea. Lead-ore is found in the parish, and was formerly procured in great quantities: within the last few years the mine was re-opened, when the implements of the former miners were discovered; several tons of good ore were raised, but the works have again been discontinued. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 6. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Llandaf. The church, dedicated to St. Teilo, has no particular claim to architectural description. There are places of worship for Independents



and Calvinistic Methodists. Mrs. Catherine Rees, in 1728, bequeathed £100 to be invested in the purchase of land, out of the rent of which £2. 5. is now appropriated to the instruction of children, and the remainder is distributed among the poor of the parish. The small village of Caswell, in this parish, gives name to Caswell bay, remarkable for the grandeur of its rocky scenery, and for the variety and beauty of the shells thrown up on the shore. A spring of water, issuing from a rock close to the beach, which is covered by the sea at high water, is said to retain its freshness, perfectly free from any saline mixture, when the sea retires. Here was formerly a chapel, which has long since fallen into ruins. The Rev. Edward Davies, the learned author of the Celtic Researches and the Mythology of the Ancient Britons, was for many years rector of this parish, where he died and was buried, in January 1831. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £108. 16.

**BLAENAËRON** (**BLAEN-AËRON**), a township in the parish of TRÊGARON, lower division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (N.W.) from Trêgaron, containing 304 inhabitants.

**BLAENAU**, a hamlet in the parish of LLANVIHAN-GEL-CWM DÛ, hundred of CRICKHOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N. by E.) from Crickhowel, containing 216 inhabitants. This place is situated at the upper extremity of the vale of Cwm dÛ, among the Black mountains.

**BLAENAU**, a hamlet in the parish of LLANNON, hundred of CARNWALLON, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (S. E. by E.) from Carmarthen. The population is returned with the parish. It is situated near the source of the Gwili stream, at the head of which coal abounds, and contiguous to the southern declivity of the Mynydd-Mawr mountain, over which the road from Llanelly to Llandilo-Vawr passes, after proceeding through this place. An old rail-road is carried along its western division from the above mountain to the sea-coast.

**BLAENAU**, a joint hamlet with Tîr Rosser, in the parish of LLANDEBYE, hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (S. S. W.) from Llandilo-Vawr. The population is returned with the parish. The eastern part of the lofty mountain of Mynydd-Mawr, which abounds with coal and limestone, is situated within this hamlet. A small stream which falls into the Loughor river passes through it, on the banks of which some pleasing cottages and well-wooded knolls are discernible. There are numerous coal-pits in this district.

**BLAENAU**, a joint hamlet with Llan, in the parish of LLANGENDEIRN, hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 3½ miles (S. E. by S.) from Carmarthen. The population is included in the return for the parish, of which it forms the north-western portion; the road from Llangendeirn to Carmarthen passes through it.

**BLAENCARON** (**BLAEN-CARON**), a township in the parish of TRÊGARON, upper division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (E. N. E.) from Trêgaron, containing 94 inhabitants. The name of this township is expressive of its situation at the head of the river Caron.

**BLAEN-CLOWON-VACH**, a township forming the upper division of the parish of LLANDYSILIO-GOGO, lower division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (W. by N.) from Lampeter. The population is returned with the parish. It is situated near the source of the river Clettwr. There are some agreeable residences scattered over the township, which is in general rather undulating than mountainous.

**BLAENEGAL**, a joint hamlet with Caegurwen, in the parish of LLANGUICKE, hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7½ miles (N.) from Neath. The population is returned with the parish.

**BLAEN-GLESYRCH** (**BLAEN-GLÂS-ERCH**), a township in the parish of LLANWRIN, hundred of MACHYNLLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (N. N. E.) from Machynlleth. The population is returned with the parish. This place takes its name from the small stream called the Glesyrch, which falls into the Dylas within a few miles of the junction of that river with the Dovey: it comprises the upper and northern part of the parish, where the ground is elevated, and commands fine views of the mountains in North Wales and the pleasing vale of the Dovey, with that river winding through it.

**BLAEN-GLYN-TAWE**, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES.—See CAPEL-CALLWEN.

**BLAEN-GWRACH**, a chapelry in the parish of GLYN-CORWG, hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 10 miles (N. E. by E.) from Neath, containing 414 inhabitants. The village is situated near the head of the vale of Neath, which is here seen in all its varied and romantic beauty: the striking character of its scenery, abounding with luxuriant verdure, is heightened by contrast with the sterile brow of a lofty mountain, which towers above the neighbouring hills, and the rocky declivities of which are indented by numerous deep fissures, through which, after heavy rains, or rapid thaws, the waters rush down in impetuous torrents, exhibiting a scene of awful grandeur and sublimity. The river Gwrach, from which the village takes its name, swollen with the mountain streams that augment its waters, frequently overflows its banks, and inundates the adjacent meadows, which become one entire sheet of water. Ynislaes, an elegant cottage built by the Hon. Windham Henry Wyndham Quin, now Earl of Dunraven and Mountearl, and for some time his own residence, occupies a beautiful situation, commanding a delightful view of the rich vale of Neath, through its whole extent. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to that of Glyn-Corwg, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £800 royal bounty. There is a place of worship for Independents, which is one of the oldest in the principality. Dr. Abraham Rees, for many years minister of the Independent congregation meeting in Jewin-street, London, and author of the most voluminous Encyclopædia ever published, and probably the most extensive work ever completed by an individual, was born in this chapelry, while his father, Mr. Lewis Rees, was pastor of the Independent congregation here. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £160. 17.

**BLAEN-HONDDAN**, a hamlet in the parish of CADOXTON, hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 1¼ mile (N.) from Neath, containing



1029 inhabitants. It is pleasantly situated on the western bank of the river Neath, in the midst of agreeably diversified scenery, and is intersected by the turnpike road leading from Neath, through the vale, into Brecknockshire: it contains the parochial church. Cadoxton Place, the residence of Mr. Powell, sheltered by a lofty hill commanding a fine view of the Gnoll house and grounds, and Cadoxton Lodge, the summer residence of George Tennant, Esq., are in this hamlet. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £406. 5.

**BLAEN-PENAL**, a chapelry in the parish of **LLANDEWY-BREVI**, lower division of the hundred of **PENARTH**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $10\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. by E.) from Lampeter, containing 543 inhabitants. It is situated at the extremity of the beautiful vale of Aëron, which river rises from a mountain near the village, in which and the surrounding district are several pleasing and ornamental residences. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Perpetual Curate of Llandewy-Brevi. The chapel is dedicated to St. David. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. This chapelry separately supports its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £82. 4.

**BLAENPORTH (BLAEN-PORTH)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of **TROEDYRAUR**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5 miles (E. by N.) from Cardigan, on the road to Aberystwith, containing 695 inhabitants. The lands in this parish are nearly all enclosed, and in a good state of cultivation. The living, formerly a prebend in the college of St. David's at Llandewy-Brevi, and rated as such in the king's books at £6, is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the alternate patronage of the Earl of Lisburne and J. V. Lloyd, Esq., who are impropiators of the tithes of the parish, and pay £8 per annum to the curate. The church, dedicated to St. David, consists only of a nave, chancel, and porch, and has a bell suspended at the west end of the roof. About two hundred yards to the north of it is an ancient fortress, called "the Gaer," and in some authorities "Castel Gwythan," which is said to have been thrown up by Gilbert Earl of Strigyl and the Flemings who settled in this part of the principality, and to have been besieged by Rhys ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, in the year 1116, who, after repeated assaults, took it, with the loss of only one of his men, and burnt it to the ground: it was defended by a single ditch and rampart, still plainly distinguishable, and at one extremity is a lofty mound, on which probably was a watch-tower. At a small distance from the site of this post, which occupied the summit of an eminence, is a smaller camp, called "Caer Sonydd;" and on the sea-coast is another of small extent, but of great strength, called "Tudor's Castle." At Tyllwyd, in this parish, the property of J. V. Lloyd, Esq., there is a chalybeate spring, the water of which is, however, but seldom used. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £167. 19.

**BLAEN-SAWDDE**, a hamlet in the parish of **LLANTHOYSAINT**, lower division of the hundred of **PER-**

**VETH**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. E. by E.) from Llangadock. The population is returned with the parish. The name signifies the head of the Sawdde, or Sawddwy, which stream pursues its course through the hamlet, having its source in a beautiful and romantic lake on a declivity of the Black mountain, near the confines of Brecknockshire. This hamlet is assessed jointly with that of Maes y Fynnon for the support of the poor: the average annual expenditure is £98. 15.

**BLETHERSTON**, a parish in the hundred of **DUNGLEDY**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 7 miles (N. W. by N.) from Narberth, containing 300 inhabitants. The living is a consolidated vicarage with Llawhaden, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's. Several silver coins were found here about ten years ago, but they were immediately sold at Haverfordwest, and smelted; so that nothing is known of their date or history. There is an estate in this parish, called Langridge, which belongs to the Bishop of St. David's. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £133. 16.

**BLETHVA (BLEDDVA)**, a parish partly in the hundred of **KEVENLEECE**, and partly in that of **KNIGHTON**, county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. S. W.) from Knighton, containing 233 inhabitants. This parish is situated within the boundaries of the forest of Blethva, and near the river Lug, and is intersected by the high roads from Knighton in this county, and from Builth in the county of Brecknock, to Newtown in Montgomeryshire. Its aspect is barren and uninviting: a great part of it being little better than a dreary unproductive waste, agriculture is here in a rude state; the mountains, however, afford pasturage for large flocks of sheep. The petty sessions for the hundred are occasionally held here. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £10. 12. 1., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a large structure, consisting of a nave and chancel, but without any claim to architectural notice. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £114. 6.

**BÔDAIOCH (BÔD-AIOCH)**, a township in the parish of **TRÊVEGLWYS**, upper division of the hundred of **LLANIDLOES**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 5 miles (N. N. E.) from Llanidloes. The population is returned with the parish. It is situated on the left bank of the river Tarannon, which flows into the Severn a few miles distant.

**BÔDEDERN (BÔD-EDEYRN)**, a parish in the hundred of **LLYVON**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**, 8 miles (E. by S.) from Holyhead, containing 1085 inhabitants. This parish derived its name from having been the residence of Edeyrn, a bard, who flourished about the middle of the seventh century, and who, having embraced a religious life, presided over the church at this place. The village, which is one of the most extensive in the county, is pleasantly situated on the old Holyhead road: the surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified. The principal seats within the parish are, Presadded, a fine ancient family mansion, of which the estate was held in fee by the service of attending at the coronation of the Princes of Wales, and supporting the right side of the canopy during that solemnity;



and Tre' Iorwerth, the property and residence of the Rev. H. Wynne Jones, a good family mansion, beautifully situated in the midst of luxuriant and extensive plantations. Near the latter seat is Llyn Llwenmyn, a fine lake, from which issues a small rivulet, on the banks of which, within the parish, are the scattered ruins of two cromlechs. The spinning of woollen yarn is carried on in the village, for which purpose there are two mills, set in motion by water, attached to which are dye-houses and a fulling-mill. There is a branch establishment under the post-office at Bangor; and fairs, principally for cattle, are held on March 13th, April 16th, May 5th, June 9th, Whit-Tuesday (for hiring servants), August 16th, September 14th, and December 1st and 22nd. The petty sessions for the hundred are held here once a month, and district meetings take place quarterly at the village. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Principal and Fellows of Jesus' College, Oxford. The church, dedicated to St. Edeyrn, is a small ancient structure, displaying some good architectural details, and containing some fine monuments to the memory of deceased members of the Presaddved and Tre' Iorwerth families. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school was erected in 1822, by the voluntary contributions of the gentry in the neighbourhood, and is supported by subscription: about seventy children of the parish receive gratuitous instruction in it. Dr. Gwynn gave a portion of tithes, producing £2. 10. per annum, Mr. Edmund Griffith and Mrs. Jane Wynne gave certain portions of land; and Mrs. Roberts assigned the moiety of the interest of £100, to the poor of this parish; the produce of which benefactions, together with that of some other charitable donations and bequests, is annually distributed, according to the directions of the several benefactors. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £309. 12.

**BÔDEWRYD (BÔD-EWRYD)**, a parish in the hundred of **TWRCELYN**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**, 3 miles (W. S. W.) from Amlwch, containing 35 inhabitants. This small parish was formerly comprehended in that of Llaneilian, from which it was detached, and formed into a parish of itself, within the last thirty years. It consists only of two farm-houses, one of them anciently the mansion of the Wynne family, with their respective farms, and has no parochial officers, either ecclesiastical or civil: in levying the county rate it is, with the parish of Gwredog, considered as a fourth division to the three contained in the parish of Amlwch. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, endowed, in 1722, with one hundred and twenty-one acres of land, and a rent-charge of £2, by Dr. Wynne, Chancellor of Hereford, and subsequently with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Sir John Thomas Stanley, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small ancient edifice, containing some monuments to the Wynnes, proprietors of the parish, and a brass recording the munificence of Dr. Wynne, above noticed, who lies entombed in the church. A parochial school has been founded, and is supported at the expense of Lady Stanley, for the

education of female children of this and the adjoining parishes.

**BODIDRIS (BÔD-IDRIS)**, a township in the parish of **LLANARMON**, partly in the hundred of **MOLD**, county of **FLINT**, and partly in that of **YALE**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 10 miles (W. by N.) from Wrexham. The population is returned with the parish. This place derives its name from Idris, son of Llewelyn Aurdorchog, or "of the golden torquis," one of the ancient lords of Yale. The mansion, which is large and of considerable antiquity, was formerly the residence of the Lloyds, the last of whom, Sir Evan Lloyd, Bart., dying without male issue, the estate descended to Evan Lloyd Vaughan, Esq., in right of his mother, daughter of Sir Evan, and subsequently, by maternal descent, to Sir Thomas Mostyn, Bart., who, dying unmarried, left it, with the bulk of his extensive landed possessions, to his sister's son, Edward Mostyn Lloyd Mostyn, Esq. Here is a charity school, but it has no particular endowment.

**BÔDVAEN (BOD-VUAN, or BÔD-VUAN in LLEYN)**, a parish in the hundred of **DINLLAEN**, **LLEYN** division of the county of **CARNARVON**, **NORTH WALES**,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. N. W.) from Pwllheli, containing 378 inhabitants. This small parish is situated in a very extensive plain, near the base of Carn Bôdvan, and abounds with fossils, of which great quantities, chiefly oyster and muscle shells, are found imbedded in a soft limestone rock, near the church, and in a very perfect state. Bodvaen Hall, now the property and occasional residence of Lord Newborough, is a handsome mansion, occupying a pleasant situation within its limits. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £6. 6. 8., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Buan, a handsome modern edifice in the Grecian style of architecture, was erected in 1765, at the expense of the Misses Catherine and Elizabeth Wynne, of Bôdvaen Hall, and contains some good monuments to different members of that family. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. William Lloyd, Esq., in 1784, bequeathed £100 for educating poor children of the parish, of whom twenty-five are gratuitously instructed from this fund during the summer months. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £94. 6.

**BÔDVARI (BÔD-FARI)**, a parish partly in the **Caerwys** division of the hundred of **RHUDDLAN**, county of **FLINT**, and comprising the township of **Aber-Whielor**, which supports its own poor, in the hundred of **RUTHIN**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 4 miles (N. E.) from Denbigh, on the road from Holywell to that town, and containing 873 inhabitants. This place is, from its name, supposed to have been the Roman station *Varis*, and the opinion has been in some degree confirmed by the recent discovery of urns, ornaments, fragments of weapons, and other relics of Roman antiquity, in the grounds of Pontrifith, and some coins near the junction of the rivers Clwyd and Whielor, the supposed site of the Roman station. The supposition is further corroborated by the direction of the Roman road from Chester, which, uniting with the north-east branch of the Watling-street, continued to Bôdvári, whence, crossing the county of Denbigh, it passed over the Conway to Caerhên. The village is delightfully situated near the con-



fluence of the two rivers, and the surrounding country is remarkably picturesque and beautiful. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £9. 5. 2½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Stephen, and situated on a gentle eminence, is a neat edifice with a lofty square embattled tower: the interior is neatly fitted up, and appropriately ornamented; the pulpit and reading-desk are of black oak, exquisitely carved, and in the front is the date 1574. To the east of the village is Moel y Gaer, or the "Hill of the Camp," apparently a British work, and probably constructed for the purpose of defending the pass through the Clwydian mountains. Through this pass, which is remarkable as being the only natural break in this chain of mountains, extending for more than twenty miles in a direction from north to south, flows the river Whielor, near the bank of which an excellent turnpike-road has been constructed, winding round the base of a hill, called Moel y Parc, and connecting the counties of Denbigh and Flint. The tithes of the township of Aber-Whielor belong to the Bishop of Bangor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the whole parish amounts to £508. 6., of which sum £124. 14. is assessed on that part of the parish which is in the hundred of Rhuddlan.

**BÔDVERIN (BÔD-FERIN)**, a parish in the hundred of COMMITMAEN, Llein division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 14 miles (W. by S.) from Pwllheli, containing 56 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the shore of the Irish sea, and is of very small extent: it contains within its limits two small creeks, called Porth Verin and Porth Iago, and there is a well, called Fynnon Bibau, near Trêvgrraig, which is the source of the river Daron. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llaniestyn, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor. The ancient church, dedicated to St. Merin, fell into decay after the Reformation, and the site of the building and the churchyard, which were visible within the last few years, have been recently obliterated by the plough. The inhabitants attend divine service in the parish church of Llangwnadl, where all the ecclesiastical rites for this parish are performed. On the side of a hill, called Mynydd Moelvre, or Mynydd yr Ystum, are the ruins of an ancient chapel, named Capel Odo; and in the vicinity there is a tumulus, called Bedd Odo, or Odo's grave, which, according to tradition, covers the remains of a giant of that name. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £24. 1.

**BÔDWROG (BÔD-TWROG)**, a parish in the hundred of LLYVON, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (W. by N.) from Llangevni, containing 312 inhabitants. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, and in the patronage of the Principal and Fellows of Jesus' College, Oxford, to whom the tithes and advowson were appropriated by Dr. Wynne, Chancellor of Llandaf, in 1648, subject to the payment of £1. 5. per annum to the poor of this parish, and who generally present a scholar of that college to the living. The church, dedicated to St. Twrog, is a small edifice, situated on an eminence at a considerable distance from any human habitation. There is a small bequest of £12, given by Mr. John Lloyd, for the benefit of the poor. The

average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £99. 10.

**BONVILSTON**, otherwise **BOLSTON**, a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (E.) from Cowbridge, on the road to Cardiff, containing 247 inhabitants. The village, which is pleasantly situated, is ornamented with several neat cottages, and with the ancient residence of the family of Bassett, and has a prepossessing appearance of cheerfulness and gentility. Limestone of good quality abounds in the parish. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £6. 9. 2., and endowed with £15 per annum, principally issuing out of the small tithes, and £200 private benefaction, £200 royal bounty, and £500 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of John James Bassett, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a neat and appropriate structure. Grace Aubrey, in 1678, bequeathed £100, Mrs. Loughor £50, and Mr. David John, in 1776, £10, for the use of the poor, making together the sum of £160, to which £3 per annum has been subsequently added, arising out of two deed polls, purchased with ten years' arrears of Grace Aubrey's donation, according to an inscription on a tablet in the church. There is said to have been formerly a castle here, the site of which is still pointed out, but no account of its foundation, nor any particulars of its history, have been recorded. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £115. 16.

**BORRAS (BWRAS)**, a township comprising the division of Borrás-Bovah in the parish of WREXHAM, and that of Borrás-Rifrey in that part of the parish of GRESFORD which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N. E.) from Wrexham, containing 86 inhabitants, of which number, 45 are in the division of Borrás-Bovah, and 41 in that of Borrás-Rifrey. This township, which comprises a small agricultural tract, lying near the river Dee, supports its own poor, according to an arrangement made in March 1830.

**BORVA**, a joint township with Bareland, in the parish of OLD RADNOR, liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 5½ miles (E.) from New Radnor. The population is returned with the townships of Evenjobb and Newcastle. This township, situated on the border of Herefordshire, is extremely well wooded. Offa's Dyke passes through it, near which are the remains of an ancient camp.

**BOSHERSTON**, a parish in the hundred of CASTLEMARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. by W.) from Pembroke, containing 222 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the shore of the Bristol channel, by which it is bounded on the south, and the rocks on this part of the coast are, by the repeated action of the sea, worn into caverns of considerable depth, and of singular and romantic appearance. Of these, Bosherton Meer, about a quarter of a mile from the sea, is the most remarkable: at the entrance it presents only a small opening on the surface of the ground, but gradually expands into a spacious cavern of increasing depth, which has never yet been explored. Previously to the commencement of a storm, the confined air is greatly agitated, and the most terrific noises issue from the cavern, which are heard at a



great distance: during the violence of the tempest immense columns of spray are occasionally thrown up, and so great is the force of the receding current of air, that animals near its mouth are drawn into the cavern and engulfed in its vortex. By far the greater part of the land in this parish is enclosed and in a state of cultivation, but there is a considerable portion forming an extensive expanse of open downs. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £11. 6. 8., and in the patronage of Earl Cawdor. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a neat edifice, and was handsomely ornamented by John Campbell, Esq., a member of the Cawdor family. A little to the east of Bosherston Meer, and also within the parish, is the hermitage of St. Gawen, situated in a fissure of the rock, apparently formed by some violent convulsion, and about half-way between the summit and the base. A flight of steps, rudely cut in the rock, forms an ascent to the small chapel, which is about twenty feet in length and twelve feet wide, with an altar formed of a coarse stone slab, harmonizing with the rude and simple character of the place. On one side a door, opening from the chapel, leads into a small cell, cut in the rock, in form resembling the human body, which is said to have been the solitary retreat of St. Gawen. Beneath the hermitage is St. Gawen's well, formerly in great repute for the miraculous efficacy, in the cure of diseases, superstitiously ascribed to it through the influence of the saint, and still held in veneration by the inhabitants of the neighbourhood. The scenery around this sequestered spot is of the wildest and most romantic character: large fragments of rock, scattered in confused heaps, lie around it in every direction, and huge masses of rugged cliffs, threatening to detach themselves every moment from the higher precipices, which impend over the sea-worn base of the rock, give to the bold sublimity of the scene an appalling grandeur of effect. St. Gawen, from whom the promontory called St. Gawen's Head derives its name, though popularly regarded as a saint and anchorite, is said to have been the nephew of the renowned King Arthur, and one of the knights of his round table; and Hoole, in one of the notes attached to his translation of Orlando Furioso, asserts that on "a beach of the sea, near Milford Haven, is a natural rock, shaped into a chapel, which tradition reports to have been the burying-place of Sir Gawaine, King Arthur's nephew." The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure of £84. 9.

**BOTTWNOG (BÔD-WYNNOG)**, a parish in the hundred of GAFLOGION, Llein division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (W. S. W.) from Pwllheli, containing 179 inhabitants. The village is situated in an extensive plain, but neither it nor the surrounding district possesses features worthy of particular notice. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Meylltyn, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Beuno, is a small edifice, in a very dilapidated state. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. The grammar school was founded in 1616, by Dr. Henry Rowlands, Bishop of Bangor, who endowed it with a farm, called Llŷslew, at Porthamel, in the county of Anglesey, now producing £200 per annum, of which sum £100 per annum is paid to the master (who, ac-

cording to the will of the founder, must be an Englishman, and have taken the degree of master of arts at the University of Oxford), and £40 per annum to an usher, and £10 is allowed annually for coal; the remainder has been suffered to accumulate, and at present amounts to £550. There are fifty-four boys on the foundation, who are instructed in the general branches of an English education, and in the classics, when required. An excellent house was built in 1817, as a residence for the master, and the school-room and house for the usher are in very good repair. Bishop Rowlands also bequeathed to the Principal and Fellows of Jesus' College, Oxford, all his lands in Erianell, in the county of Anglesey, for the foundation of two fellowships in that college, one fellow to be from the school of Bottwnog, and one from that of Bangor, or of Beaumaris; and he charged his estate of Tyddyn y ddreinioes with the payment of £6 per annum for two poor boys in the school of Bottwnog. The average annual expenditure to support the poor is £35. 7.

**BOUGHROOD (BÂCH-RHYD)**, a parish in the hundred of PAINSCASTLE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (W. by S.) from Hay, containing 354 inhabitants. It is beautifully situated on the eastern bank of the Wye, across which there is a ford, from which the name of the place, signifying "the little ford," has been derived, where a boat and horse are in constant attendance, and on the western bank of which passes the road from Hay to Builth. The village is delightfully embowered in wood, and sheltered by hills of moderate elevation; and on the opposite bank of the Wye, which just below the ferry-house makes the most remarkable horse-shoe bend in the whole of its course, gliding along its smooth bed in unruffled tranquillity, strongly opposed to the impetuosity which characterizes the earlier part of its course over its rocky channel, extends a more elevated ridge of hills, clothed to the summit with majestic timber. The parish is almost equally divided between hilly and level ground: the soil is very light on the hills, but rich and clayey on the banks of the Wye: the small stream called Bâch-wy empties itself into the Wye near the village. Of the ancient castellated mansion, called Boughrood Castle, the only remains are the moat and part of a wall: a spacious modern house, bearing the same name, was erected nearly on its site by the late Francis Fowkes, Esq., which, together with the estate, has recently been sold to Walter Wilkins, of Maeslough, Esq. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £12. 6. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's, who also presents to the prebend of Boughrood, otherwise Llanbedr-Paincastle, in Christ's College, Brecknock, which is only rated at 13s. 4d. The church, dedicated to St. Cynog, consists of a nave and chancel, and, like most of the village churches in this part of the country, is kept neatly white-washed. There is a place of worship for Primitive Methodists. A Sunday school is superintended by a few of the parishioners. A rent-charge of £1. 4. on a tenement in this parish is annually distributed among the poor; and £5 per annum is received from the charity founded by the Rev. Rees Powell, for apprenticing poor children. This pious and benevolent individual, who was vicar of this parish, from which his benefactions to this and divers other parishes



have been called the "Boughrood charity," died in 1687, and lies buried in the priory church of Brecknock, in the account of which town his charity is described. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £186. 6.

**B Boulston**, otherwise **BULSTON**, a parish in the hundred of **DUNGLEDY**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 3 miles (S. E. by S.) from Haverfordwest, containing 302 inhabitants. This parish was for many generations the residence of the ancient family of the **Wogans**, by whom the church is supposed to have been originally built. It is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river **Cleddau**, and the surrounding scenery, which in some parts is richly wooded, is pleasingly and agreeably diversified. **Culm** abounds in the parish, but it has not been worked; and a vein of iron-ore has been discovered, but no preparations for procuring it have been made. The living is a donative, in the patronage of **Robert Innes Acland, Esq.** The church is an ancient structure, ornamented on the outside with the arms of the family of **Wogan**, above the chancel window, and contains several monuments to different members of that family. There are several tumuli in the parish, one of which was opened by **Mr. Fenton**, in his tour through this county, and found to contain a rudely-formed kist, in which were some human bones half calcined, intermixed with pieces of charcoal. Some of the remains of the ancient family mansion of the **Wogans**, on the bank of the river, are still preserved, as a picturesque ruin, in the beautiful grounds of an elegant mansion, the seat of **R. I. Acland, Esq.** The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £71. 16.

**Brawdy**, a parish in the hundred of **DEWISLAND**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 7 miles (E.) from **St. David's**, containing 768 inhabitants. This parish, which is intersected by the turnpike road from Haverfordwest to **St. David's**, is, with the exception of a comparatively small portion, consisting of hills and moors, enclosed, and in a good state of cultivation. Jointly with the parish of **Haycastle**, it constitutes the endowment of a prebend attached to the decanal stall in the cathedral church of **St. David's**, the deanery being annexed to the bishoprick. The living is a discharged vicarage, with that of **Haycastle** annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of **St. David's**, rated in the king's books at £3. 18. 9., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £1400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the **Bishop of St. David's**. The church is dedicated to **St. David**. There are two places of worship for **Presbyterians**, and one each for **Independents** and **Methodists**. It is related of the **Rev. Mr. Wilcocks**, the present respected vicar of this parish, that, prior to entering into holy orders, he paid two masters, during twelve years, out of his earnings by daily labour, to teach all the poor children of **Brawdy** and **Haycastle**; and that the parishioners were so impressed with a sense of his meritorious conduct and love of learning, that he was ordained at their request. On **Brawdy** farm there is a *râth*, or British encampment, defended by a triple rampart. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £249. 3.

**Brechva** (**BRECHFA**), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of **CATHINOG**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 11 miles (N. E.) from **Car-**

**marthen**, containing 93 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the river **Cothy**, a stream abounding with excellent trout, and in a beautifully romantic valley, surrounded on all sides by lofty hills of varied aspect, among which there is plenty of game. The soil is fertile; and the lands, which are all enclosed, are in a good state of cultivation. A turnpike road, connecting the counties of **Cardigan**, **Carmarthen**, and **Glamorgan**, has been constructed, which, passing through the parish, has materially contributed to the increase of its population. A fair, principally for cattle, is annually held on the 3rd of October. The living is a rectory not in charge, in the archdeaconry of **Carmarthen**, and diocese of **St. David's**, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the alternate patronage of **George Morgan, Esq.**, and the representative of the late **Mrs. Elizabeth Hughes**, the latter having the next presentation. The church, dedicated to **St. Teilo**, and situated at the extremity of the parish, upon the little river **Pib**, is a small plain edifice, without either tower or spire. There is a place of worship for **Methodists**. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £15. 8.

**Brecknock**, a borough and market town, having exclusive jurisdiction, locally in the hundreds of **Merthyr-Cynog**, **Pencelly**, and **Devynock**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**, 171 miles (W. by N.) from **London**, on the road to **Milford**, comprising the greater portions of the parishes of **St. John the Evangelist** and **St. David**, or **Llanvaes**, with the chapelry of **St. Mary** in the lower division of the former (the remaining portions of both these parishes being included respectively within the hundreds of **Merthyr-Cynog**, **Devynock**, and **Pencelly**), and the extra-parochial districts of the **Castle** and the **College of Christchurch**, and containing 5026 inhabitants, exclusively of the outportions of the two parishes, of which that of **St. John's** contains 119, and that of **St. David's** 115, and the two extra-parochial districts, of which that of the **Castle** contains 24, and that of **Christchurch College** 88, inhabitants. The origin of this place is referred to a period of very remote antiquity, having been attributed to the existence of an ancient British city, which, from its position on a moderate eminence within three miles of the present town, and from its commanding situation near the confluence of the rivers **Yscir** and **Usk**, may have been a place of considerable importance long before the arrival of the **Romans** in **Britain**. Near this place **Ostorius Scapula**, the first Roman general that penetrated into this part of the country, fixed a station, subsequently called *Caer Ban*, or *Caer Bannau*, and the remains of which are now called the *Gaer*. The *Via Julia Montana* passed this way, and was here intersected by the Roman road leading from **Neath** to **Chester**, now commonly called *Sarn Helen*. *Caer Bannau* likewise communicated by a vicinal way with the station *Tibia Amnis*, situated at or near the modern **Cardiff**. Its history under the dominion of the **Romans**, and after their



Seal and Arms.



departure from Britain, is involved in obscurity, very few circumstances of importance having been recorded of it. In the fifth century it was under the jurisdiction of a petty chieftain named *Brychan*, who is celebrated in the Welsh annals chiefly for the number, learning, and piety of his children, and from whom the country derived the appellation of *Brecheiniawg*, or *Brecheinog*, which has been altered by the English into *Brecknock* and *Brecon*, by which names it is at present known.

In the reign of William Rufus, Bernard Newmarch, encouraged by the success of his countryman, Robert Fitz-Hamon, in establishing himself in the neighbouring territory of Glamorgan, advanced with an army against Bleddyn ab Maenarch, at that time prince of Brycheiniog, and, after an obstinate and sanguinary battle near Caervong, (said by Mr. Jones to be a corruption of *Caer Ban*), in which that prince was slain, took possession of his dominions. Bernard, disliking the situation of the Roman British capital of the province he had conquered, or probably induced by the superior advantages of the spot which he now chose, demolished *Caer Bannau*, and employed the materials in building a castle three miles lower down the river Usk, at the influx of the *Honddŷ* into that river, adjacent to which, in process of time, a town arose, which, from its situation, was called by the Welsh *Aber Honddŷ*, and, becoming the capital of the ancient principality of Brycheiniog, received from the English the name of Brecknock, or Brecon. Having completed this castle, Bernard made it his chief residence and the head of his lordship marcher. The town, also built of the materials of the ancient capital, was surrounded with walls, enclosing an elliptical area about one thousand and seventy yards in circuit, defended by a deep moat, by which, together with the rivers Usk and *Honddŷ*, it was completely insulated. The walls were strengthened by ten towers, at nearly equal distances, but varying in form, some being circular and others square; and had five gates, of which two, still partly remaining, appear to have led to the priory. Notwithstanding the care with which the town was fortified, it was, from its situation, but ill adapted for security, being overlooked by numerous heights, from which missiles of every kind might be discharged against it with effect; and Bernard was, therefore, enabled to retain the territory which he had subjugated more by his policy in espousing a Welsh princess, namely *Nêst*, the granddaughter of *Gruffydd ab Llewelyn*. Bernard is said to have kept *Gwrgan*, the eldest son of *Bleddyn*, in close confinement in his castle of Brecknock, not permitting him to go abroad, unless accompanied by two of his Norman knights; but he nevertheless assigned to him, and also to his brother *Caradoc*, certain portions of land that remained after his allotment of the rest to his Norman followers. The last expedition of this conqueror for the extension of his territory was into Radnorshire, the result of which was the addition of *Elvel*, in that county, to his dominions. After this, Bernard appears to have devoted the remainder of his days in atoning for the violence and injustice of the earlier part of his life: by the advice of his confessor, Roger, a monk of the abbey of *Battle* in *Sussex*, he founded, without the castle walls, a priory for monks of the Benedictine order, which he dedicated to *St. John the Evangelist*, and made a cell to that abbey: he endowed

it with ample possessions, including the chapel within the castle, and churches, lands, tithes, and various other sources of revenue in several counties, and placed it under the management of *Walter*, an intimate friend of *Roger's*, and a monk in the same abbey, who, on the completion of the buildings, was made prior, and charged with the annual payment of twenty shillings, in token of dependence upon the abbey of *Battle*, to the abbacy of which the priors of Brecknock were eligible, and in the election of whom to that dignity the brethren of this priory had the privilege of voting.

Bernard Newmarch died in the reign of *Henry I.*, and was interred in the cloisters of the cathedral of *Gloucester*. His son-in-law and successor, *Milo Fitz-Walter*, resided principally at *Gloucester*, seldom visiting his Welsh possessions; but his eldest son, *Roger*, after succeeding to the lordship of Brecknock, was a munificent benefactor to the monks of this priory, to whom he granted five several charters, still extant, conferring many valuable gifts and important privileges. Among the former were the site of the *Vasta Civitas*, the ancient *Caer Bannau*, with its dependencies, extending up the northern bank of the river *Usk*, from the influx of the *Yscir* to that of the *Cilieni*; the exclusive possession of all mills in the parish of Brecknock, with the absolute right of prohibiting the erection of others; and the tithes of all cattle arising from the "benevolence or free gift of the Welsh," a sarcastic term, by which the Norman lords designated the annual contribution of a certain number of cattle, which they rigorously exacted from their Welsh tenantry, for the supply of their larder. The lordship and castle of Brecknock, after the decease of the other sons of *Milo Fitz-Walter*, passed by marriage with his daughter to *Philip de Breos*, Lord of *Builth*, whose ancestor had accompanied the Conqueror into England. *Philip* died in the reign of *Henry II.*, and left his possessions to his son, *William de Breos*, a man of a fierce and turbulent character, who, from the veneration in which he held the priory of *St. John*, at Brecknock, granted to all persons belonging to it, as well burgesses as others, exemption from all levies and contributions payable to chief constables, and from all fines for common trespasses and defaults, and to the monks of that establishment the goods and chattels of felons, reserving to himself and to the officers of his court the right of determining and passing all sentences affecting life or limb. *William*, having summoned *Trahearn Vychan*, the great grandson of *Bleddyn ab Maenarch*, and lord of *Llangorse*, to a conference at Brecknock, in 1198, the latter immediately prepared to obey the injunction of his superior lord, who caused him to be treacherously seized on his way, and fastening him to a horse's tail, ordered him to be dragged through the streets of Brecknock, after which he was beheaded, and his body ignominiously hung up by the feet for three days. This lord was also continually embroiled with *King John*, to whom, after repeated delays in the payment of a large sum of money, he was obliged to deliver up his castles of Brecknock, Hay, and Radnor; but soon afterwards raising a body of troops in haste, he retook them by surprise, and recovered possession of them. Having committed some devastations in the adjacent country, he was closely pressed by the king's forces, and at last withdrew into



Ireland, where he associated himself with the enemies of the English sovereign. He afterwards made a feigned submission to the king, who was preparing to embark for Ireland; but, after again exciting disturbances in Wales, he at length retired into France, where he died in exile, and his estates escheated to the crown. The castle and lordship of Brecknock, with the other portion of the estates in Wales, were restored by King John to Giles Bishop of Hereford, son of William de Breos, on whose death they passed, in 1215, to his brother Reginald, who, having married the daughter of Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of Wales, entered, with his father-in-law, into the confederacy formed by the disaffected English barons against that monarch. The English portion of his paternal estates was afterwards restored to Reginald by Henry III., with whom he had entered into a separate treaty. Llewelyn, in revenge for Reginald's desertion from his former alliance, laid siege to Brecknock, intending to demolish it; but, on the petition of the inhabitants, strengthened by the earnest intercession of his nephew Rhÿs, he was prevailed upon to spare the town; and, taking hostages for the future conduct of the burgesses, and a hundred marks as a compensation to his troops, he retired and proceeded across the mountains towards Gower. Reginald, dying in 1228, was interred in the priory church at Brecknock, and his estates descended to his son, William de Breos, who, aiding the English monarch in an expedition into North Wales, was taken prisoner by Llewelyn, and detained in custody, from which he was released on the payment of a large ransom. Llewelyn, after his departure, having, as it is recorded, discovered that during his confinement he had seduced the fidelity of his wife, inveigled him into his power, in 1229, by a friendly invitation to celebrate the festival of Easter at his castle at Aber, in the county of Carnarvon, where, after a sumptuous banquet, reproaching him with his crime, he caused him to be dragged from his presence, and hanged on a neighbouring hill. This prince, in the course of his devastations in the marches, about the year 1231, when he extended his ravages as far as Caerlleon, appears to have made himself master of Brecknock; but in another excursion, about two years after, he was foiled in his attempt to surprise the castle, and, after having besieged it for a month without success, set fire to the town, and retired with his plunder into North Wales.

The lordship and castle, on the death of William de Breos, passed by marriage with his daughter to Humphrey de Bohun, sixth Earl of Hereford, in whose time Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, in the prosecution of his border warfare, came to Brecknock, on the invitation of the inhabitants, who voluntarily tendered their submission; and, notwithstanding de Bohun and he acted in concert on the side of the insurgents under Simon de Montfort, yet in 1267, on the conclusion of peace between Henry III. and Llewelyn, the latter was by treaty permitted to retain the lordship and castle of Brecknock. Humphrey de Bohun, son and successor to the former earl, recovered possession of them, apparently without much opposition from the inhabitants; and, in the 4th of Edward I., confirmed and considerably augmented the privileges conferred on the burgesses by his father, from whom they received the first charter now on

record, and invested them with liberties and immunities as ample as he had previously granted to the citizens of Hereford. The hospitality of the de Bohuns, who lived in great splendour in the castle, which, in the reign of Edward III., was considerably enlarged and beautified, in the best style of that age; the grant of an annual fair for sixteen days, commencing eight days before, and continuing for eight days after, the festival of St. Leonard; the great resort of persons to the castle, and the large demand for all kinds of provisions for their supply, contributed to make the town of Brecknock more flourishing than it had ever been, and to render it the grand mart of South Wales. On the elevation of the Duke of Hereford to the throne, in 1399, by the title of Henry IV., the lordship of Brecknock became vested in the crown, in consequence of that monarch's previous marriage with the heiress of the de Bohuns; and, during the war carried on by Owain Glyndwr, in 1404, John Touchet, Lord Audley, was associated with Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick and Lord of Abergavenny, in a commission under that sovereign, to defend for one whole year the castle, town, and lordship of Brecknock, for which purpose one hundred men at arms, and three hundred archers on horseback, with a suitable allowance for their pay, were placed under their control. Henry IV., in the fourteenth year of his reign, granted to the burgesses the first royal charter which they ever obtained: this was confirmed, and some further immunities added, by his son and successor, Henry V. After the death of the Countess Dowager of Hereford, who, during her lifetime, had remained in actual possession of the lordship of Brecknock, Henry granted this domain to Anne, widow of Edmund Earl of Stafford, who no sooner obtained possession of it, than she disfranchised the borough, revoking all the charters which had previously been granted to the burgesses, and entirely annulling their privileges and immunities. Her son, who succeeded to these possessions in 1439, and was created Duke of Buckingham by Henry VI., in the twenty-third year of his reign, granted to the burgesses, in 1448, a charter, in which about seventy-five of them are enumerated, to whom, as being "English people, and to their heirs, being English, both by the father's and mother's side," the privileges were restricted; clearly shewing the policy which prevailed at that period, of excluding the Welsh inhabitants from the exercise of any municipal authority. The duke, who to his Welsh tenantry was an arbitrary master, burdening them with heavy impositions, and requiring the landholders within the lordship to exhibit the title deeds of their estates, was killed at the battle of Northampton, fighting in the cause of Henry VI., and was succeeded by his grandson Henry, then a minor, who, on attaining his majority, lived in retirement in the castle during the greater part of the reign of Edward IV., and, after the death of that monarch, became the confidential adviser of Richard Duke of Gloucester, and the chief promoter of his ambitious designs. In recompense for his services, Richard, on his elevation to the throne, appointed him governor of all the royal castles in Wales, steward of the royal manors in the counties of Hereford and Salop, Chief Justice and Chamberlain of North and South Wales, and Lord High Constable of England. But on the rupture which ensued between



Richard and the duke, the latter withdrew from court to his castle of Brecknock, in which also was confined John Morton, Bishop of Ely, originally a zealous adherent of the Lancastrian party, who, having been pardoned by the Yorkists, attached himself to the family of Edward, and had been committed by Richard to Buckingham's custody. Between the duke and his prisoner a curious conversation is recorded in the *Chronicles of Stowe and Speed*, the result of which was the departure of Morton to the continent, to concert with the Earl of Richmond a plan for the promotion of his enterprise, by exciting an insurrection in his favour at home. Richard, either having discovered or suspecting the plot, commanded the duke's appearance at court, which being disregarded, he sent orders to Sir Thomas Vaughan, of Trêtower, to raise the country and attack and plunder the castle of Brecknock. The duke, having mustered his dependents, and raised what forces he could, published a vehement manifesto against Richard, and advancing from Brecknock with a numerous, but ill-arranged, body of troops, proceeded upon that expedition to the south-west of England, the issue of which was fatal to his hopes and to his life. On his execution and attainder, Sir James Tyrrel was appointed commissioner for his forfeited estates in Wales, and Sir Ralph Ashton was ordained vice-constable of England, with discretionary power, either to try by the examination of witnesses, or, without trial, to pass sentence upon all persons guilty or suspected of high treason, and on all who were concerned in the insurrection, taking with him only a secretary to make minutes of his proceedings.

On the accession of Henry VII., the lordship and castle, together with the other honours and estates of the late duke, were restored to his eldest son Edward, who considerably improved the castle, and restored to the burgesses the privileges which they had enjoyed under their former charters. In the following reign, this duke was brought to trial for some indiscreet expressions respecting his title to the throne, in the event of Henry's death without issue; and being found guilty, was beheaded. As his offence was rather the effect of inconsiderate levity than of deliberate malice, the people, by whom he was greatly beloved, attributed the refusal of a pardon to the animosity and revenge of Wolsey. With him expired the office of High Constable of England, which had been hereditary in the family, and was never afterwards revived. The lordship escheated to the crown, to which it has ever since belonged, having been granted on lease to divers individuals, and is now held by Sir Charles Morgan, Bart. In the reign of Elizabeth, Mr. Harry Vaughan of Moccas was appointed Her Majesty's lieutenant and steward of the castle and lordship; during whose lieutenancy it appears, from an ancient Welsh manuscript still extant, that there broke out an insurrection of the country people, who are described as coming down from the hills to the number of twelve hundred, armed with bill-hooks, and as making an ineffectual attempt on the castle, without either arms or machines calculated to make any impression upon it. During the parliamentary war, it appears, from a manuscript in the British Museum, by Mr. Simmons, who is supposed to have been an officer in the royal army, that the inhabitants destroyed the castle, which, since the abolition of the lordships

marcher, had been suffered to go to decay; and also razed the walls and fortifications of the town, in order to preclude the possibility of their being burdened with the maintenance of a garrison, or compelled to sustain a siege. The king, in his flight after the battle of Naseby, passed through the town, in the year 1645, and remained for one night at the priory house, then in the possession of Mr. (afterwards Sir Herbert) Price, one of his zealous friends and adherents; and from this place he addressed a letter to the Prince of Wales, then in Cornwall, or on his way thence to Bristol.

The town is delightfully situated at the confluence of the rivers Honddû and Tarrell with the Usk. Considerable alterations have been made of late years, with the view of improving the entrances to it, on the line of the principal thoroughfare: at the eastern extremity, the barracks, and a row of genteel houses, called Jeffreys Place, have been erected; and the Usk bridge gate, and several houses adjoining it, nearly in the centre of the town, have been taken down. The bridge over the Usk also was widened, in 1794: it is a substantial stone structure of seven arches, leading to the parish of St. David, commonly called Llanvaes, on the opposite bank of the river, one-half of which forms the lower ward of the borough. At the western extremity, the Tarrell is crossed by a handsome stone bridge of one large arch, with a cylindrical perforation at each end, erected in 1829, at the joint expense of the county and the borough. There are three bridges over the river Honddû, from which advantageous views of the dismantled towers of the castle and the priory groves are obtained: the first, which is of stone, was rebuilt in 1813, and is kept in repair by the inhabitants of the borough; the second, which anciently led to the castle, has two arches, and between them a very massive pier, that anciently sustained a draw-bridge; it is now thrown open to the public, and the expense of keeping it in repair is defrayed by the lord of the manor of Brecknock: the third, which is very near the confluence of that river with the Usk, is an old bridge of stone, consisting of three heavy arches, and is kept in repair by the inhabitants of the borough. The appearance of Brecknock is strikingly picturesque, and the various interesting objects composing the scenery of the immediate vicinity, though not numerous, are pleasingly contrasted and happily combined. The streams which converge to it, as a common centre, with their respective bridges, and the various mills erected on their banks; the venerable ruins of its ancient castle, with its massive towers and ivy-mantled walls; the embattled turret and gateway of the priory of St. John the Evangelist, with its ample and luxuriant groves, fringing the margin of the Honddû, from which in many places they appear to rise; and the magnificent range of mountain scenery to the south of the town, with the almost endless variety of impending heights, which encircle it on every side; unite in forming one of the most beautiful and richly varied views in this part of the principality; and the banks of the Honddû, a wild and rapid stream, present numerous picturesque objects. The town consists chiefly of three principal streets, diverging from the High-street, in the centre, and containing a large proportion of well-built houses of respectable appearance. One of



the principal streets leads westward through Llanvaes towards Carmarthen; another takes an easterly direction, nearly parallel with the Usk, towards Abergavenny and London; while the third, called "the Struet," leads north-eastward towards Hay and Hereford: the other streets are in general narrow, but contain many good houses. The whole is lighted with gas, well paved, and supplied with water under the superintendence of commissioners appointed by a local act of parliament. A handsome building was commenced, in 1805, at the east end of the town, at the expense of Government, for the purpose of an armoury, in which for some years fifteen thousand stand of arms were deposited, but they have recently been removed, and the building has been converted into barracks, now occupied by regular troops: it is a handsome structure of red brick, enclosed within a high wall, and forming an ornament to this part of the town: the original expense was £15,000, but a considerable sum has since been laid out upon the building, in altering and improving it; notwithstanding which, however, it will not accommodate more than one hundred and twenty men. In this town are held the meetings of the Brecknockshire Agricultural Society, the oldest institution of the kind in the principality, originally established in the year 1755, and revived in November 1817: the Duke of Beaufort and Marquis Camden are the present patrons; and its affairs are conducted by a president, vice-president, and a committee of subscribers: the meetings usually take place in the rooms of the society, in the months of March and October, when the premiums to be offered for the year ensuing are determined on: the total sum distributed at the autumnal meeting, in 1831, was £53. 0. 6. The theatre, a plain building well adapted to the purpose, and elegantly fitted up in the interior, but occupying an ineligible site, is opened for four months periodically, and the company is occasionally assisted by some of the London performers. Races are held annually in the autumn, generally in the last week of September, or the beginning of October, and are in general well attended: the course is adjacent to the town, and a grand stand is about to be erected, the subscription for which has been entered into. They continue for two days: on the first are awarded the farmers' stakes of one sovereign each, and a cup given by the townsmen of Brecknock; and on the second, the members' plate of fifty sovereigns, a sweepstakes of five sovereigns each, with twenty sovereigns added out of the subscription fund, and a free handicap stakes of four sovereigns each, with thirty sovereigns added. In the assize and race weeks balls are held alternately at the guild-hall and at the Castle Inn; and, until the last winter, a regular course of public balls was supported, which were held once a fortnight during the winter, in the spacious room at the inn above-mentioned. Along the banks of the Usk, and immediately under the old town walls, a beautiful promenade has been formed, commanding a fine and extensive view of the scenery on the south side of that river; and another and more retired walk has been laid out with great taste through the woods of the priory, extending along the declivity of an eminence rising from the bank of the river Honddŷ, and embracing much of the beautiful scenery with which the environs abound. The internal neatness of the town, the pleasantness of its situation, the salu-

brity of the air, and the interesting excursions which the neighbourhood affords, render it desirable as a place of residence, and have made it the retreat of many opulent and highly respectable families. The society is remarkably select, and its influence on the poorer classes is obvious in their decent and orderly demeanour, which is fully and frequently attested by the light calendar at the assizes and quarter sessions. This town has at present no manufactures, but from the different companies mentioned in its charter, each of which had a chapel in St. John's or St. Mary's church, in which they met to transact their affairs, it appears formerly to have been of some commercial importance. The trade is now principally in wool, leather, and hops, and in the supply of the neighbourhood with various articles of consumption; and has greatly increased since the construction of the Brecknock and Abergavenny canal, which was completed in 1811, and communicates with the Monmouthshire canal, and thence, by Newport, with Bristol and other parts of the kingdom. The whole extent of this canal is forty-five miles, the greater portion of which is a fine level: within a few miles from the town it passes through a tunnel, nearly a quarter of a mile in length, which has been cut through a hill; and on its near approach to Newport, the navigation is partially impeded by the numerous locks, rendered necessary from the inequality of the ground through which it passes. Regular trading boats have been established, which pass weekly between this place and Bristol, and capacious wharfs for coal and lime have here been constructed on the banks of the canal. A tram-road from its head at this town to Kington, in the county of Hereford, thirty-five miles in extent, has been formed, for the conveyance of coal, lime, and other heavy commodities: about three miles from the town it passes through a tunnel, eight hundred yards in length, which has been cut through the solid rock. The markets are on Wednesday for butchers' meat and vegetables, and on Saturday, which is the principal market, for corn and provisions: the charter of this borough also grants another market on Friday. The fairs are on the first Wednesday in March, May 4th, July 5th, September 9th, and November 16th, principally for horses, cattle, sheep, agricultural produce, hops, wool, leather, and pedlery: those in May and November, of which the latter is the larger, are also statute fairs for the hiring of servants. The market-place is under the town-hall, where butchers' meat, salt butter, hops, and leather are sold; but the principal commodities, such as corn, fresh butter, poultry, hardware, &c., are exposed for sale in the streets.

During the existence of the lordship marcher of Brecknock, the inhabitants participated in the privileges and immunities which were from time to time conferred by the lords marcher upon the priors of St. John the Evangelist; but it was not till the accession of de Bohun, sixth Earl of Hereford, to the lordship, in the reign of Henry III., that they possessed any exclusive privileges of their own. This nobleman first incorporated them, and gave them a charter of privileges, which was confirmed and extended by his son and successor, who, in the 4th year of the reign of Edward I., granted them privileges and immunities equal to those enjoyed by the city of Hereford. This charter was renewed and confirmed by his son, Hum-



phrey de Bohun, in the reign of Edward II., but in the following reign was abrogated by his successor, who, upon some offence, disfranchised the burgesses, and kept them in a state of vassalage for the remainder of his life. His nephew and successor, in the 39th of Edward III., restored to them their former privileges, and gave them a new charter of incorporation, which continued in force till the accession of Henry IV., who, in the 14th year of his reign, conferred on them their first royal charter. This charter was annulled by Anne, Countess Dowager of Stafford, who, on being put in possession of the lordship, disfranchised the burgesses; but it was restored in 1448, by her son, the first of that family who became duke of Buckingham. Under these charters the municipal government appears to have been exercised by a bailiff and twenty-four principal burgesses; and, till the union with England, the bailiff appears to have been appointed by the lord, who also appointed a sheriff of the borough, who held his office for life. The bailiff had power to appoint a deputy, and mention is made of a bailiff itinerant, the duties of whose office, though not clearly known, are supposed to have consisted in superintending the municipal government of part of the parish of Llywel, which, though eleven miles distant, is within the jurisdiction of the corporation, and in collecting the fines and other revenues of the borough. There were anciently five guilds, or trading companies, *viz.*, the weavers, tuckers, tailors, shoemakers, and glovers, or skinners: the first four of these for several centuries held their meetings in their respective chapels, in the churches of St. John and St. Mary. The abolition of various Welsh laws and customs, during the reign of Henry VIII., having greatly diminished the revenue of the corporation, they obtained, through the interest of the Earl of Pembroke, a remission from Queen Mary, soon after her accession, of £100 of the fee-farm rent of the borough, which previously amounted to £120, and, by the same influence, in the 2nd and 3rd years of the reign of Philip and Mary, the charter by which the town is now governed, and which seems to have extended the limits of the borough, so as to include the priory precincts and the parish of St. David, as far as the river Tarrell: the borough limits, under its ancient lords, appear to have comprised only the space within the walls. By this charter the government is vested in a bailiff, recorder, two aldermen, and fifteen capital burgesses, including the bailiff and aldermen, assisted by a town-clerk, two chamberlains, two serjeants at mace, and other officers. The bailiff, who is also clerk of the market and coroner, and has the return of all writs, and the aldermen, are chosen annually from among the capital burgesses, by the corporation at large, on the Monday next before the 29th of September, and sworn into office on the Monday following. The capital burgesses are chosen from among the burgesses, as vacancies occur, by a majority of their own body; and the recorder, town-clerk, and chamberlains are appointed by the corporation at large, by whom also the burgesses are chosen. The burgesses, whose number is now only seventeen, including the capital burgesses, are exempt from serving the offices of assessors or collectors of taxes due to the crown out of the limits of the borough, and from the payment of toll throughout the kingdom: those residing within the borough are also exempt from serving on juries for

the county, and from liability to appear without the walls of Brecknock before any judge or justice appointed by the crown, excepting only the chief justice of the county. The borough first received the elective franchise in the 27th of Henry VIII., since which time it has continued to return one member to parliament: the right of election was formerly vested in the bailiff, aldermen, and resident burgesses. The act for amending the representation of the people, recently passed, has neither altered the limits of the borough nor the number of its representatives, but has extended the right of voting to every male person of full age, occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the law directs: the present number of persons thus qualified is about three hundred and forty, in addition to the former limited constituency: the bailiff is the returning officer. The right of conferring the freedom of the borough upon any of the inhabitants, on their taking an oath to obey the municipal officers in all things lawful, and to defend the liberties and franchises of the borough to the utmost of their power, is vested in the corporation; and the freedom is obtained only by this means. The borough is divided into twelve wards, of which eleven are in the town and immediate vicinity, and include the precinct of the priory of St. John the Evangelist; and the twelfth, called Trêcastle ward, forming that part of the parish of Llywel which lies to the north of the river Usk, is at the distance of eleven miles, in the hundred of Devynock. The bailiff, recorder, and aldermen are justices of the peace within the borough, and the county magistrates have no concurrent jurisdiction, unless in the event of a total failure of municipal justices. The corporation hold quarterly courts of session, for deciding upon all offences not capital, at which the recorder presides; a court of record every Monday and Thursday, for the determination of pleas and the recovery of debts to any amount, at which the bailiff, recorder, and aldermen, or any two of them, preside, with the power of issuing process to hold to bail in actions for debt; and, within one month after Michaelmas, a court leet, as lords of the manor, with view of frankpledge, at which also they appoint two constables for each of the twelve wards. The assizes for the county, and the election of a knight for the shire, take place at Brecknock, as the county town. The borough and county hall was rebuilt in 1770, at the joint expense of the corporation and the county, aided by contributions from their representatives in parliament: it is a neat, spacious, and commodious building, in the High-street, having on the first floor a spacious room, in which the public business of the corporation is transacted, and the sessions and courts for the borough, and the assizes and quarter sessions for the county, are held: at the east end is a room for the accommodation of the grand jury, and for the preservation of the public records of the borough: the basement story is appropriated as a market-place, and beneath it are spacious vaults, in which leather and other articles of merchandise are stored: the attic story was used as a receptacle for arms and military stores prior to the erection of the armoury, in 1805. The gaol for the borough is small and inconvenient, being in no wise



adapted to the classification of prisoners: it is therefore used only as a prison for debtors under process in the borough court, and as a place of temporary confinement for breaches of the peace, and of prisoners previously to their committal for trial to the county gaol. The common gaol for the county was anciently in the castle, a portion of which was appropriated to that purpose till the year 1690, when a new prison was built in that part of the borough called Watton, which was abandoned some years ago. The present common gaol and house of correction is situated on the east bank of the Tarrell, in the parish of St. David: it is a neat modern building, comprising five divisions for the classification of prisoners, five day-rooms, one work-room, and five airing-yards, in one of which is a tread-wheel, applicable either to the introduction of soft water for the supply of the prison, or to the working of a tucking-mill: the entire building, which is on the plan recommended by the philanthropic Howard, will accommodate twenty-four prisoners, in so many separate cells.

The living of St. John's is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of St. Mary's annexed, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Rev. Richard Davies, the present archdeacon of Brecknock. The church, which was anciently the chapel of the priory founded here by Bernard Newmarch, is an ancient and venerable cruciform structure, chiefly in the early and decorated styles of English architecture, with a low massive central tower, and occupies a beautiful eminence on the western bank of the river Honddŷ, on the north side of the town, near the Priory woods, but has sustained so much unavoidable dilapidation, and undergone so many alterations, that little of its original character remains. It is partly embattled, and on the south side is nearly overgrown with ivy, forming, from its elevated situation and romantic appearance, an interesting object in the view from the adjoining grounds of Marquis Camden's seat: it was formerly surrounded by a strong lofty wall, part of which is still remaining on the western side. The nave, which is one hundred and thirty-six feet and a half in length, and twenty-eight and a half broad, is very lofty, and has been recently ceiled: on each side are portions anciently appropriated to the use of the guilds, separated by partitions of wood, on the front of which emblematical devices, illustrative of their several trades, were formerly partly carved and partly painted. The chancel, which is principally in the decorated style of English architecture, and is sixty-two feet long and twenty-nine and a half broad, is separated from the nave by a screen, formerly the rood-loft, and has a modern ceiling, divided into compartments: on each side are the remains of three light and beautifully clustered springers, which supported the ancient roof, broken off just above the corbels, and at the east end is a combination of five lancet-shaped windows, under a plain pointed arch, divided externally by four mullions and internally by four slender pilasters. Adjoining the chancel is a chapel of large dimensions, much admired for the beauty of its architecture: it was built soon after the incorporation of the town, by one of the family of Havard of Pontwilym, and for

the last two or three centuries has obtained the appellation of the Vicar's chapel. Of the cross aisles, or transepts, the northern, called the chapel of the men of Battle, from its having been appropriated to the use of the inhabitants of the neighbouring village of Battle, before that became a distinct parish, is thirty feet and a half long, and twenty-nine broad; while the southern, called *Capel y Côchiaid*, "the chapel of the red-haired men" (meaning the Normans), is of the same breadth as the other, but extends to a length of thirty-eight feet three inches. The former was lighted at the end by a combination of three lancet-shaped windows, now filled up with boards, and the latter by a corresponding window: the aisles are lighted by a range of four windows in the later English style. Near the western end of the nave is a circular Norman font, the shaft of which is decorated with a series of intersecting arches; and round the edge is an inscription nearly obliterated. The living of St. David's, or Llanvaes, is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 15. 7½., endowed with £400 private benefaction, and £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Archdeacon of Brecknock. The church, a small edifice of one aisle, with a tower at the west end, is situated in the suburb of Llanvaes, on the south side of the river Usk. The living of St. Mary's is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of St. John's, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £400 private benefaction, and £600 royal bounty. The chapel, which was anciently parochial, is situated in the centre of the town, and was rebuilt in the reign of Henry VIII.: it is a spacious and handsome edifice, in the later style of English architecture, with a square embattled tower, erected in 1515, about ninety feet in height, and containing a ring of eight bells: it comprises two aisles, a chancel, and, on the north-east, the chapel formerly appropriated to the guild of shoemakers, from which a door opens into the vestry-room, now rendered useless by the erection of houses close to its windows, by which it is so darkened that it has been found necessary to transfer the transaction of the parochial business of St. John's to the town-hall. At the western end is a large window of five lights, having cinque-foiled heads, under an ogee arch: the east window of the chancel is of the same kind, but plainer. The pointed arches which separate the nave from the aisle spring from short round piers, such as characterize the Norman style, from which it is inferred that this structure is of much older foundation than is indicated by the prevailing style of its architecture: indeed, a document is extant, recording a grant to this church at the end of the twelfth, or the commencement of the thirteenth century. A handsome brass chandelier was presented to it about the close of the seventeenth century, by Lady Elizabeth Lucy, relict of Dr. Lucy, Bishop of St. David's. In this chapel the consistorial court of the archdeaconry of Brecknock is held every month: its jurisdiction extends over the whole of the counties of Brecknock and Radnor, the parishes of Kerry and Moughtrey, in the county of Montgomery, eight parishes in the county of Hereford, and two in the county of Monmouth. Near Slwch, within the chapelry of St. Mary, formerly stood a chapel, dedicated to St. Elyned; near the eastern entrance into the town, one called St. Catherine's chapel; and adjoining the borough



gaol, a third; but there is not at present a single vestige of any of them. There are three places of worship for Baptists, and one each for Welsh Independents, Welsh Calvinistic Methodists, and English Wesleyan and Welsh Wesleyan Methodists. That belonging to the Independents, called Plough Chapel, has two valuable endowments, one a farm in the parish of Merthyr-Cynog, called Ty'n rhŷd y maen, bequeathed by Richard Williams, of Glewly, in 1689, and now producing £20 per annum; and the other a messuage, tenement, and lands, called the Plough, in the town of Brecknock, producing from £25 to £30 per annum. A small tenement, called Bola Maen, in the parish of Llanvihangel-Nant-Brân, has also been left by some unknown benefactor for the support of a Roman Catholic priest in this town, where, however, there are now but very few professing this creed, and these have no chapel.

In the suburb of Llanvaes is situated the College of Christchurch, occupying the site of an ancient house of friars preachers, which existed here before the Reformation, and of which the church, dedicated to St. Nicholas (apparently, from the foundations still remaining, a spacious structure, nearly two hundred feet in length), was demolished in the reign of Charles I., by the parliamentary commissioners, who seized the revenue of the establishment. Its origin may be attributed to Dr. Thomas Beck, Bishop of St. David's, who, in 1283, projected a similar establishment at Llangadock, in the county of Carmarthen, which was frustrated by his death. The original design was revived, in 1331, by Bishop Gower, his successor, who, adopting the same plan, made the church of Aberguilly collegiate for that purpose. The institution thus founded continued at Aberguilly till the year 1531, when, by the influence of Bishop Rawlins, it was transferred to Brecknock by Henry VIII., who assigned for its site the suppressed monastery of St. Nicholas, and granted the revenue of that establishment, in addition to its former possessions, for its better support, ordaining that it should be thenceforward called "the College of Christ in Brecknock." The charter of Henry VIII. assigns, as the causes of its removal, the inappropriateness of its former situation, and the ignorance of the English language that prevailed among the inhabitants of this part of South Wales, which prevented them from understanding, and consequently from obeying, the statutes of the realm. The charter also ordains that the Bishops of St. David's should be deans of the new foundation, and should appoint a schoolmaster, an usher, a divinity lecturer, and a preacher, to be paid out of the revenue of the college, for the gratuitous instruction of the children of the borough. The total amount of the reserved rents of the prebends is £387.2. per annum, out of which are paid annually £30.18.4. to the divinity lecturer, and £20.1.9. to a schoolmaster. The present establishment consists of the Bishop of St. David's, who presides as dean, a precentor, treasurer, chancellor, and nineteen prebendaries. From the college grammar school young men were formerly admitted into holy orders, without graduating at either of the Universities; but of this important privilege it has been deprived since the foundation of St. David's College, at Lampeter. After the Restoration, Dr. William Lucy, being appointed Bishop of St. David's and Dean of Christ's College, restored or rebuilt a portion of the church, as it now ap-

pears, consisting only of a choir and chancel, sixty-eight feet in length, and twenty-six in breadth, in which, ranged along each side of the entrance, are the stalls of the dean and prebendaries: the east window is large, comprising a combination of five lancet-shaped windows of elegant design, in a plain pointed arch, and enriched with delicate tracery; and on the north side of the building there is a range of ten lancet-shaped windows. Adjoining the north-west angle are the remains of the Aubrey chapel, an appendage of the ancient church of St. Nicholas; and at the east end is a beautiful stone cross, removed into that situation, in 1806, from the ruins of the Aubrey chapel. Bishop Bull was interred in the present church, which contains monumental memorials of several other bishops of St. David's, who have been buried within its walls. But the most ancient inscription remaining is that on a stone now forming the threshold of the door, in memory of the father of the famous Sir David Gam, who resided at Newton, in the parish of St. David, and was interred here, some time in the reign of Henry V., though the memorial is without date. There is a monument to the memory of Bishop Lucy; but the most costly is an altar-tomb bearing the recumbent effigies of this prelate's eldest son Richard, chancellor of the church, and of his wife, with that of their son, attired in the dress of the time of James II., on a stone tablet at their feet. There are also, within the college precincts, which are extra-parochial, a house, which has been the residence of several of the bishops, some other dwelling-houses, and also vestiges of the ancient conventual buildings, among which are part of the old gateway and the refectory.

The Boughrood charity school, held in the Struet, in the house of the master, who receives a salary of twenty guineas per annum, and enjoys a house and garden rent-free, for the instruction of fifty boys, was established under the will of the Rev. Rees Powell, formerly vicar of Boughrood, Radnorshire, dated 1686, by which he bequeathed the manors or lordships of Upper Elvel, Aberedw, and Garreg, and the castle, common, and forest of Colwyn, all in the county of Radnor, and now producing annually £262.4.4., to various charitable purposes therein named; among which, besides the support of the above-mentioned school, are, £20 per annum for placing out poor children, natives of the town and borough of Brecknock, or of the parishes of St. John the Evangelist, St. David, and Aberyscir, to some lawful trades in the town of Brecknock; £10 yearly towards forming a stock for subsequently establishing the said poor children in business; and £24 per annum to the Principal, or Vice-Principal, of Jesus' College, Oxford, for poor scholars or under-graduates there, natives of the counties of Radnor or Brecknock, with preference to the kindred of the donor: the income of this charity having greatly increased, the surplus is employed by the trustees, either in extending the charity to a greater number of children than is mentioned in the original deed, or in augmenting the sums therein specified. Two Lancasterian schools, for the education of children of both sexes, were established in 1810, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the accession of George III.: they are kept in two rooms in the same building, erected for the purpose; and on the books are now about one hundred children of both sexes: the master and mis-



tress receive a salary of £40 per annum each. In 1722, Nicholas Jeffreys gave £100, directing the interest to be applied to the use of the charity school of blue-coat boys; in 1724, Mrs. Catherine Games gave £300, to purchase lands, out of the rents of which, £2 yearly was to be paid to the charity school for girls, and the remainder to be yearly distributed in bread, at the discretion of the trustees; and, in 1794, Mrs. Mary Williams devised the interest of £100, to be annually applied towards the support of the charity school of Brecknock: these several bequests are now united, and their produce, jointly with annual subscriptions, and the bequest of Mrs. Collinson, below-mentioned, is applied to the support of the Benevolent or Lancasterian schools, forming a fund out of which the salaries of the master and mistress are paid. Here is likewise a Sunday school supported by subscription. An almshouse for twelve decayed female housekeepers was founded, in 1721, by Mrs. Catherine Games and Mrs. Walker, who bequeathed £620 to be laid out in the purchase of lands for its endowment, and placed it under the superintendence of the proprietor of the Pen Pont estate: the dwellings, to each of which a garden is attached, are situated in Llanvaes, form three sides of a quadrangle, and are comfortably fitted up: the endowment was expended in the purchase of an estate, called Hepsté, in the parish of Cantrêv; but in lieu of the rent of this property, only the interest of the original sum is paid to the poor inmates, at the rate of fifty shillings each per annum. This stipend has, however, lately been augmented by Mrs. Sybil Collinson, late of Brecknock, who by will left £25 per annum, of which £12 is to be equally distributed every year among the inmates of this hospital, the same sum to be appropriated to the Brecknock Benevolent or Lancasterian schools, and the remaining £1 to the county gaol. Numerous other bequests have been made for the benefit of the poor. In 1581, Mrs. William Thomas gave £100, to be lent to five weavers and five tuckers, without interest, for the term of three years, for ever: about the end of the sixteenth, or commencement of the seventeenth, century, Mr. Peter Body gave a messuage and garden of the yearly rent of £1, to be distributed among the poor, which bequest has now become merely a rent-charge; Mr. Lewis Meredith gave a messuage and garden of the same yearly rent, to be applied in the like manner; and Evan Williams Shenkin gave £2 per annum to the poor. In 1612, Sir David Williams, of Gwernyvet, in the parish of Glâsbury, bequeathed the tithes of Gwendwr, in this county, to certain charitable purposes, among which was the sum of forty shillings per annum to the poor of the parish of St. John the Evangelist in this town, which portion, owing to the increased value of the property, now produces £8. 8. 6.: and a bequest of ten shillings by the same benefactor, for an annual sermon to be preached here, has increased to £1. 12. 3. In the same year, Mr. Howel Thomas gave £1 per annum to the poor; in 1657, Mr. Thomas Davies gave funds for furnishing four suits of clothes to four poor tradesmen yearly at Christmas; and, about the same time, Mr. John Williams gave £6 per annum to three poor people of Brecknock, for ever; and Mr. Tobias Williams £1 yearly to the poor, and ten shillings for a sermon on Candlemas-day. In 1674, Edmund Jones, of Buckland, assigned a house, stable, yard, and outhouse, in the High-street,

in trust for apprenticing poor boys, natives of the borough, within the same, which premises are now let at the yearly rent of £33. In 1675, Mr. Roger Boulcot gave a house and garden, of the yearly rent of seven shillings and sixpence, for the term of one thousand years, to the poor: in 1683, Mr. William Thomas gave £50, directing the interest to be annually distributed among the poor at Christmas; and in 1685, Mr. Richard Jones gave £40, to purchase lands, and Mr. William Philipps, Sen., gave £30, the produce of both to be paid to the poor annually at Christmas. In 1698, Mrs. Mary Powell gave an annuity of £6, charged on the estate of Dan y Park, in the parish of Llandeulley, one-half to place out three children apprentices, and the other half to six of the poorest housekeepers, with preference to widows. In 1710, Henry Jones gave ten shillings per annum towards clothing two poor persons every year for ever; in 1712, Mr. Thomas Philipps gave £50, and in 1721, William Philipps gave £20, the yearly interest of both to be distributed among the poor. Mrs. Elizabeth Jeffreys, in the latter year, left an annuity of £6, of which fifty shillings was to be given yearly to ten poor men, the like sum to the same number of women, ten shillings for a sermon, and the remaining ten shillings to be distributed at the discretion of the trustees. In 1726, Matthias Berrow devised a rent-charge of £2, issuing out of certain premises in Mount-street, towards apprenticing poor children; and, in 1826, Mr. John Jones, late of Cwm, in the parish of St. John the Evangelist, bequeathed to certain trustees the sum of £50, secured on the Brecknock water-works, directing the interest to be paid annually to five poor widows therein named, and afterwards to others residing in the upper division of that parish, not maintained in the workhouse. Of these bequests, the corporation annually distribute somewhat more than £50; and the recorder of the borough, and the overseers and churchwardens, distribute such others as are now available. In this town, in the month of September, or October, are usually held the meetings for conducting the affairs of the Clerical Charity for the relief of necessitous clergymen, or their widows and orphans, within the archdeaconry of Brecknock, under the control of a president, treasurer, secretary, and a committee of subscribers: on the day of the meeting the subscribers attend divine service, after which a collection is made, and the amount added to the permanent fund, the interest of which, with the amount of the annual subscriptions, is distributed in proportion to the necessities of the parties deriving relief from this benevolent institution: the permanent fund belonging to the society is £368. 19. 11., and the amount of annual subscriptions is usually about £150: the sum distributed for the year 1830 was £116. 13. 5. Voluntary contributions, generally amounting to about £50, are annually raised by the inhabitants of the town, for supplying the poor with soup, which charity has been productive of very great benefit. George Watkins, Esq., of Broadway, in the county of Carmarthen, has made a munificent offer of £1000 to the county of Brecknock, to be expended in the erection of a hospital or public infirmary; and voluntary contributions to a nearly equal amount have also been made for the same object, by other gentlemen of the county; but no application of these sums has yet been made, owing to considerable difference of opinion having arisen as to the propriety



of founding a large institution of this nature, disproportionate both to the wants and resources of the county; nor is any likely to be made, unless the principal donor agree to a proposition now brought forward, of erecting only a centre building, to which wings may, if necessary and practicable, be added at a subsequent period, and of laying out the remainder to form a fund for its maintenance, or to form the whole into a public dispensary.

Of the ancient castle, in which the union of the houses of York and Lancaster is supposed to have been projected, by the Duke of Buckingham, and Morton, Bishop of Ely, then a prisoner in the custody of the duke, there are some small remains, consisting chiefly of the keep, in which that prelate was confined, and which, from that circumstance is called Ely Tower; but by far the greater part has fallen into ruin, and an inn, called the Castle Hotel, has been built upon a portion of the site. The outer walls appear, from their foundations, which are still discernible, to have enclosed a quadrilateral area, one hundred yards in length and eighty in breadth, and to have been defended by two watch-towers at each of the angles: on the northern side are traces of the ancient moat, and, further north, of a deep ravine, designed to convey the waters of the river Honddû in that direction, with a view to insulate the whole site of the castle. Their remains, though greatly dilapidated, present a very picturesque appearance, and occupy the brow of an abrupt eminence, on the north bank of the river Usk, just above the influx of the Honddû, which separated the castle from the fortified part of the town: besides the Ely Tower, situated in the beautiful grounds of a villa belonging to Sir Charles Morgan, in the occupation of Thomas Bold, Esq., the ruins consist chiefly of the mutilated shell of two of the watch-towers, now included in the garden of the Castle Hotel. The remains of the Benedictine priory of St. John the Evangelist, founded by Bernard Newmarch in the reign of Henry I., consist principally of the church of St. John, before mentioned, a portion of the outer walls and of the gateway, and some of the out-buildings, now converted into farm-offices: the revenue of this establishment, at the dissolution, amounted to £134. 11. 4. The site was granted to Sir John Price, a native of this county and an eminent lawyer, whom Henry VIII. appointed a member of his council in the court of the marches, and who was highly instrumental in effecting the union between England and Wales. The estate was subsequently purchased from one of his descendants by Sir John Jeffreys, whose granddaughter conveyed it by marriage to John Pratt, Esq., of the Wilderness, in the county of Kent, whose only son, dying without issue, bequeathed it to its present noble owner, Marquis Camden. The Priory house, which is the property and occasional residence of this nobleman, and in which Charles I., on his flight from the disastrous battle of Naseby, and George IV., on his return from Ireland in 1821, each spent one night, is a spacious and ancient structure. In the immediate vicinity is Frwdgrêch, the seat of Samuel Church, Esq., an elegant modern mansion, surrounded by extensive grounds, which are disposed with great taste: on the east a lofty eminence, crowned with thriving plantations, slopes down to the house, from which the ground rises on the south-west into the stupendous heights called the Beacons, the summits of which, while the sun is shining brightly on all the

country around them, are frequently enveloped in thick mists, and showers often descend upon them and the intermediate vales, when others in the vicinity are perfectly dry: to the north are the luxuriant woods about Pennoyre, the seat of J. L. V. Watkins, Esq. Lower down upon the Usk, about a mile from the town, stands Dinas, the property and residence of John Lloyd, Esq., who erected it in 1826, in a style resembling that which prevailed in the reign of Elizabeth: it occupies a remarkably picturesque situation near the extremity of a lofty mountainous ridge, beautifully clothed with trees, the grounds commanding a fine view of the fertile and richly-cultivated Vale of Usk. In the vicinity are also several ancient mansions, now no longer inhabited by families of distinction: of these, Hoelvanog, more correctly Aelvanog, signifying "the lofty brow," and Newton, both in the parish of St. David, were in the possession of the Havards: this family were also owners of Pont Wilym, an ancient seat situated nearly on the opposite side of the town, and now occupied as a farm-house; and Court Sion Young, situated at a short distance on the road from Brecknock to Battle, of which there is now scarcely a vestige.

The hamlet of Venni Vâch, in the parish of St. John, which contains the site of the ancient Roman city and British capital of Brycheiniog, now called "the Gaer," occupies a situation of extreme beauty under the richly-wooded hill of Venni, not far from the banks of the Usk, and embraces delightful prospects of a smiling, fertile tract, bounded by a noble range of lofty mountains: it contains several small cottages of superior neatness, and a handsome farm-house. The ancient station was situated on an angle between the rivers Yscir and Usk: the defensive mounds are still visible, enclosing a quadrilateral area of about eight acres, extending in length, from east to west, six hundred and twenty-four feet, and in breadth, in a transverse direction, four hundred and fifty-six. The foundations of the walls encompassing it are still entire, and in some places, especially on the north and south sides, portions of the walls are remaining, from three to six feet high, and seven and a half in thickness, having the facing still perfect, consisting of square stones, a foot in diameter, and the intermediate space filled with rubble and cement, the whole being similar to those of Caerlleon and Caerwent, in Monmouthshire. A farm-house and offices have been built with the ruins of the ancient wall, the remains of which are now in many places overgrown and almost concealed with underwood. The entire area was, some years ago, covered with fragments of bricks; and both here and in the vicinity some coins and numerous other Roman antiquities have been discovered, including many fragments of figured stones, urns containing ashes, and other relics. At a place called Pen y Crûg, or "the summit of the hill," about a mile from "the Gaer," and the same distance north-west from Brecknock, is another British military work of the same class, and one of the most curious and best preserved remains of the kind in the principality: its form is oval, its longest diameter being six hundred feet, and its shortest four hundred and thirty: the area is surrounded by three ramparts, raised to the height of about eighteen feet. On a hill opposite, called Slwch, and sometimes Pen cevn y Gaer, or "the Camp



Ridge," is another British camp, similar in form, but not of equal dimensions, encompassed by a double foss, in some places nearly destroyed. There are other vestiges of British intrenchments in the vicinity, but much inferior in extent to the above. Of the numerous Roman roads that converged to this point, the only vestige is a causeway leading from "the Gaer," in a line nearly at right angles with the course of the Yscir, which is conjectured to have been a branch of the *Via Julia*: it appears to have been originally about forty feet wide, raised above the surface of the ground adjacent, and constructed of large round pebbles of various sizes, which might have been collected from the beds of the neighbouring rivers. Though much dilapidated and overgrown with brushwood, it may still be easily traced; and upon it is a remarkable stone, first introduced to public attention by the eminent Welsh antiquary, Mr. Lhuyd, in his communications for Bishop Gibson's edition of Camden's *Britannia*, which is an undoubted relic of Roman antiquity. It is about six feet high, and has sculptured upon it, in bas relief, the figures of a man and woman, about three feet in height, popularly supposed to represent two females; and hence it is called *Maen y Morwynion*, or "the Maids' Stone." It bears a Latin inscription partially obliterated, of which various readings have been given by different antiquaries; but the only words now legible are *CONJUNX EJUS H.S. EST*; from which it is conjectured to have been erected in memory of some Roman citizen and his wife. In addition, it may be mentioned that the *Via Julia Montana* anciently crossed the site of the town of Brecknock, in the direction of the street called, from this circumstance, the *Struet*; and that, about two miles to the south-east of the present town, the remains of a Roman bath were discovered in 1783, in a field in the parish of Llanvrynach, in the account of which place they are described.

The celebrated Sir David Gam, who attended Henry V. to the battle of Agincourt, resided at Newton, in the parish of St. David. He displayed the greatest gallantry during that action, in which he is said to have saved the king's life, by the sacrifice of his own and those of his son-in-law and one of his kinsmen, and was knighted by that monarch on the field of battle, while expiring of the wounds he had received in the engagement. Dr. John David Rhys, author of *Linguae Cymraeae Institutiones*, or Institutes of the Welsh or Cymraeg Language, resided here during the latter period of his life, in a cottage called *Clyn-hir*, under the Brecknock Beacon, and near the small lake *Llyn Cwm Llwch*. Among the distinguished natives of this place were, Dr. Hugh Price, founder of Jesus' College, Oxford, who was the son of a tradesman of this town, took his degree of "Doctor of the Canon Law" at Oxford, in 1525, was subsequently prebendary of Rochester and treasurer of St. David's, and, dying in 1574, was buried in the church of St. John the Evangelist; the late unrivalled tragic actress, Mrs. Siddons, who was born here on July 14th, 1755, whilst her parents were on a professional tour; and Mr. Theophilus Jones, the industrious and sagacious author of the History of Brecknockshire, whose father was the Rev. Hugh Jones, successively vicar of Llangammarch and Llywel, in this county, and prebendary in the collegiate church of Brecknock. In the grammar school connected with

that establishment Mr. Theophilus Jones received his education, on the completion of which he was articled to a solicitor, and for many years pursued that profession, having been appointed deputy-registrar of the archdeaconry of Brecknock. Having embraced the design of writing the history of his native county, he retired from business, and devoted himself with great ardour to the prosecution of his undertaking, for the accomplishment of which he visited every part of the county. The first volume of his work was published at Brecknock in 1805, and the second and last in 1809: he died in 1812, and was interred in the parish church of Llangammarch. Brecknock gives the inferior title of earl to Marquis Camden. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £1540. 17., of which the proportion of St. David's parish is, £180.1. for the upper division, and £179. 17. for the lower, and that of St. John's is £492. 2., exclusively of the chapelry of St. Mary, the average annual expenditure for which is £688. 16.

BRECKNOCKSHIRE, an inland county of SOUTH WALES, bounded on the north by Radnorshire, on the west by the counties of Cardigan and Carmarthen, on the south by Glamorganshire and the western part of Monmouthshire, and on the east by the English counties of Monmouth and Hereford: it extends from 51° 45' to 52° 17' (N. Lat.), and from 3° 2' to 3° 50' (W. Lon.); and comprises an area of about eight hundred square miles, or five hundred and twelve thousand statute acres. The population, in 1831, was 48,325.

At the period of the conquest of Britain by the Romans, this county formed part of the territories of the Silures, a people who pre-eminently distinguished themselves, under their leader, the celebrated Caractacus, in the strenuous opposition which they manifested to the progress of the Roman forces under Ostorius Scapula: the scene of their struggles was the country of the Ordovices, now almost wholly included in North Wales; and the Romans, though at last victorious, do not appear to have penetrated into this quarter until after the defeat of Caractacus. Mr. Theophilus Jones, the historian of Brecknockshire, considers that the Roman military works, of which there are still some vestiges, were for the most part formed during the lifetime of Ostorius: but it does not appear that the Silures were totally subdued until after the arrival of Julius Frontinus, about the year 70. The Romans had two principal stations within the limits of the county, one called the *Caer* or *Caer Bannau*, about three miles from Brecknock, and the other, also called the *Gaer*, situated near Llanvihangel Cwm dû, in the hundred of Crickhowel: the principal road was the *Via Julia Montana*, a branch of the *Via Julia Maritima*, which traversed the county from east to west, and other vicinal ways in connexion with the stations. Nothing relating peculiarly to this county is recorded until after the withdrawal of the Roman forces from Britain, when the country became divided into petty states, each governed by its own prince, or *regulus*: of these, with some little variation from the limits of the modern county, this territory formed one, under the name of *Brycheiniog*, derived from one of its first independent princes, called *Brychan*, and since altered by the Welsh into *Brecheiniawg* and *Brecheinog*, and by the English into *Brecknock* and *Brecon*. Brychan is chiefly distinguished in the Welsh annals for the num-





Drawn by R. Creighton

DRAWN AND ENGRAVED FOR LEWIS' TOPOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY.

Engraved by J. & C. Walker







ber, learning, and piety of his children, many of whom became the tutelar saints of the parochial churches, and thus imparted their names to the respective parishes. The entire family of this sovereign was designated in the British triads as one of the *three holy families in Britain*. After his death, his dominions were divided, according to the custom of inheritance among the Britons, resembling the gavelkind of the Saxons, between his two sons, Cledwyn and Rhain, who, unlike all the rest, had not entered into holy orders; but Caradog Vreichvras, or Caradoc with the Brawny Arm, grandson of Brychan, who lived near the close of the fifth, or in the early part of the sixth, century, re-united the whole principality under his government, and is distinguished in Welsh history as one of the knights who fought under the British hero, Arthur: this chieftain appears also to have extended his dominion over the territory called Ferregs, lying between the rivers Severn and Wye, and including the present county of Radnor. Caradog was succeeded by his son Cawrdav, called in the Welsh triads one of the *three prime ministers of Britain*; but little is known of his descendants and successors until the reign of Teithwalch, about the beginning of the eighth century, which is memorable for the first invasion of South Wales by the Saxons, under the command of Ethelbald, King of Mercia, between whom and the Britons a sanguinary battle was fought at Carno, in the parish of Llangattock: this event is placed by the Welsh chronicle, *Brût y Tywysogion*, in the year 728. Teithwalch was succeeded by his son Tegyd, whose territories, however, were considerably diminished by the conquest of the principal and most fruitful parts of Ferregs by Offa, the Anglo-Saxon monarch, who separated them from the rest of the British territories by constructing that huge work called Offa's Dyke, extending northward from the river Wye, in Herefordshire, across the marches. The next prince of Brycheiniog, of whom history relates any thing worthy of notice, was called Hwgan, a name Latinized into Huganus, who, determining to embrace the opportunity afforded him by the troops of Edward the Elder being fully engaged in repelling a formidable invasion of the Danes, mustered all his forces, and led them against the Saxon frontier; but being unexpectedly opposed by a powerful army, under the command of Edward's sister, the heroic Ethelfleda, he was overthrown in a sanguinary engagement; and Ethelfleda, taking advantage of her success, advanced with the utmost expedition into the heart of Hwgan's dominions, stormed his castle, and carried off his wife and her attendants: the situation of this castle, called by the Anglo-Saxon historians *Brecenanmere*, is not now precisely known, but has been conjectured to be at Blaenllynvi, near Savaddan lake. The British prince fled to the camp of the Danes at Derby, where he fell in attempting to defend the town against the assaults of the Saxon forces. Hwgan was succeeded by his son Dryfin, whose territories were successfully invaded by Athelstan, the Saxon sovereign; and he was not only compelled to pay tribute, but even deprived of what remained to him of the country of Ferregs. About the year 982, Brycheiniog was invaded by Alfred Earl of Mercia, who laid waste nearly the whole country, but was at last routed with the aid of the other Welsh princes. In the reign of Dryfin also, about the year 944, a survey was made of the territory of Brycheiniog, in common with the rest of Wales, by order of

Hywel Dda, who had established supreme authority over all Wales, and who, in the division of this sovereignty among his three sons, included this district in the kingdom of Dinevawr, or South Wales. The hundred of Buellt, or Builth, however, seems not to have formed part of the territory of Brecknock at this time, but to have been included in the kingdom of Powys. Bleddyn ab Maenarch, the grandson of Dryfin, who married the sister of Rhys ab Tewdwr, the reigning sovereign of South Wales, was the last British prince of Brycheiniog.

Rhys ab Tewdwr, according to the conjecture of Mr. Jones (which, however, so far as concerns that chieftain, is at variance with that held by most other writers, who are of opinion that Rhys was slain at the battle of Hîrwaun), having been defeated in the northern part of Glamorganshire, chiefly by the prowess of the Norman mercenaries under Robert Fitz-Hamon, fled with the small remains of his adherents to the territory of his brother-in-law Bleddyn; while the success of the Normans in seizing the county of Glamorgan for themselves encouraged others of their countrymen, under the sanction of their sovereign, to whom they were to pay homage for the territories thus acquired, to undertake similar conquests. One of these was Bernard Newmarch, who, about the year 1088, with a large body of followers, entered the territories of Bleddyn, whom, with his brother-in-law, he defeated in a great battle fought near Caer Bannau, on the banks of the Usk, the issue of which was gloriously favourable to the Normans, Bleddyn having been slain gallantly defending himself in his own residence, and Rhys ab Tewdwr, according to the authority above-mentioned, in the retreat. Bernard, having thus obtained entire possession of the ancient principality of Brycheiniog, erected it into a lordship marcher, apportioning the greater part among his followers, but reserving to himself the largest allotment, with the feudal superiority over the whole: he also granted the sons of Bleddyn several portions of land for their support, and treated Gwrgan, the eldest of them, with much respect; and, with the view of acquiring some degree of popularity, the politic baron espoused a member of a Welsh royal family, named Nêst, granddaughter of Gruffydd ab Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales. He destroyed Caer Bannau, the ancient capital of his newly-acquired province, and with the materials erected the castle of Brecknock, which he constituted his residence, and which thenceforward continued to be the seat of government for the lordship. Among the last acts of his life was a praiseworthy endeavour to atone for the deeds of violence, atrocity, and plunder, which he had perpetrated, by ample donations to religious houses: the year of his death is not recorded, but that event is supposed to have happened in the reign of Henry I., and his remains were interred in the cloisters of Gloucester cathedral. Mahel, the eldest of the sons born to him by his wife, was disinherited, in consequence of the latter declaring him, in the presence of Henry I., to be the offspring of adultery; and Sybil, his eldest daughter, whom her mother acknowledged to be legitimate, succeeded to the lordship of Brecknock, which she conveyed by marriage to Milo Fitz-Walter, constable of Gloucester, who, for his eminent services in support of the cause of the Empress Matilda, was afterwards created Earl of Hereford. He was suc-



ceeded in his title and estates by his eldest son Roger, who to his patrimonial inheritance of this lordship added the lands of Ewyas in Herefordshire, by marriage with the daughter and heiress of Payne Fitz-John, lord of that territory. This nobleman died without issue in 1156, and his possessions were inherited by his brothers William, Henry, and Mahel, successively: on the death of the last-named the lordship of Brecknock and some other possessions devolved, by right of his second sister, to her husband, Philip de Breos, or Braiosa, lord of Builth, whose family had accompanied the Norman Conqueror to England, and who died soon after the accession of Henry II., leaving all his possessions to his son William. The latter has acquired an inglorious distinction in history for his atrocious cruelty, first in treacherously murdering some Welsh chieftains, whom he had invited to an entertainment at his castle of Abergavenny in Monmouthshire; and secondly, for a similar outrage on the person of Trahaern Vychan, a descendant of Gwrgan ab Bleddyn, and a man of great influence in the territory of Brecknock, who, coming to hold a friendly conference with William, agreeably to summons, was seized by order of the latter, fastened to a horse's tail, and in this ignominious manner dragged through the streets of Brecknock, after which he was beheaded, and his body hung up by the feet. The former act of cruelty was avenged by the men of Gwent on the castle of Abergavenny; and the punishment for the latter was undertaken by Gwenwynwyn, Prince of Powys, who invaded de Breos' territories; but the blow fell upon a district included in the present county of Radnor. The latter part of this baron's life was passed in continual contention with King John, and on his death, in 1212, his estates escheated to the king, by whom a great part of the Brecknockshire lands was granted to Peter Fitz-Herbert, grandson of Milo Fitz-Walter; but the family of de Breos recovered the whole of its Welsh possessions through the exertions of Giles Bishop of Hereford, its chief representative, on whose death they devolved to his brother, Reginald de Breos, who married Gwladis, daughter of Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, and leagued with his father-in-law against the English monarch. King John chastised the defection of his vassal by marching an army into his territories, and burning his castles of Radnor and Hay; and Henry III., on his accession to the throne, succeeded in dissolving the confederacy, by engaging to restore to de Breos the English possessions of his family, on the condition of his returning to his allegiance. Rhÿs son of Rhÿs Vychan, a chieftain of South Wales, in company with his brother, immediately attacked Reginald's possessions in Builth, where they were soon joined by Llewelyn, who, highly incensed at his kinsman's defection, led a powerful force towards the town of Brecknock, which he threatened with destruction, but spared at the supplication of the inhabitants. De Breos, however, fearing the effects of his resentment, became again reconciled to him, an act which once more involved him with the king, who deprived him of the lordships of Blaenllynny and Talgarth, which were a second time given to Peter Fitz-Herbert. Reginald died in 1228, leaving his honours and the remaining Welsh estates to his eldest son, William de Breos, who was one of the foremost to aid the English monarch in a formidable expedition into North Wales, in the course of which he

was taken prisoner by the Welsh, and, according to the Welsh Chronicle, *Brût y Tywysogion*, purchased his release by the surrender of the castle and territory of Builth, in addition to the payment of a large sum of money. It appears, nevertheless, that he was put to an ignominious death by Llewelyn, who subsequently laid waste his territories with fire and sword, passing by Brecknock and Caerleon into Glamorganshire, and soon after his return made an attack on the castle of Brecknock, which proving unsuccessful, he fired the town, and then withdrew into North Wales.

On the death of William de Breos the lordship passed, by marriage with his second daughter Eleanor, to Humphrey de Bohun, sixth Earl of Hereford of that name, whose castles of Hay and Brecknock were taken by Prince Edward, son of Henry III., in 1265: about this period, too, the territory of Builth appears to have been in the hands of the Welsh, as, in the early part of the reign of Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, it was taken by that leader from Rhÿs Vychan, and given to his brother, Meredydd ab Rhÿs. On the death of Humphrey de Bohun, the lordship descended to his son Humphrey, who now became Earl of Hereford and Essex, and was involved in a quarrel with the Earl of Gloucester, concerning the exact limits of their domains (those of the latter nobleman in Glamorgan adjoining the lordship of Brecknock), the settlement of which King Edward I. took upon himself, commanding both parties to postpone further hostilities until he should investigate the affair and give his decision. But the tenants and vassals of the Earl of Gloucester entered on the lands of the Earl of Hereford, and were carrying off some cattle and other plunder, when the vassals of the latter assailed them and recovered the stolen property. The king, on being informed of these outrages, issued special commissions to examine into the conduct of the contending parties, the result of which was a decree, ordaining that the liberties of Glamorgan and Brecknock should be forfeited to the crown, during the lives of their actual possessors, who were commanded by the king himself to be imprisoned during his pleasure; but these sentences were soon commuted for the payment, by the Earl of Gloucester, of ten thousand marks, and by the Earl of Hereford of one thousand. Although the latter nobleman appears in English history as one of the most powerful and spirited barons of his time, yet none of the other remarkable events of his life have any particular relation to his lordship of Brecknock: the northern part of the county was, however, in his time the scene of one of the most tragical events related in Welsh history. Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, the last native Welsh chieftain who wore the ensigns of royalty, having been engaged in ravaging the territories of the King of England's friends in Cardiganshire, directed his course towards Builth, in the vicinity of which town he had engaged to meet some of his allies of the neighbouring country, to concert measures for their future proceedings. Having arrived on the banks of the Edwy, there is every reason to suppose that he was betrayed by the very persons with whom he came to consult; for, after departing from his forces, they were attacked by John Giffard and Sir Edmund Mortimer, at the head of a body of troops from Herefordshire. On this unexpected onset, Llewelyn fled to Builth, whence, failing in his attempt to procure aid from the garrison, he ad-



vanced westward up the Irvon, on the south side, for about three miles, where he crossed that river by a bridge called Pont y Coed, and stationed the few troops that accompanied him on an eminence on the north side of the river, to defend the pass. The English, foiled in their attempt on the bridge, crossed the stream by a ford at a short distance, and, coming behind the Welsh, attacked them unawares. By the latter they were received with a shower of arrows and other missiles, which was returned by a body of archers placed among the English horse: on the English gaining the summit the armies closed, and the action was maintained on both sides for more than three hours, with great valour and obstinacy, until at length the Welsh were entirely defeated and put to flight, leaving two thousand men, a third of their number, dead upon the field. The prince himself was closely pursued by Adam de Franc-ton, an English knight, who, seeing him to be a Welshman, and not knowing his quality, plunged his spear into his body, and then rejoined the ranks of his comrades. The heat of the battle being over, Adam de Franc-ton returned to strip the person whom he had wounded, and, recognising him as the Welsh prince, cut off his head, after he had breathed his last, and presented it to the king, who was then residing in the abbey of Aberconway. The day of Llewelyn's death is stated to have been the 10th of December, 1282, at which time the ground was covered with snow; and the spot is still called *Cevn y Bedd*, or *Cevn Bedd Llewelyn*, "the Ridge of Llewelyn's Grave." A traditionary account of this event is preserved by the inhabitants of Builth, and its neighbourhood, which differs in some particulars from that given by the historians. The former, owing to their alleged base conduct on this occasion, in not affording that shelter to the Welsh prince which they were able to do, have ever since borne the reproachful appellation of *Bradwyr Buellt*, or the "traitors of Builth." Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, was succeeded by his son of the same name, who distinguished himself in opposition to the government of that weak monarch Edward II., and joined in the rebellion of several of the lords marcher, to oppose the claims of the younger Spencer to the lordship of Gower, in Glamorganshire: he was killed in the battle of Boroughbridge, in 1321, and his Welsh property, being confiscated, was given by the king to the younger Spencer, on whose execution, however, it again reverted to the family of de Bohun, in the person of John de Bohun, after whose death it was successively inherited by his brother and his nephew, both named Humphrey de Bohun, the latter the son of John's brother William. Humphrey de Bohun left issue two daughters, the youngest of whom, Mary, espoused Henry Earl of Derby, afterwards King Henry IV., upon whom was settled the reversion of the lordship of Brecknock after the decease of the Countess Dowager of Hereford, which by this means became vested in the crown.

This county, amongst others, suffered from the devastations made in South Wales, during the reign of Henry IV., by that renowned Welsh chieftain, Owain Glyndwr, to whom is ascribed the final destruction of the castle of Hay. Shortly after the death of the Countess Dowager of Hereford, Anne, daughter of Eleanor de Bohun, the eldest daughter of the last Humphrey de Bohun, who was married first to Thomas of Woodstock,

sixth son of Edward III., and afterwards to Edmund Earl of Stafford, but was at this time a widow, petitioned the king for that portion of her grandmother's possessions which rightfully belonged to her, and amongst those relinquished to her and her son was the lordship of Brecknock. She died in 1439, and her inheritance passed to her son, Henry Earl of Buckingham, afterwards, in the 23rd of Henry VI., created Duke of Buckingham, who is chiefly distinguished in the Welsh annals for his tyrannical treatment of the tenants of this lordship. This nobleman was slain fighting on the side of the Lancastrians, at the battle of Northampton, in 1460; and his only son Humphrey, Earl of Stafford, having previously fallen at the battle of St. Alban's, he was succeeded in the dukedom of Buckingham, and all his other honours and estates, by his grandson Henry, who being at that time in his minority, Sir William Herbert, afterwards created Earl of Pembroke, was appointed steward of the lordship of Brecknock, and entrusted with the management of the duke's other possessions in Wales. After he had attained his majority, this duke became, on the death of Edward IV., one of the most staunch partisans of Richard III.; but that usurper, having gained the object of his ambition, refused to fulfil his engagements with him, in consequence of which the duke retired from court, determined on revenge. Arriving at his castle of Brecknock, he released from confinement Morton, Bishop of Ely, whom Richard, on account of his known attachment to the cause of the murdered princes, the sons of the late King Edward, had committed a close prisoner to his charge. Morton immediately departed for the continent, to inform the Earl of Richmond of Buckingham's designs in his favour, and for the dethronement of the usurper, and at the same time to concert measures for the execution of their enterprise, while Buckingham proceeded with the necessary preparations at home. The latter speedily raised a large body of troops from his lordship and other domains in this quarter, and commenced his march towards Shrewsbury, to join the partisans of the same cause assembled there. The unfortunate issue of this expedition is well known: the Severn, being swollen by a prodigious flood, delayed his advance, and his troops, probably ill-provided, soon began to desert in such numbers, as to oblige him to seek safety in flight and concealment; but being betrayed into the power of the sanguinary Richard, he was immediately beheaded at Salisbury, without even the form of trial, and his titles and estates were forfeited to the crown. Richmond, with a small body of French troops, landing soon after at Milford Haven, and being joined by Rhŷs ab Thomas, the most opulent and influential subject in South Wales, the latter, according to preconcerted measures, had the beacons lighted, to give notice to his friends of the arrival of the earl, and pursued his line of march through Carmarthenshire and Brecknockshire, his standard being joined by great numbers in every part of his progress. On reaching Brecknock, Rhŷs found it necessary to make some selection from among the multitude that had collected around him: he first of all formed a chosen body of two thousand horse, to be commanded by himself; and next, a corps of five hundred infantry, which he placed under the command of his younger brothers David and John, for the protection of his own estates, and the security of the persons and property of those



who had declared in favour of the earl: the rest he dismissed with acknowledgments for their readiness to serve under him, and then proceeded with his two thousand chosen men towards Shrewsbury, to rejoin the earl, who had taken a different route. On the accession of the latter to the throne of England, by the title of Henry VII., he restored all the possessions and honours of the late Duke of Buckingham, including the lordship of Brecknock, to the family of that nobleman, in the person of his son Edward, who was afterwards created constable of England, and was the last who held that high office. On the execution of this nobleman for treason, in the reign of Henry VIII., the dukedom of Buckingham became extinct, and the lordship of Brecknock, with all the territories and revenues appertaining to it, again escheated to the crown, in whose possession it thenceforward remained for a considerable period.

This county is one of those formed, by the act of the 27th of Henry VIII., out of the marches, or intermediate border lands between England and Wales; at which time also it was enacted that, in the whole of Wales, law and justice should be administered in the same form as in England; while the lords marcher, who had before exercised an almost regal authority within their respective domains, were reduced nearly to the condition of ordinary manorial lords. At the commencement of the civil war of the seventeenth century, a troop of horse was raised by Mr. Jenkin Jones, of this county, at his own expense, in support of the parliamentary cause. In 1617, the lordship of Brecknock was assigned on lease by James I. to Sir Francis Bacon, Sir John Dacombe, and others, in trust, for the use of Prince Charles, afterwards King Charles I., who, in the seventh year of his reign, conveyed the fee to trustees for the use of Sir William Russell, reserving to the crown only a fee-farm rent of forty-four pounds and one halfpenny per annum. Sir William Russell sold his interest to the Earl of Pembroke, and that nobleman disposed of it to William Morgan, Esq., of Dderw in Brecknockshire, on whose death it was inherited by his daughter Blanch, who conveyed it by marriage to William Morgan, Esq., of Tredegar, in Monmouthshire, in whose family it has ever since remained, being at present in the possession of Sir Charles Morgan, Bart. The lordship, or manor, of Brecknock is that part of the county which, since the erection of the castle of Brecknock, has been continually appendant to that fortress, and comprises nearly the whole of the hundred of Merthyr, or Merthyr-Cynog, that part of the parish of Llywel which is situated to the north of the river Usk, and the parishes of Llanspythid, St. David, and Cantrêv, to the river Cynrig. The lordship of the Great Forest, in the south-western part of the county, is also held on lease from the crown by Sir Charles Morgan, together with the lordship of Brecknock, but under somewhat different circumstances. The lordship of the Great Forest, or at least a great part of it, having been acquired by the successors of Bernard Newmarch in the lordship of Brecknock, subsequently to the total subjugation of Wales by Edward I., never formed part of the lordship marcher, but was held by the lords of Brecknock, like all other territories in Wales, except the marches, as a fief under the crown of England. While these possessions continued in the same hands, they were properly called conjointly the great lordship of Brecknock; but after the attainder of the

last Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, when they were dissevered, the application of this term to either became erroneous. The lordship of the Forest comprises a much more extensive tract than the lordship of Brecknock, and should rather be called the manor of the Great Forest, or of the Great Forest of Devynock, within the county of Brecknock. In the 10th of George I., this manor was demised by the Prince of Wales to William Morgan, of Tredegar, Esq., to hold for twenty-one years, at the yearly rent of £20. 6. 8.: this lease has since been constantly renewed, and under a late grant from the crown is held by Sir Charles Morgan, Bart.

This county is in the diocese of St. David's, and province of Canterbury, and is comprised in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, forming the four deaneries of Builth, and the first, second, and third parts of that of Brecknock, and part of that of Hay: the number of parishes is sixty-six, of which twenty-four are rectories, eighteen vicarages, and the rest perpetual curacies. For purposes of civil government it is divided into the six hundreds of Builth, Crickhowel, Devynock, Merthyr-Cynog, Pencelly, and Talgarth. It contains the borough and market town of Brecknock, or Brecon; and the market towns of Builth, Crickhowel, and Hay. One knight is returned to parliament for the shire, and one representative for the borough of Brecknock. The county is in the South Wales circuit: the assizes and quarter sessions are held at Brecknock, where stands the county gaol and house of correction. There are forty-three acting magistrates. The parochial rates raised in the county, for the year ending March 25th, 1830, amounted to £20,928, and the expenditure to £20,651, of which £17,450 was applied to the relief of the poor.

Nearly the whole county is occupied by several ranges of mountains, with their diverging hills, intersected in various directions by fertile and romantic valleys; and its outskirts on every side consist for the most part of lofty and barren mountains, excepting only where it is separated from Radnorshire on the north-east by the river Wye. In the lower parts of the county the less elevated hills are cultivated to a considerable distance up their sides, and some of them even to their summits; but the higher mountains, more especially those in the northern part of it, are in general uncultivated, and of little value, except as sheep-walks. The principal mountain chain is that called, through a considerable part of its extent, the Black Mountains, which commences on the western border of the county, in the two conspicuous summits called Bannau Sir Gaer, or the Carmarthenshire Beacons, and thence stretches eastward across the entire breadth of Brecknockshire, terminating in Monmouthshire on the southern side of the Usk, below the town of Crickhowel, which is situated near the south-eastern confines of this county. The westernmost of these two heights, which, viewed from the surrounding country, are remarkably picturesque objects, is in Carmarthenshire, and is separated by a deep and narrow chasm from the other, which is in Brecknockshire, and of rather superior elevation: the latter is sometimes called Trêcastle Beacon, from the neighbouring village of Trêcastle, and rises to the height of two thousand five hundred and ninety-six feet above the level of the sea. But the most elevated summits of the chain, and the highest points of South Wales, are two contiguous peaks situated about five miles to the



south west of the town of Brecknock, which rise two thousand eight hundred and sixty-two feet above the sea, and, towering above the lofty hills which compose their base, form a striking and even sublime object from very distant parts of South Britain, and command a prospect of vast extent and variety. These heights are sometimes designated, in the singular number, the Van, or Beacon; but more commonly, and with greater propriety, are called *Bannau Brecheiniog*, or the Brecknockshire Beacons: they are also known to the Welsh by the name of Cader Arthur, or Arthur's Chair. On the summit is a small stagnant pool, which wholly evaporates in seasons of drought; and at some distance below, under their northern declivity, lies a small lake, about a mile in circumference, called Llyn Cwm Llŵch, which is the source of the small river Tarrell, and contains great numbers of the *lacerta aquatica*, or water-lizard: by the peasantry of the surrounding country this pool is believed to be of unfathomable depth. That peak of the Carmarthenshire beacons which is situated within the bounds of Brecknockshire has a similar lake, called Llyn y Van, which is the source of the Usk, and is of much larger extent, being upwards of a mile in length: its waters have a dark and gloomy aspect, and contain no fish. From the upper end of the Vale of Tawe the chain of heights, including Bettws mountain, extends south-westward into Glamorganshire; and the higher parts of all these mountains, being too elevated, steep, and rocky for cultivation, form a vast extent of wastes, which is also continued, with the same characteristic features, but gradually diminishing in altitude and extent, from the border of this county, through that of Carmarthen, towards the mouth of the Towy. Southward from the Black Mountains, beyond a narrow range of limestone mountains, of which the lofty Cribarth, a mile or two above the head of the Swansea canal, is the most distinguished summit, the rest of the county is formed of the high, steep, and barren hills of the great coal and iron tract of South Wales: the limestone hills above mentioned, in the eastern part of the county, form a lofty parapet on the southern side of the Vale of Usk, extending as far westward as the Llangynider rocks. At Talgarth, approaching the eastern confines of the county, rises another mountain chain, called in Brecknockshire the Black Mountains, and in Welsh Mynydd y Gader, or "the chair mountain;" but extending eastward into Herefordshire, it is there commonly designated as the Hatterell hills: the loftiest summit, second in altitude only to the Brecknockshire Beacons, is called Y Gader Vawr, or "the great chair." The third and last mountain range, requiring particular notice, is that called the Eppynt hills, which extends with a tolerably uniform outline, and in a direction from west to east, from the north-eastern confines of the county of Carmarthen, where they are connected with the great chain separating the vales of the Towy and the Teivy, to Lyswen, on the banks of the Wye, and separates nearly the whole of the hundred of Builth from the rest of the county: the mountain called Drugarn, near the confines of Cardiganshire, to the north-west, rises to the height of two thousand and seventy-one feet above the level of the sea. The Eppynt hills are connected with the Plinlimmon mountains, on the south-western border of Montgomeryshire, by a transverse cluster of mountains extending several miles in every direction, and

constituting the most dreary wastes of the counties of Brecknock, Radnor, and Cardigan: they form no regular chain, those above mentioned, and, like the other mountain wastes, can be turned to little profit, except as summer pastures for almost innumerable flocks of small hardy sheep. Various chains of hills of lower elevation diverge in different directions from the several principal ranges, but none of them are remarkable for their extent. The principal lake, and one of the largest in South Wales, is Llyn Savaddan, a few miles eastward from the town of Brecknock: this, sometimes also called Llangorse mere and Brecknock mere, is about three miles long and one broad: its general depth is from three to four yards, though in some places from twelve to fifteen yards; and its principal fish are, pike, sometimes weighing upwards of thirty lb.; perch, from a few ounces to three lb. weight; and eels of such an extraordinary size, as to have given rise to the adage, *Cyhyd a llysywen Savaddan*, "as long as a Savaddan eel:" this otherwise fine sheet of water is, however, bordered on the south side by low marshy grounds, overgrown with rushes and other aquatic plants of no value.

The vales, owing to their inland situation, are subject to a greater degree of cold and frost in winter, and of heat in summer, than those of most parts of the principality. Opening inland also, and the south-western vapours from the ocean being frequently arrested and dissipated by the western mountains, their climate is consequently drier, the grain which is cultivated on them fills better in the ear, and the arable lands are not so apt to be overrun with natural grasses. But on the mountains the climate is cold, wet, and tempestuous, and the loftier elevations are often capped with snow until late in the spring. The climate of the slate hills of the hundred of Builth combines, with its unfertile soil, to render them the most desolate parts of the county. The wheat harvest in the vales generally commences in the first week of August; sometimes in the last week of July.

No county in the principality contains a greater variety of soils than Brecknockshire. The northern part of it, lying beyond a line drawn from the banks of the Wye, below the influx of the Radnorshire river Edow, obliquely across the Eppynt hills to Cwm y Dwr, on the road between Trêcastle and Llandovery, on the border of Carmarthenshire, is included in the great slate, or rather shale, tract of South Wales: here peat generally occupies the hollows, and sometimes the slopes, of the hills, under which, however, clay generally abounds near the surface, rendering the ground wet, and unproductive of any but the poorest herbage. The banks of the Wye and the Irvon, nevertheless, are composed of land of a much richer quality, where a sound loam abounds to the depth of from one to six feet. The soils of the coal tract, which includes a narrow district along the whole southern side of Brecknockshire, are for the most part of the same poor quality as those of the uplands of the slate district, having in like manner clays near the surface, which do not absorb the water, and consequently render them very wet: their natural grasses are also the same. The clayey soils of the latter district are capable of much greater amelioration in the progress of agriculture, owing to their being impregnated with a fine silex, which renders them friable under the ac-



tion of the atmosphere, and to their proximity to lime. The middle part of the county is wholly occupied by soils which derive an uniformly red colour from a substratum of red sand-stone, and communicate it to the water precipitated upon them by every heavy shower. The red lands are bounded on the north by the slate tract and the river Wye, on the south by a line extending from east to west in the latitude of Glyn Collwyn to the south of the town of Brecknock, and on the east and west only by the confines of the county: their breadth, from north to south, from Llangynog chapel, near Builth, to Glyn Collwyn, is about nineteen miles. The Usk and most of its tributaries have their sources in this red tract; and their deposits, being originally derived from the red sand-stone, have rendered the soil of the Vale of Usk, although fertile, of a very light sandy texture: however, by good husbandry, the crops of grain are abundant, but those of hay, in dry summers, are extremely small on its meadow lands. The lightness of the soil of this vale, in the year 1810, subjected its wheat crops to alarming depredations from the pupæ of the cockchafer, more particularly in that part of it which extends from Brecknock to the south-eastern border of the county; and these insects still appear occasionally, in detached spaces, in soils favourable to their settlement. The soils of the side-land declivities are generally of a stronger staple, and, having more argil in their composition than that of the vale, produce, under good tillage, greater crops of grain. As the Wye and its principal tributaries in the higher part of its course flow for many miles through the shale tract, their waters, in time of flood, bear with them argillaceous particles, which improve the staple of the red sandy soils through which they pass for so many miles before quitting the principality: hence the superior tenacity and productiveness of the lands of the vale traversed by that river below the town of Builth. The level part of the hundred of Talgarth, from Savaddan lake to Aberllynny, has been said to derive the superior quality of its soil for the culture of wheat from a tenacious sediment peculiar to the tract, and the deposition of which it is difficult to account for in the ordinary course of nature. The more elevated parts of this red tract, which comprise the Beacons of Brecknockshire and Carmarthenshire, are far superior in soil and produce to those of the slate district, and sheep brought to them from the latter, having their wool *kempy*, or intermingled with long coarse hairs, soon lose their *kemps*; and *vice versa*. The soil of the narrow limestone district, extending quite across the county between the red soil and coal tracts, is for the most part rendered very arid by its elevation, especially on the northern side, its want of depth, and the absorbent quality of the substratum. Consequently, white clover, a plant natural to limestone soils, is never found in the more elevated regions; but lower down, in the vicinities of Vainor and Penderyn, the soil is so favourable to the growth of this sweet grass, that, after being ploughed for a crop of grain, in the following year it spontaneously produces an abundant crop of hay almost wholly composed of it.

Mr. Clark, in his agricultural report of Brecknockshire, published by the Board of Agriculture in 1794, estimates that nearly two-thirds of it were then enclosed; and in these enclosures the "good land" formed one-fourth of the county, the "middling land" rather

more than one-fifth, and "poor mountainous land" another fifth. Since the date of that publication, however, this proportion has somewhat increased, nearly all the commons on the low lands having been successively enclosed. The systems of agriculture are of course very various on such a variety of soils and in such different situations, and, though frequently exhibiting considerable skill, are in many instances very defective. All the ordinary kinds of grain are cultivated, as also are peas, vetches, turnips, and potatoes. The produce of wheat on the poorer soils of the slate tract is extremely small, being even somewhat more on the poorest cultivated soils of the red lands: though the crops on the uplands of Llywel and the Eppynt hills are frequently not more than from seven to ten bushels per acre: the smaller valleys of this district, namely those of the rivers Honddû, Esgair, Brân, &c., generally produce from fifteen to eighteen bushels per acre; the Vale of Usk from seventeen to twenty-one bushels; and the flat part of the hundred of Talgarth, forming an opening through the hills between the Vales of Usk and Wye, and the richer parts of the romantic valley of the Wye itself, from above Llanggoed castle to the town of Hay, from eighteen to twenty-three bushels per acre, though sometimes thirty. On the uplands the produce of barley varies from nine to twenty bushels per acre; on the strongest soils it averages from fifteen to twenty-three bushels, in the Vale of Wye from twenty to thirty, and in the Vale of Usk something more than twenty. The cultivation of oats is extensive only on the highest cultivated lands, where other grain would seldom ripen: the produce varies from fifteen to twenty bushels per acre. Rye is but little grown. The reaping-hook and sickle are the instruments in common use for cutting corn: the cradled scythe is occasionally employed. Although the amount of arable lands is greater than in most Welsh counties, yet the exports of grain are very inconsiderable, and those wholly to the collieries and iron-manufactories of the adjoining counties of Monmouth and Glamorgan, excepting only small quantities of barley, which are sometimes conveyed by means of the Newport canal to the Bristol market. Few peas are sown in the Vale of Wye, or on the stronger soils of the hundred of Talgarth; but the Vale of Usk affords excellent crops of both white and grey peas, the produce being generally from fifteen to twenty-five bushels per acre. Potatoes are most extensively cultivated on the southern side of the county, in and near the coal district. In the lower part of the Vale of Wye, in this county, are several extensive hop-yards, under similar cultivation to those of the neighbouring English counties. The most common artificial grasses are clover and ryegrass. The enclosed grass lands, which are of very considerable extent, are also of various quality: those of the Vale of Usk, from above Brecknock to Buckland House, and from below Bwlch Arllwys to the border of Monmouthshire, present pastures which, owing to the lightness of their soil, have less richness than beauty. The produce of the natural meadows, except in some peculiarly favoured situations on the banks of the Wye and the Usk, is no where luxuriant; but on many farms great pains are taken to increase their fertility by manures and by irrigation. Lime is extensively employed as a manure in the southern and south-eastern parts of the county, where it is con-



veniently obtained from the limestone strata hereafter mentioned, being burned in the more easterly districts with the *slack*, or refuse, of the running and coking coal, and westward of the Neath river with *culm*, which is the refuse of the neighbouring mines of stone coal. *Braes* is a manure peculiar to the coal district, consisting of ashes and coal dust, the refuse of the coking hearths, where coal is charred for the use of the blast furnaces of the iron-works. Ashes of all kinds are also extensively employed in the vicinities of the iron-works and of the towns. Most of the ploughs in common use are large and heavy, being about thirteen feet and a half long, with an acute pointed share, a straight mould-board, from three to three and a half feet long, and a *chwelyd*, or round staff of wood, gradually rising from the base and gradually projecting from the mould-board, to turn over the plit. The Rotherham plough is also very common, and is here called the Whitchurch plough, though sometimes the Crickhowel plough, the latter town having a long-established manufactory of implements of this kind. Carts and waggons are the most common agricultural vehicles in most parts of the county; but in the more mountainous regions the Welsh car, or sledge, drawn by one horse, is still used. The usual teams in tillage consist of four or five horses drawing singly, six oxen in pairs, or two pairs of oxen led by one horse: great power is applied to the working of the heavy plough, but the lighter English ploughs are commonly drawn by a pair of horses driven by the ploughman.

The native breed of cattle is the small hardy black kind, which still occupies the western and mountainous parts of the county, and is of the sort so prevalent in the adjoining counties of Carmarthen and Cardigan; but the white-faced Herefordshire cattle now occupy the Vale of Usk and all its numerous ramifications, as far as Treacastle, and the Vale of Wye, as far as the wilds of Irvon, in Builth: on the richer pastures, near the English border, these cattle equal in excellence those of Herefordshire itself, but, advancing towards the mountains, they gradually diminish in size. There are also various intermixtures between these two breeds. The sheep are of the small mountain breed, and are remarkably numerous: the rams have horns, as have also some of the ewes and wethers; they have generally white faces and legs, those of a different colour having acquired it by foreign intermixtures; their wool is short, and its fineness varies with the soil, climate, and aspect of their walks, but in proportion as it is coarser, so also is it longer: it is chiefly used in the manufacture of flannels, blankets, ordinary cloths, and felt hats: the average weight of the ewes is from six to nine lb. per quarter, and that of the wethers from eight to twelve. The instincts of these sheep are very remarkable: while fed in enclosures they have a mischievous activity, which almost baffles human ingenuity to counteract; but when driven on the mountain wastes, their natural abodes, they continue in one favourite spot, from which they cannot be removed without difficulty. The shepherds sometimes avail themselves of this circumstance, where there is a right of intercommonage (which is frequently the case), to prevent a newly-introduced flock from depasturing on the same bank, or hill, with "the old settlers:" coming to the spot at nightfall, or in the middle of the night, they make a

noise and disturbance, which is particularly disagreeable to their own flocks, as well as to the new comers; but the latter, not being so much accustomed to the place, abandon the walk to the sole possession of its former occupiers. The sheep are also generally considered to have a full presentiment of the approach of severe weather, more particularly of snow storms, sometimes so fatal to them; and, a day or two before the commencement of the latter, they are observed to avoid the ditches and other situations where drifts are likely to be formed, and have sometimes, though seldom, been known to quit the elevated wastes entirely on such occasions, and, overleaping all fences, to descend into the valleys. Sheep of the same untractable disposition, bred in Glamorganshire, are often sold in great numbers into this county, where their purchasers are obliged to watch them for a considerable time with greater care than the native flocks: the vulgar notion is, that when the wind blows from the south they recognise their native air, and immediately meditate an escape: certain it is that, on such occasions, they may be seen standing on the highest eminences, snuffing the gale, and then at length, if no insurmountable impediment occurs, suddenly to scour away, stopping not until they have reached their former haunts. A few hogs are sold from this county to the interior of England. Considerable attention has for a long period been bestowed on the breeding of good horses, both for the saddle and the plough: for agricultural purposes preference is given to various crosses between the native small breed and the Suffolk "punches." The Brecknockshire farmers have an inclination to work oxen instead of horses, but their being generally situated at a considerable distance from coal and lime, compels them to have at least one horse team, besides which the larger farmers have generally two teams of oxen, which draw in yokes.

Brecknockshire contains many thriving orchards in the vales, which produce excellent cider, chiefly for home consumption. Apple trees are also sometimes planted in intermediate rows in the hop-yards, and among forest trees on warm declivities. The natural woods of the slate and coal tracts are the same; and rough declivities, waste corners, &c., when surrounded with fences, are soon crowded with oak, ash, and alder, the different species predominating according to soil and aspect, but oak being by far the most abundant: the less common native trees of these districts are birch, mountain ash, and wild cherry on the uplands, and wych-elm, aspen, sycamore, maple, lime, and wild crab trees, in more sheltered situations. The patches of dry sandy soil, formed in some places by the decomposition of the siliceous strata of the coal measures, also produce beech wood, which is never found indigenous in the slate tract; but, like the various other kinds of trees above mentioned, is a natural production of the red soils, in some places in such abundance as to have caused small tracts of them to be called *Fawyddog*, or *beechy*. The woods in the neighbourhood of Llangoed castle are particularly extensive; and in the vicinities of Trevecca, Penpont, and Abercamlais, are numerous Scotch firs of artificial plantation, and remarkably fine growth. Poplars sometimes attain an amazing size by the sides of the rivers and brooks, and are more particularly numerous in the Vale of Usk. The open wastes and mountains subject to com-



mon rights occupy about one-third of the county. The principal stock upon these is sheep, with some horned cattle and horses in summer; but the number of the latter is not considerable, the farmers not having a sufficient stock of food for them in winter: owing to this circumstance, also, the commons in many places are capable of supporting more than three times the amount of the stock that the parishioners have to turn upon them. Some individuals, however, have flocks of the small mountain sheep, amounting to many thousands: in the hundred of Builth the flocks of the small farmers vary in number, from one hundred to five hundred, and of the large farmers from one thousand to five thousand: the sheep graziers in general pay little attention to the cultivation of their enclosed lands, which are commonly of very small extent, obtaining most of their corn at the nearest market town. The wastes may be divided into three grand districts, *viz.*:—First; the Talgarth Black Mountains, with their branches, on the eastern side of the county, and connected with the Hatterell hills of Herefordshire: these mountains, which reach in this county from Hay on the Wye to Crickhowel on the Usk, are elevated and extensive, nearly twenty thousand acres of them being claimed as sheep-walks by the inhabitants of one parish only: their soils, resting upon red sand-stone and a narrow line of detached limestone rocks, are productive of good herbage for sheep and young cattle, and their outskirts are susceptible of advantageous cultivation. Secondly, the mountains, composed of limestone and red sand-stone, extending westward from the Bloreng mountain in Monmouthshire, and including the Brecknockshire and Carmarthenshire Beacons, the most elevated western summits of which are called the Black Mountains, probably from the dark and frowning aspect which they assume when their covering of heath is out of bloom: some of the lower parts of these vast tracts are susceptible of agricultural improvement, but the rest is by far too elevated, steep, and rocky for cultivation. The mountains of the coal tract, on the southern border of the county, produce an abundance of coarse grasses, which support vast numbers of cattle and sheep. On these and the above-mentioned range, in the south-eastern part of Brecknockshire, adjoining the counties of Glamorgan and Carmarthen, lies the Great Forest of Brecknock, the wastes of which, by actual admeasurement, contain forty-one thousand three hundred and twenty-four acres, and were lately sold to different purchasers by the Commissioners of Crown Lands. The third division comprises the Eppynt hills, above described, and the dreary hills of shale to the north of them. The former, having for the most part substrata of red sand-stone and grey mountain rock, produce better herbage for sheep than the hills of the blue shale. The dry parts of the latter are covered with heath, or *till*, a hungry light mould; the wet flats, with rushes on clay, or peat: the herbage is altogether the coarsest of any extensive tract in the county; and the wool of the numerous flocks of small and hardy sheep which it supports is equally coarse, being interspersed with numerous *kemps*, or coarse long hairs: the improvement of these wastes by cultivation is rendered impossible by every natural disadvantage, to which it may be added, that lime is not to be procured within a shorter distance than from thirty to

forty miles. The peaty soils found on all the wastes, except those having a limestone substratum, but to the greatest extent on these in the northern part of the county, present in some places extensive meadows, called in Welsh *rhôsydd*, and productive of a species of short hay, denominated, in the dialect of the country, *gwair mân*, or small hay, and which the farmers gather for the winter support of their horned cattle: so slender and small is the blade of this grass, that, in some cases, it cannot be removed to the homestead except in baskets, or large sheets, provided for the purpose. Coal is the common fuel of the southern parts of the county, where it is most easily procured, and peat in the northern and north-western districts, where coal can only be obtained by a tedious and difficult land-carriage, while peat of good quality is abundant. The Brecon Agricultural Society was the first of the kind instituted in Wales, and one of the earliest in Britain, its articles having been printed in April 1755.

The geological features of Brecknockshire are striking and interesting, and its mineral productions of great importance: these consist, for the most part, of coal, iron, limestone, and building stones of various kinds. Beginning with the lowest rocks in geological position, the whole country to the north of the Eppynt hills, and the bases of those hills themselves, are composed of a perishable argillaceous *shale*, *rab*, or *roch* (as it is variously denominated by different writers), of no value, being scarcely fit for repairing the roads, as a little heavy carriage and wet weather soon reduce it to its primitive clay: the strata, which are generally very thin, dip towards every point of the compass, according to the undulations of the surface: in some places they are sufficiently indurated to be used as flag-stones, under cover from the weather, and in the erection of buildings intended to be rough-cast or stuccoed. Here and there they are intersected by ranges of what is commonly termed grey mountain rock, or whin-stone, of various texture and degrees of hardness, some rocks affording excellent building stones, while others, bearing marks of marine exuviae, and effervescing with acids, perish by the action of the atmosphere: their line of bearing is from north-east to south-west. One of these enters Brecknockshire in crossing the Wye from Radnorshire, near the junction of that river with the Elain, and stretches across the hundred of Builth to the river Irvon, being seen to advantage between Llanwrtyd wells and the church of that parish: the stratification is in some places irregular, but in others regular, so as to form quadrilateral columns, nine or ten feet long, and from nine to fourteen inches square, which incline considerably to the north-west, and on that side support the argillaceous shale, or slate. About three miles south-westward of this ledge of whin-stone is a ridge of pudding-stone, resting upon the shale, and blocks of breccia are found in different directions. The grey mountain rock is every where covered with a more grateful soil than the surrounding hills of blue shale. To this shale, proceeding southward, immediately succeeds the red sand-stone strata, which sustain the great tract of red soils above described, and the northern limit of which extends from the banks of the Wye, below the confluence of the Edow, obliquely across the Eppynt hills, and northward



from Llangynog chapel to Cwm y Dwr, on the border of Carmarthenshire: their southern boundary reaches from Llanelly, on the south of the Usk, near Crickhowel, directly westward to the southern foot of the Carmarthenshire Beacons. Though the rocks of this tract exhibit few anomalies, they are in themselves of three varieties; namely, the lower, the middle, and the upper strata. The stone of the first is of a greyish blue colour, and breaks into splinters, exhibiting no particles of sand or mica, and, though difficult to dress, makes excellent building stone. The middle stratum consists of micaceous schistus, the thinner sort of which is converted into roofing tiles, and those from two to six inches thick into flags, milestones, &c. The interior of the tile, or flag, is a compact sand-stone of various colours,—brown, greenish, or grey, the cleft in the rock being occasioned by a thickly bespangled bed of mica. The upper stratum consists simply of reddish sand-stone, which is convertible to few uses, but which has contributed to the colouring of the soil of the whole district. The mountains of this tract are the highest in South Wales, and are for the most part covered with vegetation, excepting only such declivities as are perpendicularly steep, and in these situations the regularity of the stratification is strikingly exhibited, more particularly in the rocks in the vicinity of Crickhowel. A remarkable range of the grey mountain rock crosses the Wye into this county from Radnorshire, a little below the town of Builth, and pursues the south-westerly direction which it had held through the shale of that county, for a considerable distance, into the red sand-stone of Brecknockshire, passing through the parish of Crickadarn, and across the valleys of the Honddû and the two Esgairs, to the extremity of the parish of Merthyr-Cynog, where it terminates in the craggy intrenched height of Corn y Van. This grey rock, and its accompanying grey soil, are about a mile and a half broad in the valley of the Honddû, from the north of Castle Madoc to Tenerddi brook, southward of Capel Isâr: this range affords excellent building stones, of which the town of Builth and its bridge over the Wye present good specimens. The Brianog mountain, in the red soil district, near the town of Crickhowel, contains a stratum of compact greyish freestone, of which furnace hearthstones, rollers, cisterns, &c., are made; as also a bed of inferior sandy limestone. Along the north-western base of the red sand-stone of the Black Mountains of Talgarth is a range of detached limestone rocks, which extends for several miles, from Llanigon to Cathedine, near Savaddan lake, and thence turning more directly westward is found on both sides of the Vale of Usk: on the north it appears occupying a considerable tract at Llanvillo and Llanthew, to the north-east of the town of Brecknock, and further on, at Venni Vâch wood, and other places about two miles westward of Brecknock; while on the southern side of the vale it is seen at Aber Cynrig, opposite to Llanhamllêch, and a mile or two further westward at Frwd-grêch, opposite to Brecknock. The lime from this stone is for the most part of a strong gritty quality, and used only in the immediate vicinity: at the north-eastern extremity of the range it is rendered expensive by the great distance from which coal must be brought to burn it: the lime of the Venni Vâch and Aber Cynrig rocks cements in water.

To the red sand-stone strata, proceeding southward,

and within a few miles of the anomalous limestone rocks just mentioned, succeeds a range of primitive or mountain limestone, which commences on the east in the higher strata of the Bloreng mountain to the south of Abergavenny in Monmouthshire, whence, stretching first north-westward and then westward, its bold steep forms a lofty parapet on the southern side of the Vale of Usk, as far as Llangynider; hence, proceeding westward, it loses much of its boldness of aspect by reposing on the base of the loftier red sand-stone of the Brecknockshire Beacons. Some of the lower strata of this limestone are of such extraordinary thickness as to appear almost like primitive rocks: one bed at Clydach is of a bluer colour than the others, and is used with the Aberthaw lias limestone of Glamorganshire, as a cement for works under water. A singular section of the various strata is exhibited at the cataract of the Clydach rivulet, at Pwll y Cwn, where the water is precipitated over a ledge of perpendicular rocks, consisting at the top of limestone for about fourteen yards; then of a bed of a heterogeneous quality, about five feet thick, sandy, of a magnesian texture, and difficult of calcination; next, for several feet, of beds of laminar schist, still more argillaceous; and then again of limestone, down to the pudding-stone base which immediately rests upon the red sand-stone: in this pudding-stone are cemented large quartz pebbles of various colours. In the parishes of Penderin and Ystradgynlais the limestone occasionally departs from its usual regularity of stratification; and at Craig y Dinas, as if by some vast convulsion, the whole mass of the rock is thrown southward several hundred yards into the coal measures, with which it intermingles. Between the rivers Neath and Tawy, at Penwyll, the strata recover their regularity of bearing and inclination, which is again disarranged to the north-west of the Tawy, where the lofty conical mountain of Cribarth seems to have been thrown further southward than the neighbouring regularly stratified limestone rocks. About the centre of the Cribarth rock is a bed of freestone, which has limestone both above and below it, and is traversed by fissures in every direction: there is also a vein of fine red viscid clay. Marble, of a dark colour, is found in this limestone at Craig y Nôs, near the head of the Swansea canal, in this county. The most striking peculiarities of this limestone range are, frequent concavities in the surface, caused by a depression of the strata; swallows, or places where streams of water are engulfed, making for some distance a subterraneous passage; and extensive caverns, beautifully studded with crystals, stalactites, &c.: the lime obtained from its rocks, which are quarried in many places, is of a very fine and pure quality. This mountain limestone range forms part of the northern rim of the great mineral basin of South Wales, which contains all its treasures of coal and iron. Next to it, proceeding southward, and resting upon it in geological position, occurs a stratum of chert, about four feet thick, which is succeeded by a bed of limestone about forty-five feet thick, of a whiter colour than any in the rocks above mentioned, and having a few marine exuviae. Next occurs chert, about four feet thick; then coarse-grained chert, inclining to burr, about sixty feet thick; to which succeeds a pudding-stone of about the same thickness, the quartz pebbles of which are smaller and finer than those of the bed above mentioned, and upon which im-



mediately rest *coal measures*, or such substances as accompany coal without containing either iron-ore or coal worth the working: these are about a hundred feet thick, and support a hard rock about forty-five feet thick, the base of all the coal and iron strata, called by the Welsh colliers *Quar Cymraeg*, and sometimes *farewell rock*, as, wherever it "*bassets out*," it is useless to search for coal beneath it: it is also severally denominated *Carreg Wyllt*, *Nicholas' Rock*, and *Roken Cymraeg*. These various strata, and many of those of the really valuable coal measures, are exhibited to advantage along the bed of the Clydach river, and in other deep dingles, where they are seen dipping, with a regular inclination of about one yard in twelve, southward towards the centre of the basin. The strata of coal and iron-ore which "*crop out*" on the southern side of Brecknockshire are the lowest in the basin, and occur only in the three following places: first, from the small river Twrch across the river Tawy and the Drim Mountain to the Great Forest of Brecknock; secondly, a corner of territory from Blaen Romney, at the junction of the three counties of Brecknock, Glamorgan, and Monmouth, to the northern side of Brÿn Oer; and thirdly, from Rhÿd Ebwy and Beaufort iron-works, through Llÿn y Pwll, near Tavern Maid Sur, to where this district adjoins the Earl of Abergavenny's mineral property. The coal measures may be best described by taking a section of the strata in the mines of Cyvarthva and Dowlais, near Merthyr-Tydvil, on the southern border of the county: in the former are twenty-two beds of coal, varying in thickness from sixteen inches to nine feet, making a total of fifty-eight feet eight inches; twenty-eight beds of iron *mine*, making a total thickness of nine feet three inches; three beds of fire clay, being collectively seven feet four inches thick; and forty-eight beds of blue cleft, or clunch, freestone rock, bind, &c., amounting in all to six hundred and fourteen feet six inches. In the Dowlais section of the strata are seen thirty-six beds of coal, making a total of only fifty-six feet eight inches thick; fifty-eight strata of iron *mine*, being collectively eleven feet nine inches thick; three beds of fire clay, making together a thickness of eight feet six inches; and one hundred and eight beds of the various contiguous substances above mentioned, which together make a thickness of five hundred and twenty-six feet seven inches. The three uppermost coal strata of the Cyvarthva section, and nearly all those in the south-eastern part of the county, eastward of the Blaen Romney iron-works, are of a bituminous binding quality, called by the Welsh *glo rhwym*, and sometimes *glo rhing*, probably an abbreviation of the English *running coal*, or *glo cwlwm*, from its caking in a knotty mass when ignited: but nearly all the rest of the coal raised eastward of the Neath river in this county is of the kind called coking coal, which is of a less bituminous quality, and is so called from its being the fittest to be charred for the use of the blast furnaces. Westward of the river Neath the strata become more irregular, and the coal is almost wholly of the kind called by the Welsh *glo caled*, or hard coal, from its not soiling the fingers, nor flaming when it is ignited: by the English it is called stone-coal, and the large is more particularly adapted to the drying of malt and hops, and the small, called *culm*, to the burning of lime. The strata of iron-stone commonly vary from one to five inches in thickness, and frequently consist

of irregular lumps, called "*balls of mine*." The mots remarkable faults, or dislocations of the strata, that are observable in this county, occur at the limestone rocks of Cribarth and Dinas, where the strata are thrown into a perpendicular position. In the Aber Crav colliery the whole of the measures curve upwards on approaching a fault; and one bed of coal, eighteen inches thick, in this vicinity, is called *lantern coal*, from its great inflammability, and the brightness of its blaze. The deep valleys which occur in the coal district, and intersect the mineral strata in various directions almost to their base, enable the miner to obtain the object of his labours by driving horizontal shafts, or levels, into the hills, along which are constructed rail-roads, and upon these the various materials are drawn out by horses and mules: the levels also act as drains. The fire clay strata are found of the best quality at Dinas Rock, near Pont Neath Vaughan, and a little higher up, near the village of Penderin; and from these places considerable quantities are conveyed by the canals to Neath and Swansea in Glamorganshire, for the use of the furnaces in the neighbourhood of those towns, and for exportation.

Brecknockshire contains no considerable quantity of any ores except those of iron; but sulphate of copper has been discovered in the parish of Llanwrthwl, on the northern confines of the county, near the junction of the river Elain with the Wye, where some unsuccessful attempts were made to discover a vein which might be worked with profit. Traces of lead-ore have been seen near the Dinas limestone rock, in the parish of Penderin, where similar trials were made for that ore, but with no better success. Lead veins were discovered nearly thirty years ago in the Llanigon hills, south of the town of Hay, which were worked, but the expenses proved greater than the profits. Small quantities of lead-ore have also been found above Coed y Cymmer, on the road from Merthyr-Tydvil to Brecknock, and various indications of it are observable in the slate tract. Tripoli, or *lapis cariosus*, is found in great quantities, and of a very pure quality, on the limestone to the north of Cribarth rock: it is generally above the limestone, though sometimes found enclosed between its strata, and is collected in great quantities, which are conveyed by the canal from Hên Neuadd to Swansea, and thence shipped off to different parts of England, to be used in the burnishing of metals. Its geological situation is on the northern verge of the mountain limestone range, adjoining to the pudding-stone which separates it from the red sand-stone of the Beacons: the masses of the coarser sort frequently enclose nodules of limestone. *Muchudd Irvon*, a ponderous black stone of close texture, which is esteemed superior to brass for the centre pins of engines to turn upon, is found in the hundred of Builth, from Llanwrtyd wells to the confluence of the Irvon with the Wye. Although the range of limestone environing the coal measures on the north is usually considered as of the primitive or mountain kind, it nevertheless occasionally exhibits some few marine exuviae, and one stratum on the small river Clydach is almost an entire mass of corallines. In the Cribarth rocks are found various spars of fibrous fracture, with slender acicular concretions standing in different directions. Some vegetable exuviae are observable in the strata contiguous to the coal, and various spars among the iron-ores in the vicinity of Llanelly: some of these ores are also found to be shot



into constant and regular figures. The clunch, or cleft, of the coal measures contains vitriol of iron; and in some of the mines the water is so much vitriolated, that it excoriates the hands and faces of the workmen.

The most important branch of manufacture carried on is that of iron. The most ancient of its present establishments for this purpose are about two centuries old; but there is good reason to believe, from the masses of imperfectly fused scoria found in different parts of the hundred of Crickhowel, and usually called Roman cinders, that some mode of manufacturing iron must have been practised in this district at a period long anterior to the erection of any furnaces on modern plans. The present iron-works are situated chiefly near the confines of Monmouthshire, and are as follows:—those in the vale of Clydach, in the parish of Llanelly, the raw material for which is obtained at the distance of about two miles, and conveyed from the mines by means of rail-roads and inclined planes; the Beaufort works, in the parish of Llangattock, the ores for which are brought by rail-roads a distance of half a mile; and the Blaen Romney works, situated near the source of the river Romney, in the parish of Llangynider: all these works obtain their supply of raw materials from the estates of the Duke of Beaufort. There are two other important establishments of a similar kind, *viz.*, that of Hirwaun, at the southernmost extremity of the county, in the parish of Penderin; and that of Ynys Kedwin, in the parish of Ystradgynlais. At these various works the iron-ore is smelted into pigs, and these again are manufactured into bars, rods, &c. The Brecknockshire Agricultural Society, for many years after its first establishment, adopted judicious methods to encourage the woollen and linen manufactures, which, notwithstanding all its efforts, gradually declined: the latter is now extinct, and the woollen manufacture is confined to the weaving of the yarn spun in private families into what are called *hanner gwe*, that is, half-woven, or raw, cloth, which is sometimes brought to the fairs and markets, rolled up in pieces of from twenty-six to thirty-two yards long, and about a yard and a half broad: these are milled and dyed in England. There is a flannel manufacture at Hay; also one on a smaller scale at Builth; one of hats and one of coarse woollen cloth at Brecknock; and one of shoes at Crickhowel; and in the mountainous parts of the county considerable quantities of woollen stockings are knitted by the women, and brought for sale to the fairs: the manufacture of these stockings has of late years been expedited by the erection of carding-mills at different places. At Glàn Grwyney, near Crickhowel, is a manufactory for brown paper. Great quantities of hides and skins are tanned and dressed in the county, the former being noted for making good leather for the soles of shoes. The commerce of Brecknockshire is very various and of considerable importance. The chief exports are, cattle and sheep; iron in various states of manufacture, which is sent by means of railways and canals to the ports of Glamorganshire, and along the Brecknock and Abergavenny canal to Newport; wool, chiefly for the manufactures of the North of England; some small quantities of the coarse woollen cloths and stockings above mentioned, which are taken to the neighbouring English markets; leather and dressed sheep skins, for which the town of Brecknock is the principal market for several of the con-

tiguous Welsh counties, while great quantities are exported to Bristol and other English markets; and fire clay and tripoli, the former chiefly to be manufactured into bricks for the furnaces of Glamorganshire, and the latter sent to Bristol. There are no extraordinary imports worthy of notice: the coal tract, owing to its inferior fertility and greater population, consumes a large proportion of the agricultural produce of the more fertile neighbouring districts.

The principal rivers are the Usk, the Wye, the Irvon, the Tâf, the Nedd, or Neath, and the Tawe, or Tawy: the three latter, with their tributaries, all inconsiderable within this county, descend southward towards the Bristol channel, from the Black Mountain range. The Usk has its source on the northern side of the Carmarthenshire Beacons, some miles above Trêcastle, and, receiving the waters of numerous smaller rivers from every side, flows eastward to the capital of the county, and thence east-south-eastward by the town of Crickhowel, a little below which it enters Monmouthshire, after a course of about thirty-two miles: in this county its bed every where retains its reddish hue, while its waters abound with fish of various kinds, more particularly with salmon and trout, for the latter of which it is much celebrated. Its principal tributaries from the north are, the Cilieni, Brân, Esgair, and Honddû, from the secluded valleys of the Eppynt hills, and the last of which, at its junction with the Usk, gives to the town of Brecknock its Welsh name of Aber-Honddû; the Rhiangoll, a rivulet from the rich and beautiful valley of Cwmdû; and the Grwyney, from the Black Mountains of Talgarth. Those from the south are, the Crai; the Senny; the Tarannell, or Tarrell, from Llŷn Cwn Llŵch; the Carvanell, or Annell, from Glyn Collwyn; the Cravnant; the Onwy; the Clydach; and others of less note. The romantic Wye first touches this county at its junction with the Elain (a small stream forming the northern boundary of this county, and separating it from the north-western extremity of Radnorshire), and henceforward forms the north-eastern boundary of Brecknockshire, except for a short interval in the vicinity of Glâsbury, which village, situated on the southern side of the river, is included in the county of Radnor: it flows first south-eastward by Builth, and then eastward to Hay, where it enters Herefordshire in its further course to the Severn, after separating the counties of Brecknock and Radnor for a distance of about thirty miles. Its principal tributary from this county is the Irvon, which receives the waters of the Chwevrwy, Dylas or Dulas, Camarch, and other streams from the north, forms the channel through which are poured nearly all the superfluous waters of that part of the county lying northward of the Eppynt hills, and joins the Wye a little above the town of Builth, after a course of about twenty miles. The Wye also receives from Brecknockshire the waters of the Dihonwy, Caletwr, and Llynvy, the last of which has its source above Savaddan lake. The Tâf is formed by two streams, called Tâf Vawr and Tâf Vechan, which descend turbulently and precipitately from the Beacons of Brecknockshire, over limestone precipices, and unite on the southern border of the county, near Merthyr-Tydvil, and immediately enter Glamorganshire. The Neath has a similar source further westward, and, together with several other streams, by which it is shortly joined,



forms various grand and beautiful cascades. The Tawy has its double source near the lofty Trêcastle Beacon, within a short distance of that of the Usk, and thence flows south-westward by a projecting portion of Carmarthenshire into Glamorganshire. The Romney also has its source on the southern border of the county, near the confines of Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire. The Mellte and the Hepstê, tributaries of the Neath, are worthy of notice, the former for the subterraneous course which it pursues for a short distance, and both for their cascades.

The commerce of the county is greatly facilitated by artificial navigation. In 1792 an act was procured for constructing the Brecknock and Abergavenny canal, which was designed to extend from the town of Brecknock down the valley of the Usk, by Abergavenny, to the navigable channel of that river at Newbridge, about four miles below the town of Usk in Monmouthshire: but an agreement being entered into between the proprietors and those of the Monmouthshire canal, the latter paying the former three thousand pounds, it was determined to form a junction between the canals at Pont y Moel, below Pont y Pool, and a fresh act for that purpose was obtained in 1793. The first portion made navigable was from the coal mines and lime-works in the vicinity of the Clydach to Llangynider bridge, a distance of eight miles and a half; and from the latter place the canal was continued ten miles further, to Brecknock, and was completed in 1801, forming an important line of carriage for coal and lime to that town. Through the whole of its extent it is carried through the light soils of the red sand-stone tract, and, to make it hold water, it was found necessary to adopt the tedious and expensive process of puddling: this difficulty occasioned the proprietors to deliberate for some time whether they should complete the line from Clydach to below Pont y Pool, a distance of fourteen miles and a quarter, by a continuation of the canal, or by a railway; but the former plan was at last adopted, and the entire canal, thirty-two miles in length, was completed in December 1811, at a total expense of £170,000, being nearly double the original estimate. This canal, which affords a communication by water between Brecknock and the Bristol channel, has a fall of sixty-eight feet from that town to Clydach, by means of six locks, but thenceforward to its junction with the Monmouthshire canal it is upon one level: its breadth is ten yards, and its depth of water four feet and a half, being navigated by barges of twenty-five tons' burden: it is carried over the valley and stream of the Clydach by a grand aqueduct, eighty feet high above the level of the water below. The chief feeder is a copious stream introduced from the Usk into its summit level, besides which, one hundred and eighty-five locks of one hundred and eighty tons of water each are daily gauged into it in dry seasons, from five streams in different parts of the line, exclusively of smaller brooks. The rail-roads connected with this canal, by means of which iron, coal, and limestone are brought from the works in the south-eastern part of the county, occupy an extent of about ten miles; and a rail-road ten miles in length extends from the Beaufort iron-works down the valley of the Ebwy to the extremity of the southern branch of the Monmouthshire canal. The Swansea canal, for the construction of which an act of parliament was obtained in 1794,

extends from that town up the valley of the Tawy, a distance of about seventeen miles, to Hên Neuadd, in the parish of Ystradgynlais, in the south-western part of this county, whence it affords a medium for conveying to Swansea, for exportation, vast quantities of stone-coal from the numerous collieries adjacent, and iron from the works of Ynys Kedwin; also lime, for the use of the farmers along its course: about four miles of the course of this canal are in Brecknockshire. The Neath canal, for which an act was procured in 1790, extends from the navigable channel of the river Neath, below the town of that name, up the valley of the Neath to Aber Gwrelych, in this county, almost as high as Pont Neath Vaughan; and, by means of it, stone-coal and culm, iron, limestone, and fire clay, are exported from this part of Brecknockshire. Besides the private rail-roads for the convenience of bringing materials to the blast furnaces, and conveying the iron from the works to the various canals, this county is distinguished for a like road of much greater extent, and embracing more important commercial objects. The advantages that were anticipated more immediately to result from the formation of this rail-road were, by connecting the coal tracts of Brecknock, Monmouth, and Glamorgan, with the agricultural western part of Herefordshire and the eastern part of Radnorshire, the introduction of a direct exchange of produce between these two districts; the former abounding with the best kind of fuel, while its miners and iron-manufacturers depend chiefly on other parts for their supply of provisions, and the latter being fertile in corn, but its inhabitants receiving their scanty and precarious supply of coal from the Cleve hills in Shropshire. For this purpose an act of parliament was obtained in 1811; but a different line of road from that stated in this act having in the meantime been resolved upon, another was granted in the following year, and the work was executed with alacrity. Commencing at the Brecknock and Abergavenny canal, near the former town, it gains its summit level at the distance of four miles and five furlongs, by a gentle rise of one hundred and fifty-four feet two inches, being only five inches in every twenty-two yards; and thence makes a like gradual descent of ten miles to Glâsbury, on the banks of the Wye; but from Glâsbury to Hay, a distance of four miles, it has a declivity of only three inches in every twenty-two yards. From Hay it proceeds to Eardisley, in Herefordshire, a distance of seven miles, with a fall of only half an inch in every twenty-two yards; and at the latter place divides into three branches, one of which extends northward to Kington, a second eastward to Leominster, and the third south-eastward to Hereford: this road is commonly called the Hay railway, and the total length of it and its branches is twenty-six miles. The roads are generally good, excellent materials for making and repairing them being every where abundant, excepting only in those parts of the shale tract lying most remote from the ranges of grey mountain rock: sometimes, too, the red sand-stone of the central parts of the county is applied to this purpose, in lieu of stone from the lower strata, which, being of a very perishable nature, renders the roads heavy, unless frequently renewed. The road from London to Milford and the south of Ireland, and to Cardigan, through Oxford and Gloucester, enters this county from Abergavenny in Monmouthshire, and traverses it



from east to west, passing through Crickhowel and Brecknock, and entering Carmarthenshire a few miles beyond the village of Trêcastle, and about five miles before reaching Llandovery: a mail coach takes this route to Carmarthen and Milford. There is also a branch from the road from London to Radnor, by way of Hereford, which from the latter town passes through Hay, in this county, to Brecknock. The road from London to Trêgarn in Cardiganshire branches from the Aberystwith road at Presteign, and proceeds through Builth in this county, the northern end of which it traverses in its further progress.

The relics of antiquity are very numerous and various; they are of all periods of British history, and frequently of great curiosity and interest. Upon the high hill called the *Gader*, or "Chair," near the little town of Talgarth, are some circles, evidently Druidical, formed of small loose stones, the circumference of the whole being about twenty yards; and several other similar circles are seen within a few hundred paces. On a hill to the westward of the village of Devynock, near the road from Ystradgynlais to Trêcastle, is a circle of large Druidical stones, called *Cerig duon*, or the "Black Stones," having one of larger dimensions than the rest. In a *carn*, situated in a field in the parish of Llanellieu, to the east of Bronllys, was found, about the commencement of the present century, a relic of the remotest ages of British antiquity, *viz.*, a rudely-formed spear's head of flint, nearly seven inches long; and in the same mound was also a coarse earthen vessel. About two miles to the east of Talgarth, in a field called Croeslechau, is a cromlech; and another monument of the same kind, called *Tŷ Illtyd*, or "Illtyd's House," is situated on the summit of a hill, called Mannest, in the parish of Llanhamllêch. There are remains of the two Roman stations, but the original name of either of them is not known: the principal of these, situated about three miles above the town of Brecknock, near the confluence of the rivers Yscir and Usk, is called the Gaer, or Caer Bannau, and its remains are very extensive, forming a parallelogram of six hundred and twenty-four feet by four hundred and fifty-six: the foundations of the wall which bounded this area are yet perfect, and its ruins, in some places, more particularly on the northern and eastern sides, are from three to six feet high above the level of the ground, though much overgrown and concealed by underwood: the north-western angle of the camp is now occupied by a farm-house and offices, built chiefly from the ruins of the ancient wall. The whole area is covered with fragments of bricks; and gold and silver coins of the emperors Nero and Trajan have been found within it. A causeway may yet be traced leading from the Gaer nearly at right angles with the course of the Yscir; and upon it is seen a singular carved and inscribed Roman stone, called by the people of the adjacent country *Maen y Morwynion*, or the "Stone of the Maids." The other Roman station, also called the "Gaer," a name common to settlements of this people, is at the entrance of a vale, on a rising ground overlooking a small stream, called the Ewyn, in the vicinity of Llanvihangel Cwm dŷ, in the hundred of Crickhowel, and not far from the river Rhiangoll: it is of nearly the same dimensions as that of Caer Bannau, but of a form approaching nearer to a square: the prætorium is clearly distinguishable at the north-western end, while

fragments of bricks are found over the whole enclosure, within which Roman coins have also been discovered: in the vicinity is a stone, now thrown down, bearing a Latin inscription. The principal Roman road was a branch of the *Via Julia Maritima*, which latter was formed by Julius Frontinus along the southern coast of Wales: from the station *Isca Silurum*, or *Legionum*, at Caerlleon, this branch passed by that of *Gobannium* (Abergavenny) entirely across the county, from east to west, to that of *Maridunum* at Carmarthen, and from its more elevated course has been called, in contradistinction to that from which it diverged, the *Via Julia Montana*. Almost the only trace of it yet discerned in the county, with the exception of the causeway at the Gaer above mentioned, which is supposed to have communicated with it, is a stone discovered on Trêcastle mountain, near a little public-house, called the Heath Cock, bearing an imperfect inscription, and supposed to be a Roman miliary. This road is considered to have entered Brecknockshire from Abergavenny in Monmouthshire, and to have passed through Crickhowel and Trêtower to the Gaer near Llanvihangel Cwm dŷ, and thence through a pass, called Bwlch, and in a line northward of the present turnpike road, to the town of Brecknock, to one street of which it gives the name of the *Struet*: hence it proceeded near the station at Caer Bannau, beyond which it soon crossed the Usk, and proceeded westward by Rhŷd y Briw (where some traces of it were seen rather more than half a century ago) into Carmarthenshire. The station at Caer Bannau appears to have communicated by vicinal ways with the stations *Tibia Amnis* at Cardiff, and *Nidus* at Neath, in Glamorganshire, and also with that at Cwm, on the river Ithon, in Radnorshire. That from Cardiff, now called the Sarn Hîr, enters this county from the vicinity of Bedwely in Monmouthshire, at a place called Brŷn Oer, whence it continues, in a direction nearly from south to north, across the Usk to the *Via Julia Montana*, in the vicinity of Brecknock. That from Neath, now called the Sarn Helen, takes a north-easterly direction, and may be traced through a great part of its course: it enters Brecknockshire at a place called Ton y Vildra, and a little further crosses a brook, called Nant hîr, then proceeds to Blaen Nedd, pursues a course parallel with the road from Pont Neath Vaughan for about a mile, and passes within a few yards of the huge upright stone, twelve feet high and ten broad, called *Maen Llia*, or "Llia's Stone," situated near the summit of a high hill, to the north-east of the last-mentioned place, whence it may be traced gradually descending on the southern side of the Senny river and vale, from which place all traces of it are afterwards lost for a considerable distance: at Blangwrthid, in the parish of Llanspythid, however, it is again traceable for a short distance, and is conjectured to have entered the Vale of Usk, near Penpont, where it joined the *Via Julia*. From the Gaer a road sometimes called the *Via Devana* is supposed to have proceeded northward towards the station of *Deva*, at Chester, by way of that at Cwm, on the banks of the Ithon, in Radnorshire, but no traces of it are visible in the county of Brecknock. From some remains of a road discovered in the parish of Newchurch in Tyr-Abbot, in the northern part of the county, a vicinal way is supposed to have passed in that direction from the station *Maridunum*, at Carmarthen, by Llanvair ar y Brŷn, to that on the river Ithon;



and at Caerau, in the parish of Llangammarch, is an artificial mount, about eighty yards in circumference, probably the seat of an *arx speculatoria*, or watch-tower, on this road, though by some antiquaries supposed to be of British origin. Near the village of Llanvrynach, about two miles to the south-east of Brecknock, several Roman baths in a very perfect state were discovered in 1783; and various Roman coins have been at different times found in the vicinity of that place, besides foundations of other ancient buildings contiguous to the baths. Near Crickhowel is an ancient British fortification, called *Crûg Hywel*, or "Howell's Mount," a large intrenched camp, of nearly triangular form, which gave name to that town: the ditch surrounding it is very deep, and cut with prodigious labour in the solid rock. A very extensive encampment of British formation, called Penmyarth, of a circular form, and defended only by a rude rampart of uncemented stones, is also visible on a hill between the road from Trêtower to Brecknock and the river Usk, a short distance to the northward of which is another fortification of the same kind. At Venni wood, near the great Roman station of *Caer Bannau*, is a British intrenched camp of very ancient date; at a place called *Pen y Crûg*, or the "Summit of the Hill," about one mile from this, and two miles north-west from Brecknock, is a large oval fortification of like origin, six hundred feet long, four hundred and thirty broad, and surrounded by four ditches, eighteen feet deep; and near this again is a third British fortification, of the same shape, but much smaller and in a less perfect state of preservation. Near the parish church of Llanvillo are the traces of a British camp, of an oval form, two hundred and eight yards long and forty-six broad; on an eminence near the church of Glâsbury are those of one of a smaller size; on the hill above Aberbrân, overlooking the Vale of the Usk, those of one of larger dimensions; and on the hills to the west of the Tawy river are remains of various small fortifications, also of British erection. The scene of the sanguinary conflict between the Saxons and the Britons, in the year 728, near the south-eastern extremity of this county, is marked by two large heaps of stones, called *carneddau*, one of which, on being opened, was found to contain a *kistvaen*, or sepulchral stone chest. Other *carneddau* are seen on the summit of a hill, rising from the valley of the Usk, in the vicinity of Trêtower, as also on the hills to the westward of the Vale of Tawy. In the parish of Llanwrthwl, at the northern extremity of the county, are some large stones placed irregularly in the ground, which have given to the plain on which they stand the name of Rhôs saith Maen, or the "Seven-stone Common;" and in the parish of Llangeney, near Crickhowel, is a remarkable ancient monument, consisting of a single upright stone, about thirteen feet high. Remarkable single artificial mounds, supposed to have been posts of defence, but of uncertain date, are seen respectively near Dinas, in the vicinity of Llanwrtyd, near Castle Madoc, at Ystradvelltey, and at Trêcastle.

At the period of the dissolution, the only religious houses contained in this county were the priory and college of Brecknock, the latter of which still exists, and there are also vestiges of the ancient buildings of both these institutions. In a steep precipice in the upper part of the vale of Ystradgynlais is an ancient hermitage, cut in the solid rock, called *Eglwys Cradoc*, or "Cradoc's

Church." The most remarkable specimens of ecclesiastical architecture exist in the churches of St. John the Evangelist and St. Mary, at Brecknock, the former of which contains a font of Saxon, or early Norman, workmanship; the college church at the same town; the church of Crickhowel, which, among other peculiarities, is remarkable as the only one in Brecknockshire having a spire steeple; and those of Llanthew and Talgarth. There are striking ruins of the castles of Brecknock, Bronllys, Crickhowel, Rhŷd y Briw (sometimes called Devynock castle, near the village of Devynock), and Trêtower, near the village of Trê-twr, or Trê'r twr. There are also fragments of the walls of Dinas castle, in the parish of Talgarth; and some small remains of the castle of Builth, and of that of Pencelly, near Llanhamllêch: on a lofty precipitous bank, rising from the side of the river Irvon, a little above its junction with the Wye, is a mound called Castell Caer Beris, which appears to have been once the site of a fortress. This county contains a remarkably great number of ancient mansions; either now or formerly the residences of families possessing estates within it. Those most worthy of notice are, Carawen, in the valley of the greater Tâf, the seat of a family named Morgan; Castle Madoc, near Llandeivailog Vâch; Dderw House, in the parish of Llŷswen, at present occupied by a farmer; Frwdgrêch, Hoelvanog, and Newton, all near Brecknock; Lower Trevecca House, in the parish of Talgarth; Pont Wilym, near Brecknock, now a farm-house; and the old mansion of Scethrog (now called the Tower, and inhabited by a farmer), near the village of Llansaintfraed on the Usk: another old mansion at Hay is the seat of a family named Wellington. At the western extremity of the town of Crickhowel, adjoining the road leading to Brecknock, are some striking ruins of a castellated mansion, anciently belonging to the Herberts of that place, consisting chiefly of an old gateway and part of an outer wall. There are also standing, an outward wall and gateway of Porthaml, an ancient fortified residence near Talgarth; and some remains of a castellated mansion of the bishops of St. David's, at Llanthew. Some of the residences of a more modern date most worthy of notice for their architectural beauty are, Glân Usk, the residence of Joseph Bailey, Esq.; Gwernvale, that of John Gwynne Esq.; Pennoyre House, that of John Lloyd Vaughan Watkins, Esq.; Peterstone, that of the Rev. Thomas Powell; and Pontywall, that of F. Philips, Esq. Brecknockshire is distinguished above every other county in South Wales for the neatness, comfort, and convenience of its farm-houses and offices, an advantage considered to be owing chiefly to the labours, precepts, and example of the members of the Brecon Agricultural Society, and to the excellence of the building materials obtained in most parts of the county. A few of the cottages, in the most mountainous and uncultivated parts of the county, are of a very inferior description. Some of the houses in the vicinity of the iron-works are remarkable for being roofed with plates of rolled iron, some flat, others curved like the common pantiles: the spars, side-rasers, &c., are also sometimes of iron. The quickset hedges are almost universally very crooked: in some of the uplands of the red sand-stone and coal tracts the fences are dry stone walls, made of the flat slate-like stones found there, or of these placed in alternate layers with sods. The bread of the agricultural population of the vales is made chiefly from



the red lammas wheat, ground and dressed in the ordinary manner; but in the more elevated and less cultivated districts it is frequently made from a mixture of wheat and rye, called *muncorn*, or of wheat and barley, and sometimes from barley alone. Servants are hired at the May and November fairs: most of the fairs of this county continue for several days. The most remarkable mineral spring is that at Llanwrtyd Wells, on the banks of the Irvon, in the upper part of the hundred of Builth, about eight miles west of the town of Builth, called by the Welsh *Y Fynnon Ddrewlyd*, or the "Stinking Well," the waters of which are strongly impregnated with hepatic gas, a small portion of sulphate of iron, and a still smaller quantity of sulphate of soda, and are ascertained to be of equal efficacy with those of Harrogate in the cure of scorbutic and scrofulous disorders. The sanative properties of this spring were discovered about the year 1732: it is now much resorted to in the summer season, and a comfortable mansion, formerly the residence of a respectable family, is open for the public accommodation, with conveniences for warm and cold bathing. The Park Wells, a mile to the west of Builth, consist of four springs within a few feet of each other; one of these is of pure water, another saline, a third chalybeate, and the fourth sulphureous. Several other mineral springs occur in different places, but are of no celebrity. Tarren yr Ogov, or the "Cliff of the Cave," is a limestone rock near Capel Callwen, on the western bank of the Tawy, out of which issues a constant stream of water, that works a mill immediately below: a day or two after heavy rains the quantity discharged is prodigiously increased. The southern side of this county, besides being distinguished for the picturesque beauties of its deep mountain dells, also presents various grand cascades, and other natural curiosities worthy of notice. The most remarkable of the waterfalls are, that called Pistyll-Mawr, or the Great Cascade, on the small river Clydach, romantically embosomed in a luxuriant wood; two of peculiar grandeur on the small river Mellte, a little above its junction with the Hepstè; Cil Hepstè waterfall, on the latter stream, which is here precipitated, in one wide unbroken sheet, from a height of nearly fifty feet, and afterwards with the Mellte descends into the Neath; a bold cataract, called Scwd Einon Gam, on the Pyrddin, a stream which flows into the Neath from the westward; and that called Scwd yr Hên Rhÿd, on the small river Llêch, which joins the Tawy from the eastward, some distance above the village of Ystradgynlais. The Mellte, before forming the cascades above mentioned, pursues a subterranean passage for a short distance, flowing through a singular and extensive cavern, which, when the water is low, may be explored with torches to a considerable distance: the entrance, called Porth Ogov, is about twenty feet high and forty-five wide, and its interior expands into a large apartment, ornamented with stalactites and other calcareous concretions: in the course of its passage through this cavern the river is precipitated, with astounding noise, into a deep pool.

BRETTON, a township in the parish of HAWARDEN, hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S. E. by E.) from Hawarden, containing 257 inhabitants. This township is situated on the road from Chester to Flint: contiguous to the village lies what was formerly the great marsh of Saltney, which extends

into the county palatine of Chester, and was enclosed pursuant to an act passed in 1778.

BRIDEL (BRIDDELL), a parish partly in the hundred of KEMMES, but principally in that of KILGERRAN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.) from Cardigan, on the road to Narberth, containing 395 inhabitants. The land in this parish is all enclosed and in an excellent state of cultivation, and the soil is mostly fertile. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9, and in the patronage of the freeholders of the parish. The church, dedicated to St. David, is an ancient structure, beautifully situated and embosomed among trees, the luxuriant foliage of which almost conceals it from the view. In the churchyard stands an ancient cross, of the kind called St. Catherine's, supported on a plain shaft about nine feet high, and without any inscription. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £83. 7.

BRIDE'S (ST.), a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (W.S.W.) from Haverfordwest, containing 132 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the south side of the bay in St. George's channel, to which it gives name, and at the neck of a small inlet from the bay, which flows up almost to the churchyard, forming what is called St. Bride's haven. A considerable herring fishery, which has been discontinued for many years, was formerly carried on here with very great advantage, and there are still the remains of an ancient chapel on the beach, which, according to tradition, was subsequently appropriated as a salting-house for curing the fish. In the cemetery belonging to this chapel were numerous stone coffins, of which several have been washed away by the encroachment of the sea, which has here gained considerably on the shore, as was proved some years ago, during an extraordinary recess of the tide, by the discovery of several stumps of trees. The surrounding scenery is richly diversified, and various parts of the parish afford extensive marine views and pleasing prospects over the adjacent country. Hill, the elegant mansion of Charles Philipps, Esq., is beautifully sheltered by luxuriant plantations, being open only to a verdant lawn, which slopes gently to the creek that comes up nearly to the churchyard. This family, who are descended from the ancient royal house of Cilsant, resided formerly at the old mansion of St. Bride's, which was abandoned some years since, on the erection of the present modern house. Attached to Hill is a park well stocked with deer, forming one of the very small number at present to be found in this part of the principality. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £15. 12. 11., and in the alternate patronage of Charles Philipps, Esq., W. P. Laugharne, Esq., and John Nash, Esq., the last as representative of the family of Philipps, of Fobeston. The church is not distinguished by any architectural features of importance. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £77. 9.

BRIDE'S (ST.) MAJOR, a parish in the hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, comprising the townships of St. Bride and Ynysawdre, each of which separately maintains its own poor, and containing 922 inhabitants, of which number, 328 are in the township of St. Bride,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.) from Bridgend,



on the road to Lantwit-Major. This place holds a conspicuous rank in the ancient history of the principality, and is distinguished for having been one of the earliest known residences of its princes. It is situated on the river Ogmore, by which it is bounded on the west, and extends southward to the Bristol channel. Dunraven Castle is an elegant and spacious structure, occupying an elevated situation in the parish, and commanding an extensive marine prospect, and several fine views of the rocky scenery along the coast. The present structure was erected by the late Thomas Wyndham, Esq., near the site of a former edifice, anciently the residence of Caractacus, and called by the Britons Dyndryvan, of which the present name is a modification. The British hero and his father, Brân ab Llŷr, are both said to have resided here; and the triple rampart that defended it, on the only side on which it was accessible, and of which the remains are still visible, is at least as ancient as the time of the Romans. After the disastrous defeat of Caractacus it continued to be the residence of the native reguli, till the time of Iestyn ab Gwrgan, on whose deposition by the Norman adventurer Fitz-Hamon, it was granted by that chieftain to William de Londres, together with the lordship and castle of Ogmore. The castle and manor of Dunraven were given by William de Londres to Arnold, his butler, as a reward for his valour in defending the castle of Ogmore from an attack of the Welsh, during the absence of that nobleman, for which he was also knighted, assuming from his office, according to the custom of that time, the name of Sir Arnold Butler, which he transmitted, together with the estate, to his descendants, who continued to enjoy the latter for many generations, till, the male line becoming extinct, it was conveyed by a daughter in marriage to the family of Vaughan. According to local tradition, which appears to have been confirmed by subsequent discoveries, the last of the Vaughans who possessed the manor was in the habit of inhumanly setting up decoy lights, to mislead vessels in the channel, in order to increase his revenue by the "*Wrecks de mer*," to which, as lord of the manor, he was entitled. Within sight of the house was a rock, dry only at low water, to which two of his sons having gone to divert themselves, and neglected to secure their boat, it was floated away, and they were left on the rock till the return of the tide, when they perished in sight of the family, who vainly attempted to afford assistance. During the confusion which this melancholy event created in the family, the third son, a child only just able to walk, fell into a large vessel of whey, and was drowned; and the proprietor, thus left childless, sold the estate to an ancestor of the late Thomas Wyndham, Esq., whose only daughter and heiress conveyed it by marriage to Windham Henry Wyndham Quin, Earl of Dunraven and Mountearl, the present noble proprietor: the mansion is at present in the occupation of J. W. Bennet, Esq., who married the widow of the late Mr. Wyndham, and who occasionally resides in it. The castle and lordship of Ogmore passed, by marriage with the heiress of the family of de Londres, to the first Duke of Lancaster, and still forms part of the duchy, now vested in the crown. The former is thus described by Leland:—"Ogor Castelle stondith on the Est Ripe of Ogor, on a playn Ground a Mile above the mouth of Ogor, and ys meatly welle main-tainid. It longgid ons to Lounder, now to the King."

The ruins, together with an out-post, called Castel Allen, are situated within an angle formed by the junction of the Ewenny with the river Ogmore; they are very considerable, and present a striking and interesting feature in the landscape.

The living is a vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Wick annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £9. 16. 5½., and in the patronage of Richard Turberville Turberville, Esq. The church is an ancient structure, and contains several handsome monuments; among which the most conspicuous are, a fine altar-tomb, bearing the effigies of a crusader and his lady, of the family of Butler, and an elegant mural monument, beautifully executed in white marble, by Gahagen, of Bath, to the memory of the late Thomas Wyndham, Esq., of Dunraven Castle, who represented the county of Glamorgan in several parliaments, on which are the effigies of himself and his two sons, who died in their infancy, finely sculptured in alto relievo. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. A school, in which forty children of both sexes are instructed, is supported by annual subscriptions among the principal proprietors of land. Near the western boundary of the parish, a little to the south-west of the village of Ewenny, there is a very copious spring, locally called "The Shew Well," but usually designated by tourists "Ogmore Spring:" it issues from three different apertures in the limestone rock, and the waters, uniting immediately on their emission, at first occupy a space about fifteen yards wide, but are soon contracted to a current seven yards wide and one foot deep, and, at the distance of between thirty and forty yards from their source, fall into the river Ewenny. It has been asserted that this is a part of that river, which enters a subterraneous channel a short distance above; but the different properties of the waters of these confluent springs are sufficient evidence in disproof: the two eastern are exceedingly cold, and, in washing, will curdle soap like an acid; the water of the other is of a milder temperature, and will serve for washing as well as rain water. In the cliffs on this part of the coast are some spacious and remarkable excavations, formed by the action of the sea: one of these, of singular appearance, extends for a considerable length in a direction parallel with the coast, and resembles a series of columns rudely formed; another, called the Wind Hole, has penetrated the rocks to a great depth, and is remarkable for some apertures in the ground, through which, in certain states of the tide, the wind rushes upwards with considerable force. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £473. 18.

BRIDE'S (ST.) MINOR, a parish partly in the hundred of NEWCASTLE, and partly in that of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (N.) from Bridgend, containing 306 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the river Ogmore, which, after running through it in a southerly direction, unites with the river Ewenny at its influx into the Bristol channel. The lands, with the exception of a comparatively small portion, are enclosed and in a good state of cultivation; and the surrounding country, which is in many parts highly picturesque, affords some pleasing mountain scenery and some interesting views. The soil is various, and coal of good quality is found in divers parts of



the parish, and is worked with considerable success, affording employment to such of the inhabitants as are not engaged in agriculture. A tram-road from the coal-works in the neighbourhood passes through the parish, and communicates with the Bridgend and Porthcawl rail-road, by means of which the produce of the works is conveyed to its destination. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £5. 3. 6½, and in the patronage of the Earl of Dunraven. The church, dedicated to St. Bride, is a small neat building. There is a place of worship for Presbyterians. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £103. 10.

**BRIDES (ST.) SUPER ELY**, a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5½ miles (W. N. W.) from Cardiff, containing 128 inhabitants. This parish, which is of very small extent, is situated on the banks of the river Ely, and near the vale of that name, the scenery of which is pleasingly varied. The living is a discharged rectory, consolidated with the rectory of Michaelston super Ely, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. St. y Nill, the seat of — Jenkins, Esq., is a large house situated within its limits, commanding a fine view over the Vale of Ely. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £62. 12.

**BRIDGEND**, otherwise **PENYBONT AR OGWR**, a market town, partly in the parish of COYTY, and partly in that of NEWCASTLE, hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 20 miles (W. by N.) from Cardiff, and 179 (W.) from London. The population is returned with the different parishes, the various portions in which also support their respective poor. This town, the name of which is of obvious etymology, is pleasantly situated, about three-quarters of a mile to the north of the turnpike road from Cardiff to Swansea, on the banks of the river Ogmere, which divides it into two parts, the hamlet of Oldcastle occupying its eastern, and that of Newcastle its western, bank, and over which there are two bridges of stone, one of them an elegant modern structure of three arches, forming an ornamental entrance from the west. It stands in a beautiful and fertile district, nearly in the centre of the county, and consists of one irregular street, containing some excellent shops, with several handsome dwelling-houses in the environs: it is neither paved nor lighted, but well supplied with water, and has been much improved of late years, by the erection of several good houses, and by modernizing the old ones. There are no fixed amusements, but concerts and dramatic performances occasionally take place at the town-hall. An act of parliament has recently been obtained for constructing a new line of road from the town to a place called Pant y Brocastle, by which the distance from Cowbridge will be shortened one mile, and the nearest and least hilly road from Cardiff to Swansea brought through the town. A large woollen manufactory was established here, about the commencement of the present century, by several gentlemen of the county, both to encourage industry among the inhabitants, and to provide a home market for the wool produced in the vicinity; but this scheme has failed to freeze the expectations of its promoters. Contiguous to the town are some quarries of excellent freestone, the

produce of which resembles the Portland-stone, to which it is not much inferior. A rail-road from the iron-works at Maes Teg to the little harbour of Porthcawl, a distance of sixteen miles, has recently been completed, and, with the improvement of the harbour itself, is said to have cost about £100,000. In connexion with this is a branch railway, commencing near the village of Cevn Gribbwr, in the parish of Laleston, on the line of the former, and extending four miles and a half, in an eastern direction, to the vicinity of Bridgend: it is intended principally to facilitate the transmission of coal from the large works on the line of the Dyfryn Llynvi and Porthcawl rail-road to this town and its vicinity, and to open a communication between the latter and the harbour of Porthcawl, which is a creek to the port of Swansea, and is usually considered the shipping-place for Bridgend, from which it is five miles distant. The market is on Saturday, and is noted for the sale of corn, which is pitched in the market-place; it is also abundantly supplied with provisions, which are sold at reasonable prices. The fairs are on Holy Thursday, or Ascension-day, and November 17th, chiefly for the sale of cattle and cheese. The petty sessions for the hundred are held here every Saturday; and here also the election of the parliamentary representative for the county takes place. The town-hall is a neat structure, standing in the middle of the town, where the elections are held, and other local business is transacted.

In that part of the town which is in the parish of Coyty, forming the hamlet of Oldcastle, is the chapel of Nolton, which is a chapel of ease to Coyty, where divine service is regularly performed; and in that part which is in the hamlet and parish of Newcastle is situated the church of that parish. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, and Unitarians: that for the Unitarians, with another in the parish of Bettws, belonging to the same sect, is endowed with lands and money, amounting to about £40 per annum chiefly by the ancestors of that distinguished divine, moralist, and political writer, Dr. Richard Price, who was born at Tynon, in the neighbouring parish of Bettws, in 1723. A National school, in which one hundred children of both sexes are instructed, is supported principally by the liberality of the Rt. Hon. Sir John Nicholl, and his family, aided by a charity sermon and some private subscriptions. A savings' bank and a dispensary have been erected with part of a sum arising from the unappropriated fractional parts of dividends, which amounted to £800; the dispensary, for the distribution of medicines and advice gratis among the poor of the adjoining parishes, not receiving parochial relief, is supported by subscriptions, usually amounting to £100 per annum. The hamlets of Oldcastle and Newcastle derived their names from two fortresses, probably erected by some of the early Norman invaders of Glamorgan, to secure their newly-acquired possessions from the attacks of the native chieftains, to which they were for a long time exposed: that which gave name to the former stood near the present chapel of Nolton, the tithe barn having been subsequently erected on part of its site, and appears to have been dependent upon the neighbouring castle of Coyty; while the other occupied a commanding situation on a precipitous eminence above the church. George Cadogan Morgan, nephew of Dr. Price, and classical tutor and



lecturer on natural philosophy in the dissenting academy at Hackney in Middlesex, was a native of this place: he published two volumes of Lectures on Electricity, and a small work on education, entitled "Directions for the use of a Scientific Table in the collection and application of Knowledge," and communicated to the Royal Society a valuable paper, under the title of "Observations and Experiments on the light of bodies in a state of combustion," which was published in the seventy-fifth volume of the Philosophical Transactions: he died at Southgate, near London, in 1798.

**BRISKEDWIN (PRYSG-EDWIN)**, a joint hamlet with Tir yr brenkin, in the parish of **LLANDEILO**, hundred of **SWANSEA**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 7 miles (N. W. by N.) from Swansea. The population is included in the return for Tir yr brenkin. It is situated on the western declivity of some elevated ground, which lies between the road from Swansea to Pont ar Dulas and the river Loughor.

**BRITHDIR**, a chapelry in the parish of **GELLYGAER**, hundred of **CAERPHILLY**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.E. by E.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 792 inhabitants. This place, which is situated in a rich mineral district, has, within the last ten years, nearly doubled its population. This increase may be attributed to the establishment of the extensive iron-works on the estate of the Marquis of Bute, and to the collieries and other public works in the immediate vicinity, of which a more detailed account is given in the article on the parish of Gellygaer. The village is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Romney, and the surrounding scenery, like that of the entire parish, combines numerous interesting features and a pleasing variety of picturesque and romantic beauty. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Gellygaer, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaff. The chapel is a neat plain edifice, appropriately fitted up. At a short distance is a rude erect stone, about nine feet high, a monument of some remote period of antiquity, of which there are other remains in the vicinity.

**BRITHDIR**, a township in the parish and upper division of the hundred of **LLANIDLOES**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**. The population is returned with the parish. One-fourth of the tithes of this township belongs to Sir W. W. Wynne, Bart.

**BRITON-FERRY**, a parish in the hundred of **NEATH**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  miles (S. W. by S.) from Neath, containing 416 inhabitants. This place, called in the Welsh language *Llansawyl*, derives its name from an ancient ferry over the river Neath, established here from time immemorial, and communicating with the opposite shore, from which there is an agreeable ride over Cremlyn Burrows to Swansea. The Neath here expands into a channel of considerable breadth, and falls into Swansea bay, a little below the harbour: the navigation has, within the last few years, been greatly improved, at an expense exceeding £4000, raised by subscription among the proprietors of the coal, copper, and iron works in the neighbourhood, and of other persons interested in the trade and prosperity of the town of Neath, to which place the river has been rendered safely navigable for ships of two hundred and fifty tons' burden. The Neath canal, which passes through a district abounding with mineral

wealth, terminates at this place, after a course of about fourteen miles: the wharfs are at a place called Giant's Grave, where upwards of sixty thousand tons of coal and culm are shipped annually. It has been for some time in contemplation to construct a bridge over the river at this place, and to make a road across the Burrows to Swansea, by which a distance of seven or eight miles in the present route of the mail would be saved, and the merchants of that thriving and opulent town would gain two hours in the arrival and departure of the post. At present, persons on horseback and on foot save this distance between Swansea and the eastern part of the county by crossing Briton Ferry, the fare of which is one penny for each man and the same for each horse. Nothing can surpass the beauty of this sequestered spot; embosomed in hills of picturesque and romantic appearance, skirted by shady woods, fertile vales, and luxuriant meadows, the scenery is strikingly beautiful and richly diversified: in some parts there are fine views of the sea, from which the woods appear to arise. The atmosphere is mild and temperate, and the air soft and salubrious: the arbutus, the myrtle, the magnolia, and other exotics grow luxuriantly in the open air, and the environs abound with the richest verdure and most luxuriant foliage. The advantages of its situation, and the favourable opportunities for sea-bathing, may at no distant period render this the favourite resort of families who are fond of retirement, and of invalids whose state of health requires the benefit of a temperate climate. Hitherto the accommodation for visitors has been extremely deficient; but since the Vernon Arms, a house of great respectability on the banks of the river, has been conducted by the present tenant, every regard is paid to the comfort of families, for whose use suitable apartments have been provided, and who may be boarded upon terms as reasonable as in a private family. Attached to the building is excellent stabling, with lock-up coach-houses, and every requisite for their entire accommodation. The mansion house of Briton-Ferry, which for many generations was the property and residence of the Mansels, one of the most ancient families in this county, is a spacious building, adapted more to comfort and family accommodation, than remarkable for magnificence of character: the situation commands extensive marine views, and prospects over a tract of country richly cultivated and abounding with objects of interest. The Briton-Ferry estate, originally comprising nearly forty thousand acres, distributed through not less than forty parishes in South Wales, was devised to the youngest brother of the Earl of Jersey, on whose death it passed to the present earl, who has reduced it to about eight thousand acres in the immediate vicinity: the mansion has been for some time deserted, and will probably in a short time be taken down, or converted into an inn. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £400 private benefaction, and £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Earl of Jersey. The church is a neat structure; and the churchyard, remarkable for its picturesque appearance, has been celebrated in an elegy by the poet Mason, who, with Gray, occasionally visited at Baglan House, then the residence of the Rev. William Thomas. The Earl of Jersey pays £5 per annum towards the instruction of four poor children, and the Countess gives £10 per annum to be laid out in the



purchase of flannel, and distributed among the poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £149. 19.

**BROADLANE**, a township in the parish of **HAWARDEN**, hundred of **MOLD**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**, 1 mile (E.) from Hawarden, containing 47 inhabitants. Hawarden Castle, the seat of Sir Stephen Richard Glynne, Bart., is situated in this township, and is further described in the account of the parish.

**BRONCASTELLAN (BRON-CASTELLAN)**, a township in that part of the parish of **LLANBADARN-VAWR** which is in the upper division of the hundred of **GENEU 'R GLYN**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 14 miles (E.) from Aberystwith, containing 144 inhabitants. This place occupies a rugged and mountainous district near the foot of the **Plynlimmon** mountain, and the road from **Llanidloes** to **Aberystwith** passes through it. It is separately assessed for the support of its poor, the average annual expenditure being £8. 16.

**BRONGWYN (BRYN-GWYN)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of **TROEDYRAUR**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (N. N. W.) from **Newcastle-Emlyn**, on the road from **Llanbedr**, through **Atpar**, to **Cardigan**, containing 396 inhabitants. This parish, the name of which implies the White Mount, is pleasantly situated near the beautiful vale of **Teivy**, of which, in some places, it commands a fine prospect. **Abercery**, the property of **T. Parry Thomas, Esq.**, is a neat modern villa, beautifully situated, and commanding one of the finest reaches of the Vale of **Teivy**, including the straggling town of **Newcastle-Emlyn**, with the venerable ruins of its ancient castle, and much richly varied scenery. The parish is enclosed, and the land in a good state of cultivation and tolerably productive. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed, with that of **Bettws-Evan**, to the vicarage of **Penbryn**, in the archdeaconry of **Cardigan**, and diocese of **St. David's**. The church is dedicated to **St. Mary**. There is a place of worship for **Independents**. Near the church is a very strong intrenchment, called the *Gaer*, a name common to fortifications of this description, of which there are many in this part of the principality. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £130. 15.

**BRONINGTON**, a township in the parish of **HANMER**, hundred of **MAELOR**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**, containing 729 inhabitants. It is assessed separately for the maintenance of its poor: the average annual expenditure is £318. 8.

**BRONLLÛS, or BRYNLLYS (BRWYNLLÛS)**, a parish in the hundred of **TALGARTH**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. W.) from **Hay**, on the road to **Brecknock**, containing 286 inhabitants. The village occupies a pleasant situation at no great distance from the river **Llyvni**, or **Llynvi**, and, though poor and inconsiderable, derives some historical importance from its ancient castle, which, occupying the summit of an artificial mount on the banks of the **Llyvni**, appears to have been designed to protect the pass of that river, and to communicate with the strong post at **Dinas**, about three miles to the south. Its origin is involved in impenetrable obscurity: **Mr. King**, in his "*Munimenta Antiqua*," is of opinion that it was built in the period between the landing of **Julius Cæsar** and the reign of the Emperor **Claudius**, from a Syrian model

introduced by the **Phœnicians** who traded to **Cornwall**, in which county a similar tower is still standing at **Launceston**. But, although its remains bear evidence of great antiquity, so remote an origin as this may reasonably be doubted: from its close resemblance to some of the early eastern towers, it is not improbable that it was built by the **Normans** from models which they had seen abroad when engaged in the crusades. The first historical notice of it is in the reign of **Henry I.**, by whom it was granted, together with the castle of **Llandovery**, to **Richard Fitz-Pons**: it afterwards passed into the noble families of **de Clifford**, **Giffard**, **de Bohun**, and **Stafford**, and, on the attainder of **Stafford**, the last Duke of **Buckingham**, in the reign of **Henry VIII.**, escheated to the crown. Towards the latter part of the twelfth century it was greatly damaged by an accidental fire; and **Mahel**, the grand-nephew of **Bernard Newmarch**, and lord of **Brecknock**, who was noted only for his inhumanity, being at the time on a visit to **Walter de Clifford**, met his death by the falling of a stone upon his head, whilst the fire was raging. The venerable remains of the castle consist principally of one lofty circular tower, about twenty-five feet in diameter, of great solidity, and built with small hewn stones. Although a breach, level with the ground outside, appears to have been made in the wall of the tower, the original entrance was at some distance from the ground, and was probably approached by a flight of wooden steps: the arches of this doorway, and of most of the windows, are each rudely formed of two inclined stones. At the eastern extremity of the parish a substantial bridge, called **Pontithel**, has been erected over the **Llyvni**, which river after flowing through the parish, falls into the **Wye** near **Glâsbury**. The handsome mansion of **Pontywal**, the property of **Mrs. Clarke**, formerly belonged to the **Howards**, a Roman Catholic family of some note in this county: in the old portion of the house are the remains of what appears to have been a chapel, and under the more modern parts were all the appearances of a place of burial: this estate was purchased, about the year 1750, by the late **Evan Hughes, Esq.**, who was high sheriff of the county in 1754, from whom it passed to his niece, and is now entailed upon her granddaughters after the decease of **Mrs. Clarke**. In this parish is an old family mansion, called **Trêvithel**, from **Ithel**, King of **Gwent**, as it is said, who was slain by the men of **Brycheiniog**, about the year 846: it is now occupied as a farm-house.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of **Brecknock**, and diocese of **St. David's**, rated in the king's books at £4. 16. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of **Walter Devereux Wilkins, Esq.** The church, dedicated to **St. Mary**, is a small edifice, adjoining the village, with a detached tower standing at its north-eastern angle, in which are five bells. There is a table of benefactions in the church, from which it appears that the sum of £10 was given by an unknown benefactor, to be vested for the benefit of the poor; and £1. 4. per annum, by will of **Mrs. Sybil Williams**, of **Trêvithel**, in 1761; and that the rectorial tithes of **BronllÛs**, **Llandevelle**, and **Crickadarn**, were charged by the **Rev. D. Williams**, of **Stapleford**, in the county of **Hertford**, with the payment of forty shillings per annum for the poor of **BronllÛs**. In a field called **Croeslechau**, on the farm of **Brÿn y groes**, in this



parish, is a small cromlech, under part of which grows a white thorn, which, it is said, has gradually raised the covering, or horizontal, stone several inches out of its original position. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £222. 3.

BROUGHTON, a joint township with Brymbo, in that part of the parish of WREXHAM which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, containing 1266 inhabitants. This township and its vicinity abound with rich and extensive mines of coal, lead and iron ore, &c., and various establishments, on a very large scale, have for a considerable number of years been employed in working them. Those which belonged to the late John Wilkinson, Esq., a man of great enterprise, skill, and industry, occupy a spacious plot of ground, and comprise forges, and slitting, rolling, and stamping mills, together with a complete cannon and mortar foundry, from which not only the English government, but those of several of the continental states, were at one time supplied. But this branch of manufacture having declined, they have since been principally employed in casting wheels, bars for rail-roads, cylinders, rollers, and pipes of different dimensions for conduits, pumps, &c., and in manufacturing and rolling sheet iron, and converting the plates into furnaces, boilers for steam-engines, &c. The iron-ore is chiefly procured in the adjacent hills, and conveyed to the foundries erected near the coal-works, where, by the aid of a steam-engine, and the double blast furnace, first used here, it is quickly converted into pigs. The coal-pits vary in depth from one to two hundred yards, and the coal is raised by steam-engines, of which there are several in the vicinity, besides additional over-shot wheels, employed in the various works. The Brymbo iron and coal works were for several years discontinued, having been the subject of a suit in Chancery; but they have recently re-commenced operation on an extensive scale. Thomas Earl of Arundel, by charter granted in 1410, gave the inhabitants of Holt permission to dig for coal and turf in this place. That remarkable monument of Saxon industry, Clawdd Offa, or Offa's Dyke, passes through this township, crossing near Brymbo Hall, where it has been levelled for the formation of rail-roads in connexion with the collieries and iron-works: in levelling a portion of it, a great quantity of the bones of horses, in a state of excellent preservation, and horse-shoes of rude workmanship, were found. This place supports its own poor pursuant to an arrangement made in 1830.

BROUGHTON, a township in the parish of HAWARDEN, hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. E.) from Hawarden, containing 397 inhabitants. According to Mr. Pennant, this place was held, prior to the Conquest, by one Levenot, a freeman; and after that period it was possessed, under the name of *Brochetune*, by Robert de Roelent, or Rhuddlan, who held it under Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, and who had also a manor here, once owned by a Saxon named Ulmer. Part of the Warren mountain, in this township, was enclosed pursuant to an act of parliament obtained in 1798. A chapel has been erected here, which is a chapel of ease to the rectory of Hawarden.

BRYMBO, a joint township with Broughton, in that part of the parish of WREXHAM which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N. W. by W.) from Wrexham, con-

taining 1116 inhabitants. There are extensive collieries and iron-works in Brymbo and its vicinity, which are more fully described in the article on BROUGHTON.

BRYN-CAREDIG, a joint township with Maesmaencymro, in that part of the parish of LLANYNYS which is in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. W.) from Ruthin. The population is returned with the parish. In the years 1813 and 1814, a portion of land in the vicinity of this place was planted by W. M. Thackeray, Esq., M.D., and the trees are now in a flourishing condition.

BRYNCROES (BRYN - CROES), a parish partly in the hundred of GAFLOGION, but principally in that of COMMITMAEN, Llein division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 11 miles (W. by S.) from Pwllheli, containing 910 inhabitants. The village is pleasantly situated on the river Sochan: the parish, which is entirely agricultural, contains about three thousand acres of land, the whole of which is enclosed. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, endowed with a rent-charge of £7 private benefaction, £600 royal bounty, and £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of C. G. Wynne, Esq. The church is a small edifice in good repair, and is appropriately fitted up for the accommodation of the parishioners. A tenement in this parish was left some years ago, the rental of which, now about £7, is appropriated towards the support of a master for teaching poor children to read Welsh: there is no school-room, and the children, now twenty in number, are taught in the church. The rent of another tenement, amounting to £9 per annum, is paid to a schoolmaster, who keeps a school here, every fourth year, in turn with Aberdaron, Rhiw, and Llanvaelrhÿs. An ancient chapel, called Tŷ Vair, or "St. Mary's Chapel," formerly stood near the church; in the vicinity of which also are Fynnon Vair, "St. Mary's Well," and Cae Vair, "St. Mary's Field." A kistvaen, or stone coffin, in which was an urn containing burnt bones and ashes, was discovered, some years ago, on the grounds of Tŷ Mawr, in this parish; and near a house called Monachtŷ there was formerly a cromlech. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £362. 18.

BRYN-EGLOWYS, a parish in the hundred of YALE, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N. W.) from Llangollen, containing 450 inhabitants. This parish is situated among mountains of various elevation, and characterized by boldness of scenery. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church is a small edifice, having no claim to architectural notice. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Mr. J. Jones bequeathed a rent-charge of £6, payable out of the estate of Tŷ yn y Wern, for the instruction of poor children of the parish; at present ten boys derive benefit from this endowment. Near Plâs yn Yale, in the mountainous part of the parish, is a copious spring, possessing precisely the same properties as the water of Holywell, and producing the mosses *Jungermannia Asplenioides*, and *Conferva Gelatinosa*, the fragrance of which is more powerful than that of the mosses of St. Winifred's well. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £277. 16.



**BRÛN-GWÛN**, a parish in the hundred of **PAINS-CASTLE**, county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**, 6 miles (N. N.W.) from Hay, containing 364 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the small river Garrow, or Arrow, and contains some large tracts of fertile and productive land in a good state of cultivation, and a considerable portion of common, part of which is a turbary, called Rhôs Gôch, producing very fine peat, which is dug to the depth of fifteen feet from the surface. Beneath the peat are strata of blue clay and of a clay of a yellow hue, the latter abounding with sea shells, which crumble on the slightest touch: the layer is about two feet in depth, and appears to be incumbent on water, which rises up through the fissures occasionally made with the spade, and soon fills the whole cavity. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £11. 6. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, consists of a nave and chancel, but is not distinguished by any architectural features deserving of notice. Richard Jones, in 1706, and an unknown benefactor, gave each a portion of land, directing the rental to be distributed among the poor of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £204. 3.

**BRÛN-UCHEL**, a joint township with Tavolog, in the parish of **CEMMES**, hundred of **MACHYNLLETH**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, containing, with Tavolog, 395 inhabitants.

**BRÛN Y BEIRDD**, a hamlet in that part of the parish of **LLANDILO-VAWR** which is in the hundred of **ISCENNEN**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 4 miles (S. E. by S.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 379 inhabitants. A farm-house in this hamlet, called Cwrt BrÛn y Beirdd, is supposed to occupy the site of an ancient Bardic residence. Within a short distance is the source of the river Loughor, which rises in a full stream out of a rock; and contiguous thereto is a natural cavern of considerable extent, which has not yet been fully explored: in some parts it is so narrow as scarcely to admit the passage of a single person, and in others it expands into capacious recesses, exhibiting a variety of curious and beautiful petrifications. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £62. 4.

**BUILTH**, or **LLANVAIR-YN-MUALLT**, a market town and parish (anciently a borough), in the hundred of **BUILTH**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**, 15 miles (N.) from Brecknock, and 170 (W. N. W.) from London, containing 1034 inhabitants. The proper name of this parish, both as applied by the native inhabitants, and as used in legal documents from the earliest times, is *Llanvair yn Muallt*, or "St. Mary's in Builth." The name *Builth*, by which the place is more commonly known, and which is more correctly written *Buallt* or *Muallt*, implying a "land of bosage used for pasture," and more especially for the pasture of oxen, is with strict propriety applied generally to the territory within which the town is situated, and is derived from the Welsh *Bu*, "an ox," and *Allt*, "a wooded eminence," at once descriptive of the face of the country and the use to which it was appropriated. The origin of the town is involved in very great obscurity: some writers, judging from the course of the Roman road from *Deva*, now Chester, to *Bannium*, near Brecknock, and strengthened in their opinion by the

resemblance of the names, have fixed the Roman station *Bullaum Silurum* at this place. But, though a Roman road may have passed by Builth, and some military post have been established in the neighbourhood, no remains have been discovered to corroborate such an opinion; and many writers, of respectable authority, altogether deny that any part of the present county of Brecknock was ever comprehended within the ancient province of Siluria. The present town appears to have arisen subsequently to the erection of a castle here, probably by the Norman invaders of this part of the principality, under the command of Bernard Newmarch, about the year 1098. The first historical notice of this place occurs in an account of the marriage of Maud, second daughter of Milo Fitz-Walter, Lord of Brecknock, to Philip de Breos, one of Bernard's followers, who, having attacked and conquered the territories of Elystan GlodrhÛdd, which bordered on the river Wye, established in them the lordship of Builth, from which circumstance he is designated, in the account of his marriage above referred to, "Lord of Builth, which he obtained by conquest." Frequent mention of this castle occurs in the annals of South Wales, but its history is nevertheless very imperfectly known; and neither the name of its founder, nor the exact time of its erection, has been precisely ascertained. The lordship of Builth descended, together with the lordships of Brecknock and Hay (the latter in right of his mother), to William, son of Philip de Breos, upon whose subsequent attainder they became forfeited to the crown.

King John restored part of the vast possessions of that nobleman to his son, Giles de Breos, Bishop of Hereford, but retained in his own possession the remainder, in which were included the lordship and castle of Builth. These, however, the bishop soon after recovered, and took possession of all the ancient estates of his family, which were subsequently confirmed to him by the king. Giles was succeeded in them by his younger brother, Reginald de Breos, who, in 1221, being besieged in his castle at Builth by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, despatched messengers to Henry III., to apprise him of his danger; and that monarch, coming to his assistance, compelled Llewelyn to raise the siege and retire. After the death of Reginald, who had married a daughter of Llewelyn's, the lordship of Builth and his other possessions descended to his eldest son, William de Breos, by a former marriage; and this nobleman, preferring the English interest, notwithstanding his father's connexion with the family of Llewelyn, remained a steadfast adherent to the government of Henry III., and became involved in the wars which that monarch carried on against the Welsh, in one of which he was made prisoner by Llewelyn, to whom the lordship of Builth, with a large sum of money, was given for his ransom. The castle having, after the death of William, reverted to the English crown, was held under Prince Edward by Sir Roger Mortimer, who was appointed governor; but during his absence on a summons to attend the English parliament, in 1260, it was surprised in the night by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, who attacked it on pretence that Sir Roger Mortimer, contrary to his oath, had violated the neutrality which he had promised to observe, and supported the English cause. The conduct of Mortimer upon this occasion gave great umbrage, on the other hand, to the English government;



and being suspected, from his near affinity to Llewelyn, of partiality to the interests of that prince, he was summoned before the English council, by whom he was fully acquitted of any participation or connivance in the loss of the castle, though much to the dissatisfaction of Prince Edward, who formally entered his protest against the decision of that assembly.

In 1282, this town and its neighbourhood were the scene of the last struggles for Welsh independence, to which a period was finally put by the death of the gallant and unfortunate Llewelyn, the last of the native sovereigns of Wales: to this melancholy catastrophe, the inhabitants of this town and neighbourhood are accused of having materially contributed, either by their cowardice, or by their treachery. No two writers give the same account of this melancholy event; some authorities representing the castle to have been at that time in the possession of the Welsh prince, and others in that of the English monarch, with whose subjects in the marches Llewelyn is said to have held a treasonable correspondence; but all concur in stating that the object of his visit to South Wales, after the brilliant success which had attended his arms at the Menai straits, was to hold a conference with some of the chieftains in this district. Llewelyn, for this purpose, came to Aberedw, about four miles below this town, where he had a castle or mansion, and there passed the night. During his stay he was alarmed by the approach of the enemy, who had received intelligence of his movements and present situation; and, being nearly surrounded by the forces of the English, under the command of Sir Edmund Mortimer and John Giffard (who had marched from Herefordshire, or, according to other writers, only from Builth, to surprise him), he, as is commonly stated, caused his horse's shoes to be reversed, in order to mislead his pursuers by their impressions on the snow, which then covered the ground. This stratagem, however, being treacherously discovered to the English, by Madoc Gôch Min Mawr, the blacksmith whom Llewelyn had employed, a pursuit was commenced. Llewelyn fled towards Builth, crossing the bridge over the Wye, which he caused to be demolished, before his pursuers came up, who were, consequently, compelled to return to a ford eight miles lower down on the river, where they effected a passage. Meanwhile Llewelyn had sought succour from the garrison at Builth, which being refused, either from dread of the presence of an English force, or from treachery, he led his party westward up the vale of Irvon, and crossed that river a little above Llanynis church, by a bridge called Pont y Coed, where he stationed his men. The English, on coming up, made an unsuccessful attempt to obtain possession of the bridge; and discovering a ford at a short distance, a small party of them secretly crossed it, and falling upon the Welsh unawares, put them to the rout. The Welsh prince was slain in a small dell, since called Cwm Llewelyn, or "Llewelyn's dingle," a short distance from the scene of action, by one Adam de Francon, who, ignorant of his quality, immediately joined his countrymen in the pursuit; but returning, probably for the sake of plunder, he discovered that his victim was the Prince of Wales, and on his person he found a letter in cypher and his privy seal. He then cut off his head, which he sent to the King of England, then at Aberconway; and the body, being afterwards

dragged a short distance from the spot, was buried on the banks of the Irvon, in a place since called Cevn bedd Llewelyn, "the ridge of Llewelyn's grave." The conduct of the inhabitants of Builth, in thus refusing shelter to the last of the native sovereigns of the principality, in this expiring struggle for liberty, has procured for them the opprobrious appellation of *Bradwyr Buallt*, or the "Traitors of Builth."

John Giffard, who had distinguished himself in this last engagement, was appointed governor of the castle of Builth, under the crown, as appears from the records in the Exchequer: this office he continued to hold till the 25th or 26th of Edward I.; but, towards the close of the reign of Edward II., the castle and lordship of Builth were either granted to Roger Mortimer, Earl of Wigmore, or, having been restored to the family of de Breos, were obtained by that nobleman on his marriage with Maud, daughter of the third William de Breos: from this time they remained in the possession of that family, till the attainder of the last Earl of March, when they again reverted to the crown, to which they continued an appendage till the reign of Charles I. In the year 1691, the town was nearly destroyed by an accidental fire, which broke out on the 20th of December, in that year: the loss sustained by the sufferers who applied for relief under this calamity was estimated at £10,780, and by persons of more independent property, who did not make application for assistance, about £2000 more. Letters patent were granted by the crown, authorising the distressed inhabitants to gather alms from charitably disposed persons throughout the kingdom, and, under this authority, a few hundred pounds were collected; but the money was so misapplied that only one house in the town was rebuilt from that fund. In this instrument, which is illumined with the portraits of King William and Queen Mary, and with the arms of England, Scotland, Ireland and France, highly emblazoned, it is stated that "the fire raged for five hours, and that, from the boisterousness of the winds, it consumed the dwellings of forty-one substantial families, with all their corn, furniture, effects and merchandizes, to the great impoverishment of the adjacent country, and decay of trade, it being a very considerable market town, and having no other market kept within ten miles of it."

The present town is romantically situated on the river Wye, the banks of which, throughout the whole of its varied course, are crowned with picturesque beauty: it is irregularly built, consisting principally of two streets, which, meeting in an acute angle, unite and afterwards extend for a considerable distance along the road leading to Llandovery. Several neat houses occupy the space between the river and the churchyard, nearly parallel with the course of the former, over which is a handsome stone bridge of six arches, connecting the counties of Brecknock and Radnor, and erected in 1770, at their joint expense: there are also some well-built houses of respectable appearance in detached situations. The surrounding scenery is eminently distinguished for its richly diversified and highly picturesque character: the adjoining hills, in some places approaching to mountainous elevation, are interspersed with groves of thriving plantations, alternated with lofty and boldly projecting masses of rock, overhanging the river; and others,



clothed with flourishing timber from the base to the summit, combine, with partial appearances of sterility and rugged grandeur, the softer and more pleasing features of cultivation and verdure. The approach to Builth from Brecknock is exceedingly interesting; the contrast between the high state of cultivation in the vicinity of the town, and the barren mountains which are traversed in approaching it, is peculiarly striking; the prospect being adorned with the meandering course of the Wye, a variety of beautiful scenery in the foreground, and a long range of mountains in the distance, which, although lofty, present a soft and delicate outline. The soil around the town is very superior to that in the remainder of the hundred: the lands are enclosed, and in an excellent state of cultivation; and the climate is milder, and the crops are earlier than in other parts of the county. Owing to the improvements recently made in the high roads, this town now occupies a situation on the direct line of communication between North and South Wales; and, from the numerous other local advantages which it possesses, it is capable of great improvement. The Wye, and its several tributary streams, by which it is amply supplied with water, abound with excellent trout; and, within a mile and a half of the town, there are some excellent mineral springs, combining the medicinal properties of those at Llanwrtyd and Llandrindod. These springs are situated about half a mile from the banks of the Wye, in the parish of Llanvihangel-Bryn-Pabuan, and within a mile and a half of this town; but though, from their well-established reputation, they would be a powerful attraction to visitors, yet no more than three or four houses in the town or neighbourhood are found which offer any accommodation or encouragement to visitors, of whom many leave the town in disappointment. The market, which is very numerously attended, is on Monday; and fairs, which are much frequented, are annually held on June 27th, October 2nd, and December 6th, for the sale of agricultural produce and wares. It is in contemplation to erect a commodious market-house, near the bridge, on a piece of ground belonging to E. D. Thomas, of Wellfield House, Esq., and also a small lock-up house for the confinement of petty offenders, with apartments for the constables. This place is said to have been anciently a borough, and to have received a charter of incorporation from its Norman lords, and in all ancient documents the inhabitants were styled the "Burgesses of Builth;" but they at present enjoy no municipal privileges, and the town is under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates. Two petty constables are appointed at the court leet of the lord of the manor, held annually at Maescynfordd, in this hundred.

The living is a perpetual curacy, with that of Llanddewi'r Cwm annexed, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £400 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the alternate patronage of — Pocock, and Bell Price, Esqrs. The tithes of these consolidated parishes formerly belonged to the priory of Brecknock, upon the dissolution of which they were purchased by Sir John Price, and continued for some time in the possession of his heirs, but many years ago they were purchased by Richard Price, Esq., of Knighton. Attached to the living are nineteen acres of glebe land,

and half an acre of garden ground; but the parsonage-house fell into decay more than a century ago, and has not since been rebuilt. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, and, with the exception of the ancient tower, rebuilt in the year 1793, at the expense of the parishioners, is a neat plain structure: within the chancel are the remains of a monument, with the mutilated effigy of John Lloyd, of Towey, Esq.; and on a brass plate in the north wall just above it is an inscription, setting forth that he was a servant to Queen Elizabeth, whose father he had also served in Scotland and other places, and that he was the first sheriff and justice of peace that ever dwelt in this lordship after the division of Wales into counties. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Thomas Prichard, a native of this town, who had acquired an ample fortune in London by trade, in 1752, bequeathed £1800 New South Sea annuities to certain trustees, to apply the dividends annually to such charitable purposes, for the benefit of this parish, as they and the principal inhabitants should deem most beneficial. In 1759, a bill, in the nature of an information, was filed by the Attorney-General to establish this will; and in 1760, the money was directed to be laid out in the building of a school-house, the payment of a master's salary, and the placing out of apprentices; any remaining surplus to be applied to the relief of the poor. No school-house was erected under this decree; but a very good building for the purpose has been erected by voluntary subscription of the parishioners, on a piece of ground let by the late Thomas Price, Esq., on lease, at a pepper-corn rent. The income arising from this bequest is £57 per annum, to which has been added £5 per annum, the interest of £100 bequeathed by the Rev. Benjamin Lawrence, in the year 1829, and now secured on mortgage. Of these united sums, £36 per annum is paid to a schoolmaster, for teaching thirty-six boys, and £12 per annum to a mistress for teaching twelve girls: £5 per annum is paid to a clerk for managing the business of the charity, and the remainder is expended in the necessary repairs of the building, and in providing books for the use of the scholars. There is no surplus for distribution among the poor, nor will the funds, after defraying the expenses of the school, afford anything for the apprenticing of children. Margaret Powell, in 1715, bequeathed £20, due to her upon the mortgage of a tenement called Hëngwm, to the poor of the parish.

Of the ancient castle the only remains, occupying a gentle eminence above the river Wye, are a small fragment of the north wall, which appears to have been of unusual strength and thickness, though the quality of the stone was not very durable: the deep trenches by which it was surrounded still show the original form and extent of this once important fortress, which commanded the river, over which was originally a bridge, nearly opposite to it. The keep was on the summit of a steep conical mound, fifty yards in circumference at the base, and entirely surrounded with a deep moat. The state apartments and other buildings were chiefly on the south-west side, where an outer moat communicates with the inner moat by a deep cut: both of these trenches appear to have been occasionally filled with water, for the better defence of the fortress. The circuit of the whole is about three hundred and fifty



paces. On a precipitous eminence, rising from the bank of the river Irvon, at a short distance from its junction with the Wye, is a mound of earth, which is said to have been anciently the site of a mural fortress, called Castell Caer Beris; but nothing either of its origin or history is known, and the only memorials existing at present are the name and the site. About a mile to the west of the town is a small brook, called Nant yr Arian, or the "Money brook," from the circumstance of its having been a place of guarded intercourse between the inhabitants and the country people during the prevalence of the plague in the town. At that time the people of the adjoining districts are said to have deposited at this place the provisions with which they supplied the town, and the inhabitants to have thrown their money into the brook, that it might not communicate the infection. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £304. 8.

BURLINJOBB, a joint township with Old Radnor, in the parish of OLD RADNOR, liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  miles (S. E. by E.) from New Radnor. The population is returned with the parish. The Kington railway commences at the lime-works in this township, proceeds westward to Castle Weir, and then southward until it joins the Hay railway: it was formed under an act obtained in 1818. The old Roman road from Builth passed between this place and Old Radnor.

BURTON, a township in that part of the parish of GRESFORD which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (E.) from Hope, containing 515 inhabitants. In this township, which is situated on the border of Flintshire, stands Burton Hall.

BURTON, a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (N.) from Pembroke, on the road from that town to Haverfordwest by Burton Ferry, containing 694 inhabitants. This parish is situated on Milford haven, and abounds with scenery in every part interesting and occasionally picturesque. Among the most interesting objects in the vicinity are the remains of Benton castle, on the western shore of the haven, probably erected by some of the Normans, as a border fortress for the protection of the territory which they had acquired on this part of the coast. It does not appear to have been originally of very great extent; and the present ruins, which, from their situation on the margin of an æstuary of Milford haven, have a truly picturesque appearance, consist principally of a lofty round tower, which, rising above the thriving plantations in the vicinity, forms a conspicuous feature in the landscape. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £15. 12. 11., and in the patronage of Earl Cawdor for two turns, and Sir John Owen, Bart., for one; Earl Cawdor presented at the last vacancy, and has also the next presentation. A handsome and commodious parsonage-house was erected by the Rev. D. Bird Allen, the late incumbent. There are two places of worship for Baptists, and one for Wesleyan Methodists. Some trifling benefactions have been made for distribution among the poor, of which the principal is a rent-charge of £3, bequeathed by Mr. Morgan Owen, in 1776, which is

annually divided among six poor men and women, in portions of ten shillings each. Burton Ferry, which is also called Pembroke Ferry, is held under the crown. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £170. 15.

BUTTINGTON, called by the Welsh TÂL Y BONT (the end of the bridge), a parish in the hundred of POOL, within the liberties of the borough of WELSH-POOL, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. E. by E.) from Welshpool, comprising the townships of Clitterwood, Hope, and Trewern, each of which separately maintains its own poor, and containing 775 inhabitants. During the Saxon era this place was called *Butdigingtune*, and is remarkable as the scene of a desperate battle, in 894, between the Saxons and the Danes. The latter, in one of their landings under their leader Hesten, having traversed the kingdom from east to west, and finding Alfred in pursuit of them with a numerous army, hastily retreated from the western part of England towards Wales, and, being closely pressed by the Saxons, intrenched themselves at this village, where they were actively blockaded by their pursuers, and reduced to such distress as to be obliged to feed upon the flesh of their horses. Impelled by despair and famine, they at length made an attempt to force their way through the Saxon army, when a dreadful carnage ensued, by which most of them were slain, and but few escaped to their own country. The village is situated on the road from Welshpool to Shrewsbury, and on the eastern bank of the river Severn, which is crossed by a wooden bridge of considerable antiquity, and, after heavy rains, frequently overflows its banks, which are here very low, and causes great damage to property. Some of the land is very rich and valuable, particularly that lying along the margin of the Severn. The Longmynd and the Breidden hills are partly situated within this parish: the latter are divided into three rocky peaks, called Craig Vreddin (from *Bre*, an elevation, and *Din*, a fort, being so named from an ancient British fort which is still visible on its summit), Cevn Cestyll, and Moel y Golva, the last of which is the loftiest and most conical. On the first of these a tall obelisk was erected, in 1781, in commemoration of the distinguished naval services of Admiral Lord Rodney, in the war with France, particularly his defeat of a powerful French armament, under the command of Count de Grasse, in the West Indies: it consists of a circular pillar resting on a square pedestal, and formerly terminating at the top with a ball, which was struck by lightning and has not been replaced; the expense was defrayed by subscription among the gentry in the neighbourhood. The summit of this peak commands pleasing and highly diversified views of the fertile Vale of Severn and the country bordering upon it, the richly cultivated and extensive plain of Salop, with the Cheshire hills, and the principal mountains in North Wales. The rocky sides of these hills present a precipitous escarpment, here and there interspersed with shrubs, whilst their bases are finely skirted with woods. On a small plain to the east, called Crew Green, there is a large isolated rock, denominated Belin Mount, at a short distance from the adjacent hills.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Salop, and diocese of Hereford, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant,



and in the patronage of the Vicar of Welshpool, to which parish this was formerly a chapelry, having been separated from it, and made a distinct parish, in 1759. The vicar still enjoys one-fourth part of the great and small tithes, and the remainder belongs to the Earl of Powis, as lessee under the Dean and Canons of Christ Church, Oxford. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is built in the early style of English architecture. Vestiges of several British encampments are visible on the rising grounds in this parish, which, from its situation upon the border, was doubtless, in early times, frequently the scene of military operations. That celebrated boundary line, Offa's Dyke, runs through it to a spot near the church, where it disappears for the space of about five miles, the channel of the river Severn probably serving as a continuation to the parish of Llan-drinio, in which it is again seen. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £234. 18.

BWNNEIAID, a township in the parish of ST. HARMON, hundred of RHAIADR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. by E.) from Rhaiadr. The population is returned with the township of Clâs-Garmon. This township consists of a mountainous district in the north-eastern portion of the parish, on the border of Montgomeryshire. The road from Rhaiadr to Llanidloes passes through it.

## C.

CACCA-DUTTON (DUTTON CACCA), a township in the parochial chapelry of IS Y COED, hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (E.) from Wrexham, containing 103 inhabitants. It is of small extent, but is separately assessed for the support of its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £22. 3.

CADER, a joint township with Segroit, in the parish of LLANRHAIADR in KINMERCH, hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. by W.) from Denbigh. The population is returned with the parish. From a rocky elevation, by some called *Cader Gwladus*, or "Gwladus' Chair," and by others *Cader yr Arghwyddes*, or the "Peeress' chair," a beautiful view of the vale between Denbigh and Ruthin, and the hills rising above it on the east, including also the interesting remains of Denbigh castle, is obtained. At the foot of this rocky height, and imbedded in the limestone of which it is composed, are large masses of silex, which, when broken, are occasionally found to contain agate, jasper, crystallized sulphate of lime, and chalcedony: of these, the agate and chalcedony are pure, and exceedingly beautiful, and are discovered in as great a number and variety as, perhaps, in any other part of the world. This township was formerly conjointly assessed with those of Segroit Isâv and Segroit Uchâv for the maintenance of the poor.

CADOXTON, or LLAN-CATWG, a parish in the hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (N.) from Neath, comprising the hamlets of Blaenhonddan, Coed-frank, Dyfryn-Clydach, Lower Dylas, Upper Dylas, Neath-Genol (or Middle), Lower Neath, Upper Neath, and Ynisymond, each of which separately maintains its own poor, and contain-

ing 4536 inhabitants. This extensive parish, which derives its name from St. Catwg, to whom the church is dedicated, is beautifully situated on the north-western bank of the river Neath, along which it extends for a distance of fifteen miles, from its entrance into the county at Pont Neath Vaughan to its influx into the sea below Briton Ferry. It is not less distinguished for its mineral wealth, valuable manufactures, and extensive public works, than for richness and variety of scenery, and the number and elegance of the gentlemen's seats with which it abounds, exclusively of the highly respectable residences of the proprietors of the different works, or their agents. Numerous collieries, besides iron and copper works on a large scale, are carried on within its limits, affording employment to a considerable proportion of the inhabitants. The Neath canal, and the Swansea and Neath junction canal, which unites with the former by means of a handsome stone aqueduct at the village of Dylas, afford every facility for the conveyance of the produce of the mines, and of the various extensive works in the parish, to the shipping-places at Briton Ferry and Swansea: the latter canal is the private property of George Tennant, Esq., of Cadoxton Lodge. Rheola, the seat of John Edwards Vaughan, Esq., is a splendid modern mansion, occupying a delightful situation on the banks of the Neath, and commanding a view of the most admired scenery in the beautiful vale through which that river flows. Dyfryn, the seat of the ancient family of Williams, whose pedigree in the church is noticed below, is situated at the base of a precipitous mountain, near the road leading to Llandilo-Vawr: the family having become extinct in the male line, the property has descended to two females. Cadoxton Lodge, the summer residence of George Tennant, Esq.; Cadoxton Place, the seat of William Powell, Esq.; Court Herbert, the property of the Rev. Mr. Gronow; and Aberpergwm, an ancient seat belonging to William Williams, Esq., are also among the principal residences which are profusely scattered throughout this extensive and highly picturesque portion of the county.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £5.11.10 $\frac{1}{2}$ , endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Capel Hanbury Leigh, Esq. The church is a spacious edifice, but not remarkable for any architectural features: it contains several handsome mural tablets, of which two are commemorative of the ancient family of Williams of Dyfryn, one inscribed with a curious acrostic on Mrs. Rose Williams, who died March 24th, 1680, and the other containing the entire pedigree of the family, from Iestyn ab Gwrgan, the last native prince of Glamorgan, in the reign of William Rufus, engraved on several sheets of copper, and concluding with Philip Williams, Esq., who died in 1717. There are two chapels of ease, called Crynant and Aberpergwm chapels. There are various places of worship for dissenters in the parish. The abbey of Neath, a magnificent structure, was founded about the year 1111, by Richard de Granville (who assisted Fitz-Hamon in his conquest of Glamorganshire), for Grey friars, who were afterwards superseded by monks of the Cistercian order. In this monastery Edward of Carnarvon, after his escape from Caerphilly castle, took refuge, and remained for some time in security; but the house being threatened with a siege, he



was induced to retire, under the conduct of one of the monks, in the hope of reaching his partisans: in this attempt he was, however, frustrated by the treachery of his guide, by whom he was betrayed at Llantrisant castle. Leland describes this house "as the fairest Abbey in all Wales," and the present remains still afford interesting specimens of ancient ecclesiastical architecture. It is situated on the western bank of the river Neath, about a mile from the town of that name, and appears to have been the work of successive periods, and a pile of very great extent, stretching far beyond its present limits. The ruins present a venerable and interesting appearance, but their beauty is greatly disfigured by the smoke of the various works which have been erected near the site: the white stone, from Sutton near Margam in this county, of which the cornices and other ornamental parts are constructed, is perfectly free from the ivy and other parasitical plants by which other portions of the structure are covered. The walls of the Priory house are still in tolerable preservation, and the hall, the refectory, and some of the apartments, may be traced: the remains of the chapel and of the chapter-house are also considerable, and the ruins convey a striking and impressive idea of the grandeur and extent of this once magnificent pile: the revenue at the dissolution was £150. 4. 9. On the summit of the Drymmeu mountain, to the north of Neath abbey, was formerly a kistvaen, five feet long and four feet wide, in which, on its being opened a few years since, were found a heap of bones, and an ancient celt, very much corroded, which is now in the possession of Mrs. Williams, of Dyfryn, to whom, under the late enclosure act, this portion of the waste land was allotted. To the east of this mountain, and just above the village of Dylas, is the Long Mountain, over which is carried the *Via Helena*, commonly called the *Sarn Helen*: this ancient road diverges from the *Strata Julia Maritima*, and crosses the river Neath a little above the present bridge, where it enters the parish; and, taking a north-eastern direction across the mountain towards Crynant, enters the county of Brecknock. The average annual expenditure of the whole of this parish, for the support of the poor, amounts to £1603. 16.

CADOXTON juxta BARRY, a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S.W.) from Cardiff, containing 285 inhabitants. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £5. 2. 1., and in the patronage of R. F. Jenner, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Cadog, or Catwg. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, by whom a Sunday school is supported. This parish is situated on the shore of the Bristol channel, and contains some strata of limestone, which is burned for manuring the land: here are the remains of an old castle, but very little is known of its history. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £42. 7.

CAEGURWEN, a joint hamlet with Blaenegal, in the parish of LLANGUICKE, hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 9½ miles (N.) from Neath. The population is returned with the parish. It is situated on the border of Carmarthen-shire, where the country is extremely wild and rugged, and near the right bank of the river Twrch.

CAER-EINION-VECHAN, a township in that part of the parish of MALLWYD which is in the hundred of MACHYNLLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 10 miles (N.E.) from Machynlleth, containing 139 inhabitants. It is situated on the left bank of the Dovey, and is the only portion of the parish in this county, the remainder being in the county of Merioneth: the district is extremely mountainous.

CAERGWYRLE, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES.—See HOPE.

CAERHËN (CAER-HËN, or CAER-RHUN), a parish in the hundred of LLÛCHWEDD-ISÂV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (N. by W.) from Llanrwst, containing 1117 inhabitants. This place is allowed by all antiquaries to have been the *Conovium* of the Romans. The present name signifies the old town, though tradition derives it from Rhun, a British prince, who in 560 succeeded his father Maelgwyn in the government of North Wales, and carried on a sanguinary and protracted war with the Saxons, during their frequent incursions at that time into the principality. It formed also, at a subsequent period, one of the defences of the country lying beyond the Snowdon mountains against the Saxon invaders of Wales, after the states of the Octarchy had been united into one sovereignty. The parish is pleasantly situated on the western bank of the river Conway, up which the tide flows for three miles above it, rendering that river navigable at spring tides for vessels of one hundred tons' burden. Small quantities of copper-ore and of manganese have been found, but no mines are worked at present. The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £4. 9. 7., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small edifice, romantically situated in a sequestered spot within the grounds of Caerhên Hall. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, in the little village of Roe, in this parish. The Rev. Lancelot Bulkeley, in 1718, bequeathed £120 for teaching two poor children of this parish, two of the parish of Llanbedr, and two of the parish of Llangelynin, to read Welsh. William Williams, Esq., and Thomas Williams, Esq., severally bequeathed sums producing together £2. 16. per annum for the instruction of six poor boys in reading English, and in writing: there are also divers small charitable donations and bequests for distribution among the poor. The site of the Roman station and some of the foundation walls may still be discerned upon an eminence a little to the north of the church: it occupied a quadrangular area, each side of which was two hundred and sixty feet in length, and was defended by a slight vallum of earth, and by the steepness of the acclivity on the side towards the Conway, from which river it is about one hundred and sixty-seven yards distant. Among the numerous and interesting relics of Roman antiquity which have been discovered are coins, lamps, vases, and bricks, the last being still frequently turned up by the plough, and on one of which was inscribed "*Leg. X.*" which legion, according to Camden, was stationed here, under the command of Ostorius. In removing the soil from the foundations of this once important city, in 1801, a Roman villa was discovered, consisting of five apartments and



a sudatory, in which, among various fragments of broken columns, an amulet of curious workmanship, ornamented with figures in blue enamel, was found; and in 1824 an extensive pottery was discovered, with several perfect specimens of the ware, richly ornamented with figures of men in armour, horses, stags, boars, and dogs, in alto relievo, and of the most vivid colours. Near the church were also found, a cake of copper, weighing forty lb., and bearing an inscription, now in the possession of Sir Edward Mostyn, Bart.; a circular shield of brass, ornamented with rings and studded; and a battle-ax of singular construction, which are in the possession of Mr. Griffith, on whose estate are the remains of this ancient station. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £341. 7.

CAERPHILLY, a market town and chapelry, in the parish of EGLWYSILAN, hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N. by W.) from Cardiff, and 159 (W.) from London, on the old turnpike road from Newport to Neath and Merthyr-Tydvil. The population is returned with the hamlet of Energlyn. This place was originally called *Senghenydd*, from St. Cenydd, who is said to have founded a monastery here, of which nothing more is known than what occurs in the Chronicle of Caradoc of Llan-carvan, who records that, "in the year 831, the Saxons of Mercia came unexpectedly in the night, and burnt the monastery of Senghenydd, which stood on a spot where there is now a castle." To the erection of this castle the town, which appears to have been anciently much more extensive than at present, was principally indebted for the importance it held among the towns in this part of the principality. The early history of the castle is involved in very great obscurity, neither the time of its original foundation, nor the name of its founder, having been at all satisfactorily ascertained; and the different names under which this place is spoken of, in the Welsh histories, have contributed materially to perplex the antiquary in his researches. No mention of Caerphilly, by its present name, occurs previously to the time of Henry III.; and the attempt to ascribe to it a Roman origin, from the import of the syllable *Caer*, rests upon no other foundation than the vast extent of its fortifications, which, however, have been proved to be of much later date; and, therefore, its supposed claim to be considered the *Castrum Bullæi* of the Romans, from an affinity to the name of that station, which some writers have fancied to exist, appears to be destitute of sufficient testimony for a favourable reception. The original castle was of much smaller extent than the sumptuous edifice which was afterwards erected on its site, and the magnificent and stupendous ruins that now arrest the admiration of the observer are the remains of a structure of still more recent origin, the work of successive periods. In 1215, a Welsh chieftain, named Rhys Vychan, led his forces to this place, intending to attack the castle, which at that time belonged to Reginald de Breos, lord of Brecknock; but the garrison, informed of his approach, set fire to the town, and retired within the walls of the castle, which they prepared resolutely to defend: this probably discouraged the assailants, who did not make any serious attempt upon it. Two years afterwards, Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, aided by the princes of Powys and South Wales, suc-

ceeded in the reduction of this fortress, but shortly restored it to de Breos: he, however, retook it in the following year, and committed it to the custody of Rhys Vychan, who shortly afterwards, dreading that it might fall into the hands of the lords marcher, who were threatening hostilities, razed it to the ground, together with some others in the neighbouring districts, of which he had the custody. It was rebuilt and more strongly fortified, in 1221, by John de Breos, with the consent of his father-in-law, Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, and was besieged and taken by Llewelyn, last prince of North Wales, in 1270: in recording this circumstance, its modern name Caerphilly, of which no satisfactory etymology has been given, occurs for the first time in the Welsh annals. Caerphilly soon afterwards came by purchase into the possession of Gilbert Earl of Clare, who was then lord of Glamorgan; and his widow afterwards conveyed it by marriage to Ralph Mortimer, by whom the castle, almost ruined by repeated attacks, was rebuilt. In 1315, a formidable insurrection broke out in Glamorganshire, under Llewelyn Brên, a descendant of the native lords of *Senghenydd*, who is said to have mustered a force of ten thousand men, with which he assaulted and took by surprise the fortress of Caerphilly, of which his ancestors had been dispossessed by the Normans under Fitz-Hamon. To suppress this all the forces of the lords marcher were assembled, under the command of Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford; and, although the details of the campaign are unknown, the result was the capture of the Welsh chieftain and his two sons, who were sent prisoners to the Tower, where they remained for some time in confinement. In the reign of Edward II., Hugh le Despencer, the favourite of that monarch, being invested with the lordship of Glamorgan, seized upon the estates of the Mortimers, greatly enlarged the castle of Caerphilly, which had belonged to them, and extended and strengthened its fortifications, at a great expense. The injustice of Spencer exciting the indignation of the barons, at that time in revolt against Edward, they placed Roger Mortimer, the rightful heir of these estates, at the head of ten thousand men, with which force he besieged the favourite in his castle; but from the great strength of the fortifications, the number of the garrison, and the ample supply of provisions with which it had been stored, the fortress held out for a long period.

The king, attended by the younger Spencer, being compelled, in 1326, to flee from Bristol, repaired to the castle of Caerphilly, from which he issued divers commissions, dated October 29th of this year, to his military tenants in the county palatine of Pembroke and other parts of South Wales, and to the vassals of the lordship of Glamorgan, enjoining them to take arms in his defence; but, being disappointed in this project, he sought an asylum in the abbey of Neath. Meanwhile the siege of this fortress was conducted with great vigour and perseverance by the queen's forces; and the assailants, having effected a breach in the walls, forced an entrance. Under one of the towers there is said to have been a furnace for melting iron, which was thrown in a fluid state upon the besiegers, who, on forcing an entrance, are supposed to have let out the fused metal, and poured water into the red hot furnace, which exploding with a terrific noise, by the power of the steam



thus produced, the tower above was ruptured, and the half of it now remaining was left upwards of eleven feet out of the perpendicular line, supported only by the cement which holds the stones together, and by the depth of its foundations. During the confusion which ensued, the younger Spencer is said (though it is difficult to reconcile the contradictory accounts of this siege) to have rallied the garrison, and prevented the further entrance of the besiegers, of whom a great number of those already within the walls was slain; and, by this sudden turn in his affairs, he was enabled to capitulate on such terms as secured the castle and estate to his son Thomas, who succeeded him: having rejoined the king, they were both made prisoners at or near Llantrisant. The quantity of live stock and provisions which the victors are stated to have found in the castle exceeds credibility, notwithstanding the vast area comprised within its walls. According to an enumeration, which has been copied by nearly all writers on the subject, but which altogether surpasses belief, "there were within the walls two thousand fat oxen, twelve thousand cows, twenty-five thousand calves, thirty thousand sheep, six hundred draught horses, with carts in proportion, and two thousand hogs; of salt provisions, two hundred beeves, six hundred muttons, and one thousand hogs: there were also two hundred tons of French wine, forty tons of cider and wine, the produce of their own estates, with wheat enough to make bread for two thousand men for four years." From this period the castle and manor appear to have belonged to the lords of Glamorgan, whose chief residence being at Cardiff, it is probable that the injury sustained by the fortifications in this siege was never repaired. In the year 1400, Owain Glyndwr invaded this part of the principality, and gained possession of the castle of Caerphilly, which he garrisoned for some time; but no particular event is mentioned during his occupation of it, nor has any thing of importance connected with its subsequent history been recorded.

The town is pleasantly situated in a broad valley, enclosed by mountains, and, in the descent to it from Cardiff, the appearance of the surrounding country is beautifully picturesque, and in many parts characterized by features of grandeur and sublimity. The houses are in general small and neatly built, but without order or regularity, and are occasionally interspersed with dwellings of modern erection and of respectable appearance: the inhabitants are abundantly supplied with water from springs which abound in the vicinity. It appears to have been formerly of much greater extent than it is at present, as is evident from the occasional discovery of foundations of buildings in the adjoining fields. At the close of the last century it had dwindled into comparative insignificance, but revived about the commencement of the present, and has since been slowly, but progressively, increasing. Its trade consists principally in the manufacture of woollen cloth, checks for aprons, and linsey-woolsey shirting for miners, in which about one hundred persons are employed. Coal is found in the vicinity, but the mines are worked only for the supply of the immediate neighbourhood; and such of the population as are not engaged in these works are employed in agriculture. The market, which is on Thursday, is well attended, and abundantly supplied with corn, cheese, and provisions

of every kind. The fairs are on April 5th, Trinity-Thursday, July 19th, August 25th, October 9th, and November 16th: at these fairs, which are numerous attended, corn, cattle, and cheese, are the principal articles exposed for sale. Caerphilly was anciently a borough, but lost its privileges in the reign of Henry VIII., and is now under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, who hold a petty session here for the lower division of the hundred. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Eglwysilan, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £1200 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant. The chapel, dedicated to St. Martin, is a small neat edifice, rebuilt within the last few years, in the later style of English architecture. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A school for the education of girls, a branch of that founded by Mrs. Ann Aldworth of Bristol, for natives of this parish and that of Bedwas, and endowed with lands for that purpose, has been established here: in it poor girls are gratuitously instructed by a mistress, who receives £35 per annum from the funds of the charity.

The ancient castle of Caerphilly, forming a stupendous and truly magnificent pile, stands contiguous to the town, in a level tract, bounded on the north and south by lofty hills, and expanding into a beautiful vale on the east and west, skirted by the river Rumney on the one side, and on the other by the Taf. The buildings in the several courts, together with a spacious area, were enclosed within a lofty outer wall of great thickness, strengthened with massive buttresses, and defended by square towers at intervals, between which a communication was kept up by an embattled corridor. In the outer court were the barracks for the garrison, and from it was an entrance through a magnificent gateway, flanked by two massive hexagonal towers, leading by a drawbridge over the moat into an inner ward, from which was an eastern entrance into the court that contained the state apartments, by a massive gateway, strongly defended with portcullises, of which the grooves are still remaining: the western entrance to this court was also over a drawbridge, through a splendid arched gateway, defended by two circular bastions of vast dimensions. This court, in which were the superb ranges of state apartments, is seventy yards in length and forty in width, enclosed on the north side by a lofty wall strengthened with buttresses, and in the intervals pierced with loop-holes for the discharge of missiles, and on the other sides by the buildings and the towers which guarded the entrances. The great hall, on the south side of this quadrangle, is in a state of tolerable preservation, and retains several vestiges of its ancient grandeur: this noble apartment was seventy feet in length, thirty feet wide, and seventeen feet high, and was lighted by four lofty windows of beautiful design, of which the ogee-headed arches, richly ornamented with fruit and foliage, are finely wrought in the decorated style of English architecture: between the two central windows are the remains of a large fire-place, of which the mantle is highly embellished in beautiful and elegant detail: on the walls are clusters of triple circular pilasters, resting upon ornamented corbels at the height of twelve feet from the floor, and rising to the height of four feet, for the support of the roof, which appears to



have been vaulted. The suite comprises various other apartments of different dimensions and of corresponding elegance, in a greater or less degree of preservation. Near the south-east angle of the central buildings is the armoury, a circular tower of no great elevation; and almost adjoining is the leaning tower, which forms so conspicuous a feature among the ruins: this consists of one-half of the tower which is said to have been ruptured by the explosion previously noticed, and which, though more than seventy feet high from the base, was by that means forced into its present inclined position. Regarding the present state of this tower, as it is by no means certain that it was caused by the circumstances above narrated, it has been conjectured that it might have been produced by having been undermined, like the other three, and its entire destruction prevented by a fragment which fell upon its base. Near the armoury is a spacious corridor, about one hundred feet in length, in the wall of the inner enclosure, communicating with the several apartments, and affording a direct intercourse with the guards who were stationed in the embattled towers which protected the walls. These remains, which form the principal attraction of the place, surpass in extent, beauty, and venerable grandeur, any that are to be found in the principality, and present an imposing and august memorial of a structure which in its pristine splendour was rivalled by few in the kingdom, and perhaps only excelled by the royal palace of Windsor. Besides the ruins of the castle, here are also some other interesting remains of antiquity. In a piece of ground called the Burgesses' field is an ancient earthwork, nearly square, enclosing an area of about half an acre, and defended by two ditches; and at Môrgrig, properly Môrgraig, is another quadrilateral encampment, about eighty paces long, and nearly of equal width, having the angles rounded off according to the Roman fashion. Numerous coins, chiefly of the reign of Edward II., have been found near the castle, but none of a very ancient date. A short distance to the north-west of the town is the seat called Energlyn, or Genau'r Glyn, formerly the residence of John Goodrich, Esq., which commands a fine view of the majestic ruins of the castle; and to the east, near the banks of the Rumney, stands the mansion of Ruperrah, the seat of Chas. Morgan, Esq., eldest son of Sir Chas. G. Morgan, Bart., of Tredegar: it occupies an elevated situation, commanding, to the southward, fine views of the Bristol channel, a rich intervening tract of country, and the hills of Somersetshire and Devonshire in the distance, and was built from a design by Inigo Jones; but the interior having been consumed by fire, the outer walls are the only part of the original edifice now remaining. A little lower down is situated Cevn Mably, an ancient seat of the family of Kemeys, and once the residence of that distinguished royalist, Sir Nicholas Kemeys. Pwll y Pant and Pont y Pandy are two old mansions, formerly the residence of ancient families, but now deserted by their proprietors. In the vicinity are numerous springs, the water of which is strongly impregnated with iron, and totally unfit for culinary purposes: when boiled, the colour is changed to black, and the water emits a strong foetid smell.

CAERRA (CAERAU), a parish in the hundred of KIBBOR, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3½

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miles (W.) from Cardiff, containing 77 inhabitants. This parish, part of which was given by Fitz-Hamon to Sir John Fleming, one of the Norman knights who attended him in the conquest of Wales, constitutes a prebend in the cathedral church of Llandaf, valued in the king's books at £3. 10. 7½, and endowed with the tithes not only of this parish, but also of the parishes of Penterry and Llandogo, in the county of Monmouth. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Prebendary of Caerau in the Cathedral Church of Llandaf. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is chiefly remarkable for its situation within the precincts of a Roman camp, which is one of the most extensive and entire in the principality. Its form is that of a regular parallelogram, rounded at the angles, and enclosing an area of about twelve acres: it is defended on the north side, where the ascent is steep, by one single rampart, on the south and south-west by two, and on the east side, where was the prætorium, by three ramparts. The prætorium, which is still visible, is of a circular form, guarded by a steep rampart, and communicating with the camp by a very narrow passage. From its situation within a small distance of the river Ely, its magnitude, the disposition of its arrangements, and its excellent preservation, it has been identified with the *Tibia Amnis* of Richard of Cirencester: no coins, however, or any Roman relics of antiquity, have been discovered near the spot, to confirm the supposition. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £65. 11.

CAERSEDDVA (CAER-SEDDVAN), a township in the parish of DÂROWEN, hundred of MACHYNLLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 6¼ miles (E. N. E.) from Machynlleth, containing 475 inhabitants. This township, the name of which signifies the "session fortress," forms the upper and north-eastern portion of the parish, and is in general rugged and mountainous. There are several lead mines in different parts, but they are only partially worked.

CAER-SWS, a hamlet in the parish of LLANWNNOG, hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (W.) from Newtown. The population is returned with the parish. This is said to have been a Roman city of considerable extent, though unnoticed as such by early writers: its Roman name is not even known, and few vestiges of its grandeur have been traced. In Mr. Pennant's time the fields in the vicinity were divided by lanes intersecting each other, which probably pointed out the places that had formed the ancient streets, but the exact size of the station is not known. A Roman road, called *Sarn Swsan*, or *Swsog*, led from it in a direction northward, though whither it proceeded is doubtful, and but little of it can now be discovered. By the side of this road, on Gwynvynydd common, there is a small sub-oval encampment; and in a field adjacent to Rhôs Ddiarbed, "the common where no quarter was given," is another Roman camp, of singular form. At the south side there is a vast conical mount, surrounded by a deep fosse, supposed to have been exploratory, to the north of which an oblong area, about seventy yards broad in the greatest diameter, is defended by a high rampart and outer ditch: in the lower part there is an entrance to a square camp, about two hundred yards in length, and above one hundred



in breadth, opposite to which is another entrance: the whole is surrounded by a rampart and ditch. No coins have been discovered here, but, about the year 1777, some Roman bricks, and large blocks of cement, much indurated, and as porous as breccia, were dug up in the south-western angle of the camp: one of the bricks bore an inscription in bas relief, which has not been satisfactorily decyphered, and was placed in the back part of a chimney belonging to the apartment of an adjoining inn. Caer-Sws had formerly a castle also, and at least one church, and is said to have been the residence of the lords of Arwystli. It is situated on the northern bank of the river Severn, across which a new stone bridge of three arches was built a few years ago, and has been enlarged, within the last fifty years, by the erection of some decent houses and cottages: a new road, leading from Caer-Sws to Llanwnnog, was constructed in 1831. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists.

CAERVALLOUGH (CAER-VALLWCH), a township in the parish of NORTHOP, Northop division of the hundred of COLESHILL, county of FLINT, 2 miles (W. by N.) from Northop, containing 860 inhabitants. There are lead mines in this township, which have been worked from a very remote period, but are now fast declining, on account of the low prices of ore. On an eminence, one thousand and twenty feet above the level of the sea, is a very extensive British fortress, the most perfect in North Wales, called Moel y Gaer, or "the fortified hill," surrounded by a deep circular fosse, through which is an entrance on the western side. Within it, near the northern extremity, there is a small artificial mound, the summit of which commands the most extensive view in the county, embracing all the other British camps on the whole range of the Clwydian mountains to the west; the vales of Hope and Mold, as far as Wrexham, to the south; the æstuaries of the Dee and Mersey, with the port of Liverpool to the north; and the port of Chester to the east. About three hundred paces north-westward from this camp is an extensive artificial mound, commanding the pass through the mountains, and doubtlessly intended as an outpost to Moel y Gaer.

CAERWYS, an unincorporated borough and parish, formerly an incorporated market town, in the Caerwys division of the hundred of RHUDDLAN, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S. W. by W.) from Holywell, on the road from that town to Denbigh, containing 985 inhabitants. The name of this place is thought to be derived from *Caer*, a fortress, and *Gwys*, a summons; denoting that this was anciently a small Roman station, and subsequently a seat of judicature; and it appears, previously to the conquest of Wales by Edward I., to have been, together with a neighbouring town called Trêv-Edwyn, long since decayed, and the borough of Rhuddlan, one of the chief tribunals for this part of the principality. In 1244, the Welsh abbots of Cymmer and Aberconway, having been constituted by the pope a court of enquiry, to ascertain whether Davydd ab Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, had been under the influence of terror or force, in concluding a late unfavourable treaty with King Henry III. of England, and, if so, to absolve him from the obligations of fulfilling it, summoned King Henry to appear before them in the church of this town, to answer to the complaints of

Davydd; but he, incensed at the indignity offered to his authority, immediately applied to the pope to annul the commission, which was accordingly done. Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, the last native sovereign of North Wales, prior to his accession to the throne, resided at Maesmynan, nearly adjacent, and possessed, as his patrimonial estate, the circumjacent cantrevs of Tegeingl, Dyfryn-Clwyd, Rhôs, and Rhyvonioe. Shortly before the entire subjugation of Wales by the English, one of the grievances complained of by the inhabitants, and submitted by their prince Llewelyn to Peckham, Archbishop of Canterbury, who had constituted himself mediator between him and the English monarch, was, that the privileges of the men of Tegeingl, or Englefeld, comprising the greater portion of the county of Flint, had been grossly infringed by the justiciary of Chester, who compelled them to go to that city, or other places, to procure justice, asserting their right to be tried by the laws of Wales, and at the usual places, *viz.*, Rhuddlan, Trêv-Edwyn, or Caerwys. On the introduction of justiciary courts into Wales, under the sanction of the English law, Caerwys recovered its former importance, and the assizes for the county were held here till the year 1672, when they were removed to Flint, and thence to Mold, where they are now held. The gaol is yet remaining, but has been converted into a dwelling-house, called Yr hên Jail, "the old gaol:" there are also some fragments of the town-hall, and the site of the last gallows is shewn upon a common, close to the road side, a little south-eastward from the town. Henry III., in the 26th year of his reign, granted the inhabitants a charter of incorporation; and in 1356, the grant of a weekly market and two annual fairs was procured for them, at the instance of John Trevor, Bishop of St. Asaph, and others.

Caerwys was long renowned for its *Eisteddvodau*, or sessions of bards and minstrels, which for some centuries were held triennially, and in later times at irregular intervals. It was the resort of the bards of a certain district, as Aberfraw in Anglesey was of those of that island and the adjacent county, and Mathraval of those of Powys; these places having been selected on account of being the residences of princes. At these meetings none but bards of superior merit were allowed to rehearse their compositions, nor any but minstrels of acknowledged skill to perform on their harps: of their respective merits judges were appointed by the Princes of Wales, and, after the conquest of that country, by the Kings of England. A commission from Queen Elizabeth, dated at Chester, the 23rd of October, 1567, for holding an Eisteddvod at Caerwys, in the following year, is now in the possession of Sir Thomas Mostyn, Bart., together with the silver harp, which it had been from time immemorial the privilege of his ancestors to bestow upon the best performer on that instrument: this badge of distinction is about six inches long, and is furnished with strings of silver, corresponding with the number of the Muses. The Eisteddvod accordingly took place on May 26th, 1568, when fifty-five persons were admitted to their respective degrees, as vocal and instrumental performers, and the prize of the silver harp was adjudged to Sion ab William ab Sion. The commissioners, in the course of this year, published a notice that another Eisteddvod would be held on the next anniversary of that day; but of this assembly no particulars have been preserved, further than that it was the



occasion of a poetical contest between the bards of North and South Wales, in which some of the most beautiful stanzas in the Welsh language were produced extemporaneously. From this period the Eisteddvodau did not enjoy any share of royal favour, and were not convened by the successors of Queen Elizabeth; but in the year 1798, an attempt to restore them was made by the Gwyneddigion Society in London, and, after the usual notice of a year and a day had been given, a numerous meeting, under extensive and highly respectable patronage, was held in the town-hall here, which had been especially fitted up for the occasion, and the usual contest of talent and skill took place, and prizes were awarded to the successful candidates. The town, however, had been for some time declining; and, notwithstanding these and similar efforts for the restoration of the Eisteddvodau to their original splendour, the Welsh poetry was rapidly waning in character, and the high patronage by which it was previously cherished had declined, when a revival took place, in the year 1828, under the auspices of the Cymrodorion Society in London; and the most splendid Eisteddvod on record was held, on the 16th, 17th, and 18th of September, in that year, at Denbigh, where it is probable these ancient meetings will in future be re-established. The town, which now presents only the appearance of a village, is pleasantly situated at the junction of two vales, and consists of two streets intersecting each other at right angles, and corresponding with the cardinal points, in the manner of a Roman town; from which circumstance, and the discovery of ancient foundations and other relics, it has been considered by some writers the *Varis* of Antoninus; but this station has with greater probability been fixed in the parish of Bodvari, the name of which, added to the discovery of numerous Roman remains, especially in the plantations of Pontrifith, in that parish, appears to entitle it more to a claim of identity with the Roman settlement. Caerwys has but little trade: a small quantity of woollen cloth is manufactured, and there is a wire-mill on a limited scale, affording employment to a very few persons. Lead-ore has been found at different times, in small quantities, mixed with the limestone strata in the eastern part of the parish, and a considerable quantity of iron-ore exists on the western side of the town, but at present there are no works for procuring either. The nature of the soil in the parish is various: in some parts of its north-western extremity it is very poor, being composed of a thin covering of vegetable earth over a barren yellowish clay, but in other parts it is well adapted to the culture of barley and oats. The market, which was held on Tuesday, has long since fallen into decay, in consequence of the establishment of a market at Holywell. Fairs for the sale of cattle, sheep, horses, and pigs are held on the first Tuesday after January 13th, March 5th, the last Tuesday in April, the first Thursday after Trinity Sunday, the first Tuesday after July 7th, August 29th, November 5th, and the second Tuesday in December, which are the most considerable in the county. The charter conferred upon the inhabitants the right of appointing two bailiffs, for the better government of the town, annually at the court leet of the lord of the manor, now held about Michaelmas by Edward Mostyn Lloyd Mostyn, Esq. Caerwys is one of eight contributory boroughs within the county,

which are united in the return of one member to parliament: the right of election is vested in the resident inhabitants paying scot and lot, in number at present one hundred and thirty, provided they be capable of registering pursuant to the act. The limits of the borough, which were not altered by the late act for amending the representation of the people, comprise parts of the townships of Caerwys and Trêv-Edwyn: the mayor of Flint is the returning officer.

The living formerly consisted of a sinecure rectory and a vicarage, each rated in the king's books at £9. 10., which were united by an act passed in the 29th and 30th of Charles II.: it is in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a neat edifice with a square embattled tower, consisting of a nave and north aisle, and appropriately accommodated to the use of the parishioners. There are places of worship in the town for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, and one for the former also at Pen y Cevn. A National school is in progress of erection, partly at the expense of the National School Society, and partly by subscription, in which one hundred and sixty children of both sexes may receive gratuitous instruction. In a field near the village, called Erw'r Castell, was anciently a fortress, the history of which is unknown, and of which there are no remains. On almost every side of the village, but more particularly on the plains towards Newmarket, are tumuli, of which several, having been opened, were found to contain urns of clay rudely formed: some of these have been converted by the neighbouring farmers into limekilns. About a mile from Caerwys formerly stood a large stone, nearly five feet high, bearing the inscription "*Hic jacet mulier bo . . . obiit*," which was for some time used as a gate-post, but was removed, about the close of the last century, to the gardens of Downing, in the parish of Whitford, then the seat of Mr. Pennant, the antiquary and naturalist. In the field in which this stone was situated a considerable number of copper coins of different Roman emperors was discovered some years ago. At Fordden, near this place, regularly formed spars, stalactites, and coarse mineral agarie are found; and in a wood in the vicinity there is a well, called St. Michael's, the water of which has obtained, among the superstitious inhabitants of the neighbourhood, the reputation of possessing a peculiar miraculous efficacy, and the spring was formerly much resorted to by the credulous, on the morning of Easter-day, for the purpose of drinking it. Dr. Wynne, Bishop of St. Asaph, and afterwards of Bath and Wells, was a native of Caerwys; and the Rev. John Lloyd, an eminent antiquary, and the friend of Pennant, was rector of this parish: he died in May 1793, and was interred in the church here. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £271. 17.

CALDEY ISLAND, the principal of a cluster of insulated rocks in the bay of Tenby, and forming an extra-parochial district in the hundred of CASTLEMARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (E.) from the main land. The population is returned with the parish of Penally. This island, of which the ancient British name is *Ynys Pyr*, is about one mile in length, and half a mile in breadth, and comprises



more than six hundred acres of good land, lying on a bed of limestone, something less than half being in a state of cultivation. Owen, speaking of the fertility of this spot, describes it as abounding with corn; but he adds that "all their ploughs goe with horses, for oxen the inhabitants dare not keepe, fearing the purveyors of the pirattes, as they themselves told me." Robert, son of Martin de Tours, founded a priory here, in the reign of Henry I., which he dedicated to St. Mary, and made a cell to the abbey of Dogmael, to which establishment the whole of the island was granted by his mother: its revenue, at the dissolution, was £5. 10. 11. The remains have been mostly converted into offices attached to a mansion erected on part of the site, now belonging to — Kynaston, Esq., who is sole proprietor of the island. Among them is the tower of the ancient conventual church, which is surmounted by a stone spire, and forms a conspicuous object of picturesque appearance, imparting, with the rest of the ruins, an interesting and romantic character to this sequestered spot. A lighthouse, with a steady light has been erected on this island, which is of great service to vessels entering Tenby harbour.

**CAMRHÔS**, a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N. W. by N.) from Haverfordwest, on the road to St. David's, containing 1259 inhabitants, the amount of population having increased nearly one-fourth since the census of 1821. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 10. 5., endowed with £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Hugh Webb Bowen, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Ismael. There are two places of worship for Independents. Near the church is a large tumulus, which has never been opened. Camrhôs House, the seat of Hugh Webb Bowen, Esq., is the only residence within the parish which is entitled to notice. A fair is held here on February 13th. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £402. 15.

**CANTREF**, a parish in the hundred of PENCELLY, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, comprising the upper division, or chapelry of Nantddû, and the lower division, or hamlet of Cantref, and containing 211 inhabitants, of which number, 109 are in the hamlet of Cantref, 3 miles (S. E. by S.) from Brecknock. This parish, formerly called *Cynnedd*, is situated about a mile from the river Usk, and a little further from the main road from London to Milford: it forms a parallelogram of about two miles in breadth, and nearly fifteen in length from the eastern to the south-south-western extremity, and includes within its limits the lofty summits of the Brecknockshire Beacons, the lowest of which is situated to the south, and the other two, sometimes called Cader Arthur, or Arthur's Chair, are nearly of an equal height. The two most southerly points of these hills, when viewed from a short distance, present in shape the appearance of nearly perfect cones, their summits consisting of flat surfaces not more than fifteen square yards in extent. Beneath the point in the centre, at some little distance, there is a small circular pool of brackish water: the apex of this hill is two thousand five hundred and fifty feet above the bed of the river Usk at Brecknock, and about three thousand above the level of the sea, being the highest in South Wales, and

commanding a most extensive prospect, including the Bristol channel from the Mumble Head to Kingswood, the Malvern hills in Worcestershire, and parts of fourteen counties. To the north-east of it there is a terrific precipice, nearly perpendicular, of at least six hundred feet from the top to the spot where the descent, though still abrupt, partially loses its precipitous character, and begins to be more gradual. This mountainous region, which forms the middle portion of the parish, consists entirely of waste land, adapted only for sheep-walks; the two extremities alone are under tillage. The Brecknock and Abergavenny canal to Newport passes at the distance of about half a mile from the eastern, and the Cardiff canal to Merthyr-Tydvil about five miles from the western, extremity of the parish.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 10. 7½., and in the patronage of the Rev. Thomas Powell. The advowson formerly belonged to the lords of Brecknock, and, on the attainder of the Duke of Buckingham, became vested in the crown, and was granted to William Awbrey, D. C. L., Master of the Court of Requests in the reign of Elizabeth: from this family it passed by marriage to the Powells of Cantref, and finally, by purchase, to their collateral relations, the Powells of Swansea, to whom it has belonged since the early part of the seventeenth century, several members of that family having been incumbents, and distinguished by their literary attainments. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is romantically situated on a well-wooded eminence just above the river Cynrig: it consists of a nave and chancel, rebuilt in 1829, at the expense of the parishioners, and a small low tower at the west end, containing two bells. In the churchyard, which commands a beautiful prospect, there are some fine yew trees, on one of which, at the distance of about twelve feet from the ground, a mountain ash has taken root, and, not deriving sufficient nourishment from the old tree on which it grows, has struck down its roots through the decayed trunk, which have long since penetrated into the earth. The parsonage-house was rebuilt about the year 1792, and has since been repaired and altered. In consequence of the church being situated at the eastern extremity of the parish, a chapel has been erected at Nantddû, about ten miles distant, for the convenience of the inhabitants of that hamlet and Hepstê, the living of which is a perpetual curacy, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Rector. An overseer is appointed for each end, or division, of the parish, though the inhabitants unite in the general maintenance of the poor. There are some mineral springs among the mountains, but they are not resorted to for medicinal purposes. Among the incumbents of the family of Powell mostly deserving notice may be mentioned the Rev. Thomas Powell, born here in 1627, who published "*Elementa Opticæ*," in 1651; "*Quadruga Salutis*," or the "Four General Heads of the Christian Religion," in 1657; "The Catechism, Lord's Prayer, and Commandments, in Welsh and English, with comments and explanations;" "Human Industry, or a History of most of the Manual Arts;" "The Life of Herod;" and "Translations from the Italian of Malvezzi, and the French of Balsac;" and left an interesting work in manuscript, now unfortunately lost, entitled "*Fragmenta de rebus Britannicis*," or "a Short Account of the lives, manners, and



religion of the British Druids." His son Thomas, also rector, was a man of considerable talent: being reproached by one of his countrymen on account of the meanness of his descent, although able to boast of a line of ancestry as respectable as any in the county, he good-humouredly replied, extemporaneously in Welsh verse, which, being rendered into English prose, runs thus;—"And so you think I am no gentleman? Well! I'll answer you in few words:—from Noah and his three sons sprang all mankind, and from one of them came the parson of Cantref." The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor, in both divisions of the parish, amounts to £147.2.

CAPEL-BETTWS, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES.—See PENPONT.

CAPEL-CALLWEN, or BLAEN-GLYNTAWE, a chapelry attached to the parish of DEVYNOC, in the hundred of DEVYNOC, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 15 miles (W. S. W.) from Brecknock, containing 89 inhabitants. It is situated at the south-western extremity of the extensive parish of Devynock, in a vale between elevated and dreary mountains, not far from the source of the river Tawe. The country about the head of this vale is strikingly romantic. Limestone rocks rise to a great height, and, being in some places totally destitute of vegetation, present the appearance of ruined castles and other picturesque combinations; but the most remarkable is an extensive, irregular, and isolated one, in horizontal strata, called the Cribarth lime-rock, which rises out of the valley to an extraordinary height. Descending from the Great Forest of Devynock into the vale, a patch of thriving firs near the foot of a bold eminence, and the scattered cottages, all white-washed, have a most pleasing and lively effect in the midst of a scene remarkable for its wild and barren aspect. In the chapelry are found some culm and iron-stone, with abundance of limestone; and Christie's railway, constructed for the purpose of conveying this produce to other parts of the county, passes along the sides of the mountains, and through the glens which intersect them near Devynock, to the river Usk. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Devynock. At this place is one of "the Lord's Mills," to which the inhabitants are obliged to send their corn to be ground, a relic of the ancient feudal tenure; but the right is not now rigidly enforced. This chapelry separately supports its own poor: the average annual expenditure down to 1826 was £14, but since that period there have been no poor receiving relief.

CAPEL-COELBREN, a chapelry in the upper division of the parish of YSTRADGYNLAIS, hundred of DEVYNOC, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 17½ miles (S. W. by W.) from Brecknock. The population is returned with the parish. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Rector of Ystradgynlais. The chapel, which stands at the distance of between five and six miles north-eastward from the parish church, is supposed to have been anciently a private oratory, and was rebuilt, on the site of the former edifice, in 1799, chiefly at the expense of Mr. Walter Price, of Glynllêch, to whom

belong five out of the seven tenements of which the hamlet consists. This place is situated in the vale of the Tawe, and between that river and Christie's railway, which passes along the side of Cevn Bryn mountain.

CAPEL-COLMAN, otherwise LLAN-GOLMAN, a parish in the hundred of KILGERRAN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (S. W. by W.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, on the road from that town to Narberth, containing 130 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the saint to whom its church is dedicated, is intersected by a rivulet called the Dylas. Cilwendeg, the seat of Morgan Jones, Esq., is an elegant modern mansion, erected within the last fifty years by the uncle of the present proprietor: it is a spacious structure, ornamented with a handsome receding portico in good taste, and occupies the centre of an extensive demesne, beautifully laid out in plantations and pleasure grounds, to which are entrances by two handsome lodges, recently added by the present proprietor, who has displayed a superior taste in the improvement of the grounds: the lawn in front of the house embraces a view of some of the most beautiful scenery in the county, including the luxuriant woods around Fynnonau. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the alternate patronage of Wm. O. Brigstocke, Esq., and Major Bowen. The church, dedicated to St. Colman, is a small neat edifice, erected within the last fifty years, partly by subscription, and partly by a rate on the inhabitants. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £48. 12.

CAPEL-CURIG, a chapelry in the parish of LLANDEGAI, hundred of LLÊCHWEDD-UCHÂV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 14 miles (S. E.) from Bangor, on the road from London to Holyhead and Dublin. The population is returned with the parish. This place, from its vicinity to Snowdon and other mountains of note in this part of the principality, and to several of the finest lakes in North Wales, has been for a long time the resort of tourists; and, since the diversion of the road through Nant-Francon, and the erection of a spacious hotel here by the late Lord Penrhyn, has become a place of fashionable resort, and during the summer season is visited by families of distinction and others, for whose accommodation the hotel, large as it is, has been found inadequate. A new line of road from this place to Carnarvon is now being formed through the pass of Llanberis, at the foot of Snowdon, affording a more direct communication with the interior of the counties of Carnarvon and Merioneth, which it is expected will be opened in the course of the present year. Near this place is Rhaiadr y Wenol, on the river Llugwy, one of the most interesting and beautiful waterfalls in the principality. Capel-Curig is situated in a district abounding with mineral wealth: a great quantity of calamine has been obtained here, and in the vicinity is found the hard primitive rock called serpentine. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The chapel, dedicated to St. Curig, appears to have been erected at a very early period, as a chapel of ease not only to the parish church of Llandegai, from which it is thirteen miles distant, but also for the mountain-



ous districts in the several parishes of Llanllêchid, Llanrhychwyn, Dôlwyddelan, Llanrwst, and Trêvriw, the inhabitants of which are at a great distance from their several parish churches, and are entitled to seats in this chapel: the inhabitants of Llandegai, however, are exclusively bound by ancient custom to keep the building in repair. A large sheep fair is annually held here, on the 28th of September, which is numerously attended. Near a place called Brÿn Geveillau, between Capel Curig and Llanrwst, there are some remains of a Roman edifice, a great part of which has been removed for building materials: one of the apartments was found, by Mr. Lysons, to be sixty feet by twenty in dimensions, and another, eighteen feet six inches square, in which latter were several short square pillars of stone, similar to those of the hypocaust under the Feathers inn at Chester.

CAPEL-GARMON, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES.—See GARTH-GARMON.



Arms.

CARDIFF, called by the Welsh CAERDYDD, a seaport, borough, and market town, having separate jurisdiction, locally in the hundred of Kibbor, county of GLAMORGAN (of which it is the shire town), SOUTH WALES, 158 miles (W.) from London, containing 6187 inhabitants. This place is by most antiquaries supposed

to have been originally built by Morgan ab Hywel ab Rhÿs, on or near the site of an ancient station, or fort, occupied probably by Aulus Didius, who succeeded Ostorius in the command of the Roman legions in Britain; and, with great probability, to have derived from that circumstance its Welsh name of *Caerdydd*. This opinion is strengthened by the discovery of Roman relics within the walls of the castle, the direction of the Roman road between the stations *Isca Silurum* and *Bovium*, and by other corroborative circumstances. The Roman station anciently occupying this site is supposed by Camden to have been the *Ratostabius*, or *Ratostibius*, of Ptolemy, from which the adjoining parish of "Rath," called by the English "Roath," is said to have obtained its name; and, by others, to have been the *Tibia Amnis* of Antonine, which Richard of Cirencester places near this town, between the stations *Isca Silurum* and *Bovium*. Others think that the present name of Cardiff is modernized from *Caer-dâf*, signifying "the fortified place on the river Tâf," which equally shows it to have been a fortified town, or military post, from a period of remote antiquity; but the arguments adduced in support of these two opinions are in favour of the former etymology. From the departure of the Romans from Britain till the conquest of Glamorgan by Fitz-Hamon, only a few slight notices are found of this place, scattered in ancient manuscripts, according to which it appears that, to avoid the frequent predatory incursions of the Saxons into the kingdom of Gwent, the seat of government was transferred, on the death of the renowned King Arthur, by his son Morgan, from Caerlleon to this place, which became the capital of the kingdom called from that prince Morganwg, a district including only that portion of Gwent which was situated to the west

of the river Usk, and so continued till its destruction by Cadwaladr, after which it was rebuilt by Morgan ab Hywel, about the year 900; but having been again destroyed, it was, according to Caradoc of Llancarvan, rebuilt, in 1080, by Iestyn ab Gwrgan, who also erected here a strong castle. Iestyn, the last native sovereign of Morganwg, between whom and Rhÿs ab Tewdwr, Prince of Dinevor, a series of retaliating inroads had been commenced, entered into a compact with Einon ab Collwyn, one of the leaders of an unsuccessful insurrection against Rhÿs, pledging himself to give him his daughter in marriage, with the lordship of Miskin, provided that the latter would secure the assistance of some of the Norman knights with whom he had served abroad under the Conqueror. Einon accordingly repaired to London, and having engaged the services of Robert Fitz-Hamon, a relation of the king's, aided by other Norman knights, Iestyn and his auxiliaries commenced active hostilities against Rhÿs, whom they defeated, with the loss of nearly all his troops, on an extensive common called *Hirwaun Wrgan*, and, according to the Welsh Chronicle, afterwards beheaded in a secluded valley, some miles to the southward, whither he had fled for concealment. But Mr. Jones, in his history of Brecknockshire, is of opinion that Rhÿs fled, after the battle, to the territory of his brother-in-law, Bleddyn ab Maenarch, and was present at the battle fought between the latter and Bernard Newmarch, near Caer Bannau, after which he was beheaded at a place called, from that circumstance, *Penrhÿs*. Iestyn, having thus subdued and slain his enemy, refused to fulfil his contract with Einon; whereupon the latter hastened to Fitz-Hamon, who was preparing to embark his forces for England, and having represented to him the faithless conduct of Iestyn, and shewn the facility of obtaining possession of his dominions, induced the Norman commander to retrace his steps. Being joined by other native chieftains, whose fidelity and allegiance the tyrannical and unprincipled conduct of Iestyn had alienated, the confederated forces advanced against him, and found him posted near Cardiff, with the few forces which the suddenness of the revolt had enabled him to muster. A short conflict then took place, which ended in the defeat of the Welsh prince, who was obliged to seek safety in flight; and having for a short time been a destitute wanderer in his former dominions, he found an asylum in a neighbouring convent, where he passed the remainder of his days, and died at the advanced age of one hundred and twenty-nine.

Fitz-Hamon, having thus acquired possession of Iestyn's territories, parcelled them among his followers and allies, retaining to himself the towns, castles, and manors constituting the body of the lordship of Morganwg, of which Cardiff was the chief place; and is said to have enlarged and almost rebuilt the town, and to have taken down the castle built by the Welsh sovereign, which was of wood, erecting in its place that durable and magnificent structure, the present remains of which are of so highly interesting a character. In this castle the lords of Glamorgan, who exercised *jura regalia* throughout their lordship marcher, held their county courts and courts of chancery and exchequer; and here also the twelve knights, who owned the different baronies subject to this paramount lordship, were obliged by their tenures to attend on a certain day in



every month, each having separate apartments for his accommodation in the outer ward of the castle. On the day after holding the county court, at which the sheriff presided and the knights attended, the chancellor was accustomed to sit in the chancery of the castle, to determine causes of equity arising within his jurisdiction; on which day also the knights gave attendance on their lord, and on the next withdrew to their respective baronies, where they held their own courts, each having a distinct jurisdiction, similar to that of the lordship marcher, except that, in cases of supposed wrong decision, the unsuccessful suitor had the privilege of appeal to the court of the latter. The strict servitude of the feudal tenures, thus introduced into the newly-established lordship, being ill suited to the independent spirit of the native landowners, and the Norman settlers continuing to extend their conquests westward into Gower, the Welsh of Glamorgan rose in great force, in the year 1094, and, under the command of Payne Turberville, one of Fitz-Hamon's feudal knights, having seized upon several castles, and put the garrisons to the sword, advanced to the castle of Cardiff, in which they surprised Fitz-Hamon, who, unprepared for effectual resistance, was obliged to grant a restoration of their ancient laws and customs. Robert Duke of Normandy, having unsuccessfully endeavoured to maintain his right to the English crown, and being made prisoner by his younger brother, Henry I., was committed to the custody of Fitz-Hamon, and immured in this castle, where, as it has been related, after being deprived of his eye-sight for attempting to escape, he lingered out a miserable captivity of twenty-eight years; but this act of barbarity is denied by the most respectable historians. One of the towers over the principal entrance served as his prison, and he is said to have obtained a release from close confinement, and liberty of twelve miles round the castle, through the intercession of Ivor ab Cadivor, called also Ivor Bâch, or the Little, a chieftain who resided among the hills to the north of Cardiff. Robert Earl of Gloucester, natural son of King Henry, having succeeded to the lordship of Glamorgan, by marriage with Mabel, Fitz-Hamon's only daughter and heiress, attempted to enforce the feudal system among his tenants, whose spirit being again roused, they advanced, under the command of Ivor ab Cadivor, to besiege the castle of Cardiff, which they took by storm, and made the earl and his lady prisoners, but released them, in pursuance of terms entered into with the English monarch, on condition that the Welsh of Glamorgan should be allowed the unmolested enjoyment of their ancient usages. To protect himself against further insurrections, the earl immediately began strengthening the defences of Cardiff; and having built a wall round the town and castle, he encompassed the whole with a ditch, communicating with the river Tâf both above and below the town. In 1172, Henry II. passed through Cardiff, on his expedition against Ireland, and again, shortly afterwards, on his return. In the reign of Henry IV., the town and castle were besieged, in 1404, by Owain Glyn-dwr, who assumed to himself the sovereignty of Wales, and burnt and laid waste the possessions of all who adhered to the king's cause. Having obtained possession of the town, he destroyed the whole, with the exception only of one street, in which was situated the convent of the Friars minor, a religious fraternity who

had publicly espoused his cause. He then made himself master of the castle, which in a great measure he destroyed, carrying off a considerable quantity of treasure, that had been deposited for security in it. In the year 1570, a congress of the bards of Glamorgan assembled at this castle, under the auspices of William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, for the purpose of collecting and digesting the laws of their order. During the parliamentary war the castle was garrisoned for the king, and was assaulted by Cromwell in person, by whom it was bombarded for three successive days; but the garrison made a valiant and spirited defence, and all his efforts might have been unavailing, but for the treachery of a deserter, by whom his forces were introduced by a subterraneous passage communicating with the open country, and whom Cromwell caused to be hanged, as a warning to his own troops. Charles I. slept three nights in the castle, in August, 1645, and thence wrote a letter to Sir Edward Nicholas, then Secretary of State.

The town is situated in an extensive plain, on the eastern bank of the river Tâf, over which it has a handsome stone bridge of three arches, with two smaller land arches to carry off the water in floods, which are here very violent, and by which two unfinished bridges, from designs by the same architect, Mr. Parry, had been previously destroyed. The site of the present structure, which was finished in 1796, has been judiciously selected, and the new entrance which it has opened to the town is among the principal recent improvements. The situation of the town, within a distance of three miles from the sea, and in a tract of country remarkable for its fertility and the beauty of its scenery, renders it desirable as a place of residence. Its appearance is highly prepossessing: the streets are regularly formed and well paved, the houses handsome and well built, and the town is lighted with gas and abundantly supplied with excellent water: it was formerly surrounded with a moat and defended by high walls, in which were gates in the direction of the four cardinal points, at the entrance to the principal thoroughfares. The suburb of Crockerton, or Crockherbtown, which forms the eastern entrance, is a spacious street, consisting entirely of handsome houses, adapted to the residence of opulent families. The theatre, erected by a proprietary of twenty-seven shareholders of £60 each, is a neat edifice, ornamented with a handsome receding portico of Grecian architecture, but has not, for the last four years, been used for dramatic performances. The armoury belonging to the Glamorganshire militia, a neat plain building, is situated in St. Mary's-street. The Glamorganshire races were formerly held annually on Cardiff heath, and continued for two days; but they have not taken place since the year 1830. A horticultural society has recently been formed, under favourable auspices, but it is yet only in its infancy. The environs abound with interesting scenery, and a fine promenade, planted with shrubs and evergreens, is open to the public on the ramparts of the castle.

The trade of the port, which comprises within its jurisdiction the creeks of Barry, Sully, and Aberthaw, consists in the exportation of iron, tin-plates, and coal, to a very considerable extent; and in the importation of various articles of general consumption, necessary for supplying the surrounding district, in addition to some timber. During the year 1830, notwith-



standing the great depression of the iron trade, the quantity of iron brought down the Glamorganshire canal, to be shipped at this port, was eighty-seven thousand three hundred and seventy-two statute tons; of coal one hundred and thirteen thousand seven hundred and fifty-three tons; and more than fifty thousand tons of miscellaneous articles. The custom-house is a plain neat building, well adapted to the purpose; and, though no exact entry is kept of the number of vessels which enter inwards and clear outwards in every year, it appears that one thousand vessels of two hundred and fifty tons' burden each were employed, in the year 1830, to ship off the various articles brought down the canal only, during that year. Cardiff is indebted for its commercial prosperity to its facility of communication with the manufacturing districts in the vale of Tâf and places adjacent, by means of the Glamorganshire canal, since the completion of which, in 1798, the place has considerably increased in importance and extent. The Glamorganshire, or, as it is sometimes called, the Cardiff, canal commences about a mile and a half below the town, near the entrance of the river Tâf into Penarth harbour, and extends to Merthyr-Tydvil, a distance of twenty-five miles. In its course, which is nearly parallel with the river, it passes by the city of Llandaf, and is carried over the Tâf by an aqueduct, within a short distance of which it is joined by the Aberdare canal, and then, winding round the base of the Twyn-Mawr hills, is continued to Merthyr-Tydvil: at its junction with the tideway of the river Tâf there is a floating-dock, sixteen feet deep, with a sea-lock, capable of admitting vessels of three hundred tons' burden. The proprietors are limited to eight per cent. on the capital subscribed, after dividing which, and reserving an adequate sum for necessary and incidental expenses, the remainder is to be returned to the parties freighting goods. The freight is fixed at fivepence per ton per mile on iron and manufactured goods, and threepence per ton for ore, coal, culm, and other raw produce; the amount remitted to the freighting parties, in the year 1830, was  $77\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on the gross payments. In 1830 an act of parliament was obtained for constructing the Bute Ship canal, at the sole expense of the Marquis of Bute, which, however, had not been commenced in the middle of 1832. The main object of this undertaking is to construct a safe basin, into which ships of great burden can be admitted, to receive the whole of their cargoes, and from which they may sail at half-tides: it is intended to commence near the mouth of the river Tâf, where it is to have a sea-lock and flood-gates, to keep the surface water forty-one feet above low water mark in Cardiff harbour at spring tides, and will proceed to the south side of the town, where a basin, fifteen hundred yards in length, and twenty feet deep, is to be formed, from which there will be two communications with the Glamorganshire canal: the whole is to be supplied by a feeder from the river Tâf, about a mile north of Cardiff castle, passing through some of the streets in the town, in its course to the basin. This design, when carried into effect, will greatly facilitate the conveyance of coal from the banks of the rivers Tâf and Cynon to the London market, and materially promote the trade of the town. The only manufacture at present carried on in the town is that of iron, for which there is a foundry conducted by Messrs.

Moggridge and Towgood, affording employment to about fifty men; also an establishment on a smaller scale, for lighter castings. The glass-works, established here a few years since, by Messrs. Guest & Co., have been recently discontinued. There are weekly markets on Wednesday and Saturday; that on the former day is now but thinly attended, but on the latter there is an abundant supply of corn and provisions of every kind, besides various articles of merchandise: the shambles for butchers' meat are commodiously ranged in two long avenues leading out of High-street: hardware and vegetables are exposed for sale in the open street in front of the guildhall. The fairs are on the second Wednesday in March, the second Wednesday in April, the second Wednesday in May, June 29th, September 19th, and November 30th, all of which are great cattle fairs, and are numerously attended.



Corporate Seal.

The town received a charter of incorporation either from Iestyn ab Gwrgan, the last of the native sovereigns of Glamorgan, or from the first of its Norman lords: the oldest charter extant is one of Hugh le Despencer, in the reign of Edward II., dated October 14th, 1338, confirming the grants and privileges of his predecessors, Lord William de la Zouche and Elinor his wife. The most recent is that of James I., dated July 18th, 1608, by which the government is vested in a constable of the castle (who holds his office during the royal pleasure, and is the chief member of the corporation), a steward or recorder, twelve aldermen (of which two are chosen bailiffs), twelve common-councilmen, and an indefinite number of burgesses, assisted by a town-clerk, two common attorneys (one of whom is a capital, and the other a common, burgess), two serjeants at mace, a water-bailiff, two ale-tasters, and other officers. The constable of the castle is appointed by the Marquis of Bute, who is lord-lieutenant of the county; the bailiffs are chosen annually at Michaelmas, by the aldermen and common-councilmen, who nominate four aldermen, out of which number the constable of the castle, or his deputy, elects two, and swears them into office: vacancies in each of the other bodies are filled up, by a majority of themselves, from those next in succession. The constable of the castle, the bailiffs, and the senior alderman, are justices of the peace within the borough, which, with its liberties, is co-extensive with the parishes of St. John and St. Mary, and the boundaries of which are given in the Appendix to this work. The borough is divided into four wards, for each of which three constables are annually appointed, and sworn into office by the bailiffs. Conjointly with Cowbridge and Llantrissant it returns one member to parliament: the right of election was formerly in the burgesses at large, but is now, by the late act for amending the representation of the people, vested in the resident burgesses only, if duly qualified according to the provisions of the act, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value



of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the number of houses in the borough worth ten pounds per annum and upwards is four hundred and sixty-four: the bailiffs are the returning officers. Prior to the passing of the late bill of reform, Aberavon, Kenfig, Loughor, Neath, and Swansea, were united with the above-mentioned boroughs in the return of a member to parliament; but these places now constitute a district to which a separate representative has been given. The freedom is inherited by birth, acquired by servitude of seven years' apprenticeship to a resident freeman, by marriage with a freeman's daughter, or by gift of the corporation at large. The corporation, under their charter, hold a court of record in the guildhall, every alternate Thursday, for the recovery of debts to any amount, at which the bailiffs and senior alderman preside, assisted by the town-clerk: by a provision enacted in the 3rd of James II., this court might be held before the steward and bailiffs, but the steward seldom acts, and the processes are generally issued under the former officers: at this court also burgesses, of whom there are at present upwards of three hundred and fifty, are admitted and sworn in. The assizes and the Epiphany sessions for the county are also held in the guildhall, a plain modern building, comprising one court-room and a record and a jury room on the upper story, underneath which are the corn and dairy markets, and two apartments appropriated as a borough prison. The county gaol, a respectable edifice fronted with freestone, and constructed on the plan of Mr. Howard, being too small for the increased population of this manufacturing district, a new building upon a more enlarged scale was commenced in 1827, which will be open for the reception of prisoners at the close of the present year (1832). The new gaol, which occupies an airy situation to the south of the suburb of Crockherbtown, is a substantial stone edifice, surrounded by a lofty wall with a massive gateway entrance, over which is the place of execution. The governor's house is in the centre of the area, and communicates by cast-iron bridges with three detached wings; on one side of the entrance are the apartments of the turnkey, and on the other the committee-rooms for the meeting of the magistrates. The gaol, which is capable of accommodating eighty prisoners, including twenty debtors, is well adapted to their classification, and comprises day-rooms, work-rooms, and airing-yards: it includes also a house of correction for the eastern parts of the county: the whole expense of the building is estimated at £10,000.

Cardiff consists of the parishes of St. John the Baptist and St. Mary, the livings of which are discharged vicarages consolidated, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, the former rated in the king's books at £13. 4. 6½, and the latter at £4. 5. 10., and in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Gloucester. The church of St. John, formerly a chapel to that of St. Mary (which was a large cruciform building, with a square tower, situated near the margin of the river, at the south-western extremity of the town, and was destroyed by an inundation in 1607), is a spacious and handsome structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a lofty square embattled tower in the later style, and equally remarkable for the elegance of its design and the symmetry of its proportions. It

was built in 1443, by Hart, the architect of Wrexham church, and of St. Stephen's, Bristol: the tower is crowned with an embattled parapet of delicate tracery, with angular pinnacles of open work of light and beautiful character, and the doorway and belfry windows are ornamented with finely pointed and richly moulded arches. The interior of the church consists of two aisles, separated by a range of lofty and sharply pointed arches, resting on massive pillars, and a chancel, of which the roof has been lowered to admit light into the body of the church, which had been darkened, about twenty years since, by the erection of two galleries, containing five hundred additional sittings. Among the monuments is one, in a dilapidated condition, to the memory of two brothers of the family of Herbert of Swansea, whose effigies in a kneeling posture are represented under a canopy of white marble, supported by four Corinthian pillars of black marble, one in the habit of an ecclesiastic, and the other in military attire: a Latin inscription, now nearly obliterated, records that the younger brother, Sir John Herbert, was principal secretary to Queen Elizabeth and James I., and ambassador at the courts of Frederick II. and his son Christian, kings of Denmark, Sigismund of Poland, and Henry IV. of France. There are places of worship for English and Welsh Baptists and Wesleyan Methodists, Independents, and Presbyterians, the last of which has an endowment of £300, and the interest of £100 bequeathed by Mr. Arthur, to be distributed among the poor of that congregation. In 1710, Mr. Cradock Wells, alderman of the borough, left by will certain freehold houses in Cardiff, and lands at Canton, in the parish of Llandaf, in trust to the corporation, for the establishment of a free school for instructing poor children of the borough in reading, writing, and arithmetic. This school having been discontinued since the year 1790, application was made to Chancery in 1819, and a decree obtained in 1821, appointing the aldermen for the time being trustees of the property, which is applied to the education of six boys and six girls in the National school, which was established in 1815, under the patronage of the Marquis of Bute: these children are annually clothed, and, when of proper age, placed out apprentices, with suitable premiums. An equal number of children, who are also instructed in the same school, are clothed annually from funds invested for that purpose by the Marquis of Bute. Two capacious school-rooms were erected at Crockherbtown, in 1818, on ground given by the Marquis, who also contributed £52. 10. towards defraying the expense of the building, which cost £700, of which the corporation gave £300. A house for the master and mistress, with a committee-room, has since been built, at an expense of £600, of which the Marquis of Bute contributed £50, and the corporation £100. Mrs. Jane Herbert gave £500 to be invested in the purchase of land, for the establishment of a school for the instruction of fifteen poor children; but this object has not yet been carried into effect, in consequence of which an application has been made to the Lord Chancellor. A dispensary, situated in Union-street, was established in 1823, and is supported by subscription: an addition of £256. 16. 6½. was made to its funds by a ladies' bazaar, opened at the time of the races in 1828, with which the present building was pur-

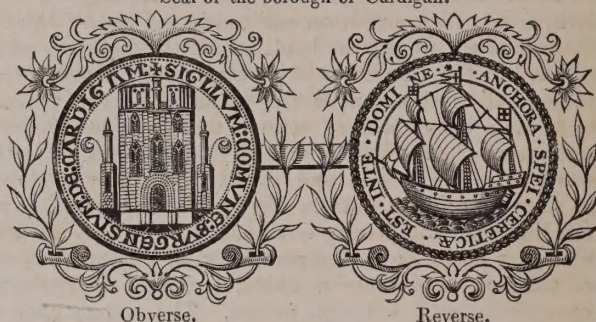


chased. An institution for the relief and assistance of poor lying-in women during their confinement has been recently formed, called the "Cardiff Charitable Midwifery Institution." A Sympathetic Society was established in 1794, for the benefit of widows: there are at present seventy-nine members, and nineteen widows are now receiving annuities of £15 each from the funds, which, in 1829, were vested in the purchase of £4300 New four per cent. annuities. There are no fewer than eight benefit societies. A rent-charge of £8, paid by the Mackworth family, another of £2. 10. left by Mr. William Jones, £100 Navy five per cents by the late Mr. John Rice, and various other charitable bequests and donations, are distributed among the poor.

On the north-east side of the town was anciently a convent of Grey friars, founded in 1280, by Gilbert Earl of Clare, who dedicated it to St. Francis, and made it a cell to the monastery of Bristol: at the dissolution its site was granted to the Herberts, a branch of the Swansea family: the walls are still remaining, but in a dilapidated state. Without the West-gate was a convent of Black friars, founded by Richard de Clare, about the year 1250; and two other religious houses, of which there are no vestiges, are noticed by Tanner, one supposed to have been that of the friars minor, founded by Robert, first Earl of Gloucester, and which, as noticed above, was spared, together with the street in which it was situated, when Owain Glyndwr burnt the rest of the town. Among the remaining antiquities of this place are portions of the town walls, which seem to have been built on the site of Roman fortifications. The castle still forms an interesting object, though greatly altered by being converted into a modern castellated mansion. The west front, which is flanked by a massive octagonal tower of great strength, is seen to advantage from the great western road to the town. On the summit of a circular mound within the walls are the ruins of the ancient keep, commanding an extensive prospect over the surrounding country: this tower was used as an armoury during the parliamentary war. The moat by which it was surrounded has been filled up, and the whole area has been converted into a fine lawn: the acclivities of the ramparts have been planted with shrubs and evergreens, and on the summit a fine gravel walk has been formed, which is carried round the whole enclosure, and is open to the public as a promenade. On the west side of the gateway is the Black Tower, in which Robert Duke of Normandy is said to have been confined, during his captivity here. At the south-west angle of the court, the remains of a Roman hypocaust were exposed to the view about eighty years ago; and a coin of the Emperor Trajan has been found within the castle. The eastern part is distinguished by the insertion of small pointed windows, behind which were discovered, a few years ago, the remains of a series of interesting Norman arches, probably coeval with the original structure; and great alterations have been made, to adapt the habitable part of this ancient fortress to the uses of a mansion. The apartments contain several good portraits of the ancestors of the house of Bute, and some fine paintings by Kneller, Vandyke, Dahl, Romney, and other eminent artists. According to the testimony of the *Liber Llandavensis*, the renowned King Arthur was

a native of this place. Among distinguished natives of more modern times may be mentioned William Cadogan, member of the privy council of Charles I., and governor of the castle and borough of Trim in Ireland, who was born in 1601. The Rev. Mr. Erbury, who was vicar of this place during the usurpation of Cromwell, was author of a volume of sermons and other tracts, addressed to his parishioners, which present a curious specimen of the divinity of that period. Nathaniel Thomas, B.A., editor of an Abridgment of Ainsworth's Latin Dictionary, and other school books, and subsequently editor and proprietor of the *St. James' Chronicle*, was born in this town, in 1730. Cardiff gives the inferior title of baron to the Marquis of Bute. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £1351. 9.

Seal of the borough of Cardigan.



CARDIGAN, a sea-port, borough, market town, and parish, in the lower division of the hundred of TROED-YRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 232 miles (W. by N.) from London, containing 2795 inhabitants. This place, called by the Welsh *Aberteivy*, from its situation near the mouth of the river Teivy, was probably selected, at a very early period, as an eligible site both for habitation and for commerce, its maritime situation affording a facility of communication with distant parts of the kingdom. Little, however, is known either of its original foundation or of its primitive inhabitants; nor are there either traditionary or authentic records of its history, prior to the conquest of this part of the country by the Normans, who erected a fortress at this place, to defend the passage of the river, and to secure themselves in the possession of the territories which they successively wrested from the native proprietors. It appears about this time to have first assumed the character of a regular town, and it subsequently became the capital of the province of *Ceredigion*, comprehending, in addition to the present county of Cardigan, a large extent of territory, which originally constituted the country of *Dimetia*, and was granted, about the middle of the fifth century, to Caredig, son of Cunedda, a chieftain of North Wales, from whom it derived its name, now modified into Cardigan. In the Welsh annals this place is described as the scene of some of the most sanguinary conflicts which took place in South Wales, during the first three centuries after the Norman Conquest of England. Roger de Montgomery, who did homage to William Rufus, in 1091, for the province of Cardigan, finding himself unequal to defend the castle against the native chieftains, relinquished it to Cadwgan ab Bleddyn, Prince of Powys, a man of bold and enterprising ambition, who assumed the sovereignty of South Wales, and maintained a protracted warfare, not



only with the Norman lords, who encroached upon his territories, but with the English monarch himself. Cadwgan continued to maintain possession of the castle, and, after the death of William Rufus, entered into an alliance with Henry I. The castle appears to have been at this time a place of considerable importance, and one of the residences of Cadwgan, who, in the Christmas of 1107, gave a splendid festival here, including an Eisteddvod, a grand assembly of the bards, at which, according to some accounts, Owain his son, inflamed by the lively descriptions given by his companions of the beauty of Nêst, the wife of Gerald de Windsor, determined on carrying her off from her husband's castle in Pembrokeshire: others trace this outrage to a banquet given at the castle of Eare Weare, in the parish of Amroath, on the western coast of Pembrokeshire. The act, however, drew down upon his family the wrath of Henry, who, having in vain demanded from Owain the liberation of his captive, incited the nobles of Powys to avenge the insult; and Cadwgan and Owain were compelled to abandon their country, and take refuge in Ireland. The former returned in the following year, and, having satisfied the king of his innocence, was restored to his possessions; but his son, unable to regain the king's favour, carried on a desultory warfare against the English, which, involving Cadwgan with the king, he was a second time deprived of his dominions, which were, however, again restored to him.

Upon the death of this chieftain, who was assassinated by his nephew, Madoc ab Rhyrid, in 1110, Henry possessed himself of the sovereignty of South Wales, which he held for several years, until Gruffydd, eldest surviving son of Rhys ab Tewdwr, in concert with Owain and Cadwaladr, sons of Gruffydd ab Cynan, sovereign of North Wales, and the chieftains of South Wales, reconquered the whole province of Cardigan, and advanced to the gates of Aberteivy, in the vicinity of which place a sanguinary battle was fought, in 1136, between the allied Welsh and the Norman, English, and Flemish forces then in Wales, or in the marches, in which the latter suffered a total defeat, having, according to the testimony of Giraldus Cambrensis, three thousand men killed, and a great number drowned in the Teivy, by the breaking down of a bridge in the line of their retreat. The castle fell into the hands of the Welsh, who, however, do not appear to have kept possession of it for any considerable time; for, in 1144, Howel and Cynan, sons of Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, having raised a considerable army, obtained a signal victory over the Normans and Flemings at Aberteivy; and, having retaken the town and castle, in the latter of which they placed a strong garrison, returned into their own country, laden with honour and with spoil. The castle was afterwards fortified by Roger Earl of Clare, from whom it was wrested, in 1165, by Rhys ab Gruffydd, Prince of South Wales, who razed it to the ground. According to most writers it was rebuilt by Gilbert de Clare, in the following year, but was afterwards taken by Rhys, who, having subsequently entered into terms with Henry II., was allowed to retain his possessions in South Wales, and kept it in his own hands till his death. Rhys, in 1171, marched a cavalcade of eighty-six horses from this place to Pembroke, and presented them to that monarch,

when on his route to embark for Ireland; and on his having completed the repairs of this castle, in 1176, he celebrated in it a grand festival, and held an Eisteddvod, or assembly of the bards, of which notice had been published, for a year previously, in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, from all which kingdoms numerous distinguished guests arrived, and all the bards of Wales were present. After a display of deeds of arms and other military exploits, the bards were assembled in the great hall, and prizes were adjudged to the most skilful. In this contest the bards of North Wales gained the prizes for poetry; and among the musicians those of the household of Rhys were allowed to have excelled in minstrelsy. Prince Rhys, in 1188, sumptuously entertained Archbishop Baldwin, attended by Giraldus Cambrensis, then preaching the crusades throughout Wales, first at St. Dogmael's priory, in the county of Pembroke, and on the day following in his castle of Cardigan. After the death of Rhys, in 1198, the castle, then in the possession of his son Gruffydd, was attacked by his brother Maelgwyn, by whom it was taken; but, in the course of the same year, Gruffydd repossessed himself of all his patrimonial territories, with the exception of this castle and that of Ystrad-Meirig, which were still in the possession of his brother, who, however, agreed to surrender the former of these fortresses to Gruffydd, on his giving hostages for the security of his person; but he had no sooner received them than he repaired the fortifications of the castle, reinforced the garrison, and, placing the hostages in the hands of his ally, Gwenwynwyn, Prince of Powys, from whom they effected their escape, refused to fulfil his engagement. He retained possession of the castle till the year 1200, when, finding that he could no longer defend it against the power of Gruffydd, which was every day increasing, he sold it for a small sum to the Normans, that it might not fall into the hands of his brother.

In 1215, this fortress was surrendered by the Norman garrison to Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, who returned to Cardigan, in the following year, to adjust the disputes which had arisen between the native chieftains of South Wales, and to divide among them the territories which they had jointly recovered from the Anglo-Norman invaders. In this partition the castle was assigned to Owain ab Gruffydd; but Llewelyn, much to the dissatisfaction of that chieftain, kept it in his own possession, and in the treaty which he made with the English king, and which was ratified at Gloucester in 1218, he engaged to restore it, with all its dependencies, to the English. In the following year Llewelyn, refusing to fulfil his engagement, and apprehending an attack from the English, strengthened the fortifications, and augmented the garrison of the castle; but no attack was made upon it till 1220, when the Flemings, who had settled in Pembrokeshire, and had recently sworn fealty to him, revolting from their allegiance, marched against Cardigan, and speedily obtained possession of the castle, which was soon afterwards retaken by Llewelyn, who put the garrison to the sword. Young Rhys ab Gruffydd, being afterwards, as he conceived, wrongfully deprived of the possession of the castle by Llewelyn, went over to the English, placing himself under the protection of the Earl of Pembroke, who, after the quarrel between Rhys and Llewelyn had been amicably adjusted, through the interference of the



English monarch, seized the castle, which during his absence was again retaken by Llewelyn, and the garrison put to the sword. The earl, on his return from Ireland in 1223, marched with a powerful army to Cardigan; and laying siege to the castle, compelled a surrender, and retaliated upon the Welsh garrison the cruelty which his own soldiers had previously experienced from Llewelyn. Maelgwyn ab Maelgwyn, a Welsh chieftain, having in 1231 forced his way into Cardigan, put all the inhabitants to the sword; and having laid waste and nearly demolished the town, he was checked in his career of destruction only by the fortifications of the castle, which were considered impregnable. Being joined, however, by his cousin Owain, son of Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, attended by some of the best officers of that prince, he returned to besiege the castle; and having broken down the bridge, closely invested that fortress, and so battered and undermined it, that the garrison, after an obstinate resistance, was finally compelled to surrender. The castle lay in the ruinous state to which it had been thus reduced for nearly nine years, till the accession of Davydd ab Llewelyn ab Iorwerth to the sovereignty of Wales, in 1240, when Gilbert Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, encouraged by the weakness of the prince and the unsettled state of the principality in a new reign, seized upon this fortress, which he strengthened with works more extensive and better constructed. From this time the castle appears to have remained in the undisturbed possession of the English, and no further notice occurs respecting it in the Welsh annals. Edward I., after his entire conquest of the country, resided for a month in the castle, during the time he was employed in settling the affairs of the principality. The lordship, castle, and town were settled by Henry VII. on Catherine of Arragon, on her being betrothed to his eldest son, Arthur, Prince of Wales, as part of her dower. Soon after the commencement of the parliamentary war, Cardigan castle was in the hands of the parliament, two of whose agents resided at the priory in the town: it was, however, taken by General Girard, and garrisoned for the king, but was afterwards besieged by the parliamentary forces under General Laugarne, by whom, after it had sustained an incessant cannonade for three days, by which a breach was made in the walls, it was taken by storm.

The town is pleasantly situated on the north bank and near the æstuary of the river Teivy, over which it has an ancient stone bridge of five arches, connecting the counties of Cardigan and Pembroke: it consists of one principal thoroughfare, extending from the bridge along the turnpike road to Aberystwith, from which another diverges to the east, in a line towards Newcastle: the former contains several respectable shops, and in both there are a few good houses. For many years the want of a public supply of water was an object of great anxiety to the inhabitants; but in the beginning of the year 1831, the sum of £400 was raised for that purpose by public subscription. A capacious reservoir has been made near the gaol, and iron pipes laid down, by which the water is conveyed into six public conduits in different parts of the town, for the supply of the inhabitants generally, and from these are branch pipes, conveying it to the houses of those who choose to pay a small annual rate for that additional accommodation. Dramatic performances occasionally take place in the town, and du-

ring the assizes and at other times assemblies and concerts are given; but there are no buildings especially appropriated for these amusements. The environs are pleasant, and abound with interesting and varied scenery; and the view of the town from the higher grounds is highly prepossessing. The port has jurisdiction over Newport and Fishguard, in the county of Pembroke, to the west, and over Aberaeron, Aberporth, and New Quay, to the north, and carries on a very considerable coasting trade, and a limited intercourse with foreign parts. The principal exports are, corn (chiefly oats) to Bristol and Liverpool, butter, oak bark, and slate, which last may be deemed the staple article of the place, though it is not of a very good quality, selling only at half the price of the slate procured in North Wales: the chief imports are, timber from Norway and North America, coal (principally from Liverpool, and sometimes from South Wales and Staffordshire), culm from South Wales, limestone from Pembrokeshire, and manufactured goods and merchandise for the supply of the shops. There are belonging to the port and its dependencies two hundred and ninety-one registered vessels, of an aggregate burden of fifteen thousand one hundred and ninety-five tons, and employing one thousand one hundred men. In the year ending January 5th, 1830, five foreign and five hundred and eighty-two coasting vessels entered inwards, and two foreign and one hundred and seventy-nine coasting vessels cleared outwards. The river Teivy is navigable up to the bridge for vessels of from three to four hundred tons' burden at spring tides, but the entrance to the harbour is obstructed by a dangerous bar, having at high water in spring tides only twenty-two feet of water, with a fall of sixteen feet, leaving at times only six feet depth of water, and at neap tides the rise and fall do not exceed eleven feet; so that the general trade of the port is confined to vessels of from fifteen to one hundred tons' burden. It has been suggested that a great improvement might be made in the harbour, by constructing a pier, extending from Pen yr Eryd to the south-west, the expense of which probably would not exceed £1000. An extensive and lucrative salmon fishery is carried on in the Teivy, during the summer; and a herring fishery, which in some years is remarkably productive, affords employment to many during the winter. In summer the river assumes a remarkable appearance, from the vast number of coracles, or small portable fishing boats, constructed of wicker covered with leather, and large enough only to hold one person, with which its surface is overspread, and which are much in use throughout the principality. Ship-building was formerly carried on to a great extent, but has almost wholly declined, and the town has now no manufactures of any description. The market is on Saturday; and fairs are held annually on February 13th, April 5th, September 8th, and December 19th. The market for corn is held by sufferance under the shire-hall. Butchers' meat was exposed for sale in the principal street until the year 1823, when a commodious market-house and slaughter-house were built, under the direction of the corporation, on the west side of the town, near the river.

The borough was first incorporated by Edward I., after his final conquest of Wales, and the charter of privileges granted by that monarch was confirmed and extended by several of his successors. By the charter now in



force, which was granted in the 19th of Henry VIII., the government is vested in a mayor, two bailiffs, a coroner, twelve common-councilmen, and an indefinite number of burgesses, assisted by a town-clerk and subordinate officers: this charter also partially elevates it into a county of itself, by granting "that the said burgesses and their successors for ever shall have the return of all our writs and of all the suits of our heirs, in whatsoever pleas, real or personal, and of all other cases within the said town of Cardigan; so that no escheator, sheriff, bailiff, nor minister, of us do enter, or in any thing meddle, within the town and borough aforesaid." The mayor, chosen from the common-councilmen, and the bailiffs and coroner, from the burgesses, are elected annually on the Monday after the feast of St. Michael; the common-councilmen fill up vacancies, as they occur, from the burgesses, and the burgesses are nominated, by a jury of twelve, from among the inhabitants, at the court of the corporation. Among the privileges of a burgess are, exemption from tolls, frontage, and other imposts throughout the British dominions, and the right of claiming on their trials a jury consisting entirely of Englishmen. This borough and its contributories, Aberystwith, Lampeter, and Atpar, return one member to parliament: the right of election was formerly in the burgesses at large, but is now, by the late act for amending the representation of the people, vested in the resident burgesses, if duly qualified according to the provisions of the act, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act demands: the number of tenements of this value within the limits of the new borough, which are given in the Appendix to this work, is one hundred and ninety-three: the mayor is the returning officer. Adjoining the town is an unenclosed common, containing nearly three hundred acres of good land, which belongs to the burgesses at large. The assizes for the county are held here, as the county town; as are also the Epiphany quarter sessions, the Easter and Michaelmas sessions being held at Aberystwith, and the Midsummer sessions at Lampeter: the knight of the shire is elected at Cardigan. The shire-hall, erected in 1764, and enlarged in 1829 by the addition of a room for the grand jury and a retiring room for the petit jury, is a neat edifice: the court is commodiously arranged, and contains a bust of the late Thomas Johnes, Esq., lord lieutenant and parliamentary representative of the county, sculptured by Chantrey, at the expense of the county magistrates. The common gaol and house of correction for the county was erected in the year 1793, after a design by Mr. Nash: it occupies a spacious area at the extremity of the town, towards Aberystwith, and comprises six day-rooms, six airing-yards, five work-rooms, and every requisite for the due classification of the prisoners, of whom it is capable of accommodating twenty-two in separate cells, and forty-seven by placing more than one person in each cell: in one of the yards is a tread-wheel, for the employment of prisoners sentenced to hard labour.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 15. 10., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £400 royal bounty, and in the

patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a spacious and venerable structure, consisting of a nave, chancel, and south porch, with a square embattled tower at the west end: the various parts of this structure were erected at different periods, and display different styles of English architecture. The chancel, which is by far the most ancient and the most elegant portion of the building, is in the decorated style, and is externally ornamented with a castellated battlement, and strengthened with buttresses surmounted by light handsome pinnacles. The porch was rebuilt, in the later style, in 1639, and the nave in the same style, but differing in the details, in 1703; and the tower, which fell down in 1705, was partly rebuilt in 1711, by a brief under the great seal, and completed in 1748, by subscription. The appearance of the interior has been considerably injured by the erection of a carved screen above the altar, of the Ionic order, which ill accords with the prevailing style of architecture: the east window contains some portions of the ancient stained glass with which it was originally filled: the font, which is ancient, is octangular in form, and richly sculptured; and in the south-eastern angle of the church are two arches, under each of which is a handsome marble monument, erected about the middle of the last century. Mathaiarn, one of the sons of Brychan, Prince of Brecknock, who devoted himself to a religious life, about the middle of the fifth century, is said to have been buried here. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The free grammar school, which is a licensed institution, was founded, about the year 1760, by Lady Lætitia Cornwallis, of Abermarlais, in the county of Carmarthen, who endowed it with money in the three per cents., producing at present an income of £21. 10. 6. per annum, for the gratuitous instruction of six poor boys of this town: prior to the establishment of St. David's college, at Lampeter, young men were ordained from this school. It is said that there are four scholarships belonging to it, but they are not at present available, neither can any particulars of their foundation be ascertained. A National school, in which from sixty to seventy boys are gratuitously instructed, is supported by subscription; and there is also another school for girls, similarly supported, but conducted on a different plan. At the eastern extremity of the town, towards the river, stood a small Benedictine priory, the foundation of which is of uncertain date: it was a cell to the abbey of Chertsey, and its revenue at the dissolution was valued at £32: it was granted by Henry VIII., together with the other possessions of Chertsey, to Bisham abbey, and subsequently, by the same monarch, to William Cavendish. The Priory was afterwards the residence of the celebrated Catherine Philipps, daughter of Mr. John Fowler of London, and wife of James Philipps, Esq., better known by her poetical name of Orinda, and as the author of some pleasing poems, and a small work entitled "Letters from Orinda to Poliarchus," by which name was designated her early friend and patron, Sir Charles Cottrell. On the site of the ancient mansion is now a handsome villa, which, with the whole of the Priory estate, is the property of Philip John Miles, Esq., of Leigh Court, in the county of Somerset. Of the walls by which the town was anciently encompassed there are now no



remains. The castle was, from its situation, well calculated for defence, and admirably adapted to command the entrance into the western part of the principality, of which it was considered the key: it occupied the summit of an eminence rising to a considerable elevation above the river, and overlooking the town and a large tract of the open country. The remains at present consist only of two bastions and a portion of the curtain wall; the site of the keep is at present occupied by a handsome modern villa, the cellars of which are formed out of the dungeons of that ancient tower, of which the walls in some parts are from nine to ten feet thick; and the outer ward has been converted into a verdant lawn, tastefully disposed in parterres, the whole effected by John Bowen, Esq.; but the property now belongs to Arthur Jones, Esq., by purchase in 1827. Cardigan gives the title of earl to the family of Brudenell. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £554.4.

**CARDIGAN (ISLE OF)**, an extra-parochial district, in the hundred of **TROEDYRAUR**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.) from Cardigan. This is a small island, at the eastern side of the mouth of the river Teivy, and only separated from the main land by a narrow channel: it comprises about forty acres, and yields good pasturage for cattle and sheep, chiefly for the market at Cardigan.

**CARDIGANSHIRE**, a maritime county of **SOUTH WALES**, bounded on the north by the æstuary of the river Dovey, or Dyvi, and the county of Merioneth; on the north-east by Montgomeryshire; on the east by the north-western extremity of Radnorshire and the northern parts of Brecknockshire; on the south by the county of Carmarthen; on the south-west by that of Pembroke; and on the west and north-west, in its whole length, by Cardigan bay: it extends from  $51^{\circ} 55'$  to  $52^{\circ} 27'$  (N. Lat.), and from  $3^{\circ} 45'$  to  $4^{\circ} 51'$  (W. Lon.); and comprises an area, according to Mr. Carey's Communications to the Board of Agriculture, of five hundred and ninety square miles, or three hundred and seventy-seven thousand six hundred statute acres. The population, in 1831, was 64,780.

The ancient British inhabitants of this county were the *Dimetæ*, who also occupied the adjoining counties of Carmarthen and Pembroke, and were subjected to the Roman sway by Julius Frontinus, about the year 70. Under the Roman dominion it contained the station *Loventium*, thought by Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart., and other antiquaries of modern times, to have been situated at Llanio, about seven miles above Lampeter, in the vale of Teivy. It seems likewise to have been traversed throughout by the great Roman road called the *Via Occidentalis*, which connected the station *Loventium* with that of *Segontium*, near the modern Carnarvon; and with that at Penallt, in the present county of Merioneth; that of *Menapium*, in Pembrokeshire; and those of *Maridunum*, and at Llanvair ar y brÿn, in Carmarthenshire. The present name of Cardigan is derived from *Caredig*, son of Cynedda, a chieftain of North Britain, who distinguished himself in repelling an invasion of Wales by the Irish Scots, about the middle of the fifth century, and received as a reward for his services a tract of South Wales, called *Tyno Cóch*, or the "Red Valley," to which he gave the name of *Caredigion*, signifying "Caredig's country," and since corrupted into *Cardigan*.

The precise extent of this tract cannot now be ascertained; but at a later period, the lordship, or principality, of Caredigion is known to have comprehended, besides the present county of Cardigan, the greater part of that of Carmarthen. Little more than their names is known of the successors of Caredig in the sovereign authority: Brothen, the third in succession, received the honour of canonization. The eleventh was Gwgan, who was accidentally drowned in 870, after which event, Rhodri Mawr, or Roderic the Great, sovereign of North Wales and Powys, became possessed of this principality (which at that time held supreme authority over the other petty states of South Wales), in right of his wife Angharad, who was Gwgan's daughter. Having thus become sovereign of all Wales, he subsequently divided his dominions into three portions, including Caredigion in the kingdom of South Wales, the seat of the government of which he fixed at Dynevor, in the present county of Carmarthen, and to which his son Cadell succeeded on the death of his father. In the disputes which soon arose among Roderic's sons, Anarawd, King of North Wales, aided by some English allies, led a powerful force into South Wales, in 892, and made dreadful devastations in this and the other provinces, burning the houses and destroying the corn. Ievav and Iago, princes of North Wales, obtaining possession of their patrimony, after the death of Hywel Dda, by whom they had been unjustly excluded from it, asserted their claim to the sovereignty of all Wales, and, in 949, invading Caredigion, defeated the sons of Hywel, who had shared among them the kingdoms of South Wales and Powys, and then carried their devastations into Dyved, the present Pembrokeshire. The year following, they again entered Dyved, but were opposed with great spirit by Owain, son of Hywel, by whom they were compelled to retreat with such precipitation, that a great part of their army was drowned in the river Teivy. Owain and his brothers, in their turn, acted on the offensive, and invaded North Wales, where they fought a sanguinary battle with the forces of Ievav and Iago, but without advantage to either party; and the following year the princes of North Wales again entered Caredigion, but were repulsed with great loss by the sons of Hywel, who, however, in the end were overcome by their adversaries, and the latter established their dominion over all Wales. In 987, the Danes committed great devastations on the coast of this county, burning the churches of Llanbadarn and Llanrhÿstid, and causing such destruction of corn and cattle as to produce a general famine, which destroyed a great part of the population. On this occasion Meredydd, then sovereign of all Wales, was compelled to purchase the retreat of the invaders by the payment of a tribute, called "the tribute of the black army": but scarcely had he freed himself from these foreign enemies, when Edwin, the eldest son of his brother Eineon, who considered himself wrongfully dispossessed of the principality of South Wales, aided by some parties of Saxons and Danes, invaded this county, and hence proceeded into Pembrokeshire. About the year 1068, the Normans having proved successful in their invasion of England, a strong body of them made a descent upon the western coast of South Wales, and ravaged this county and that of Pembroke; but, being quickly attacked by Caradoc, Prince of South Wales, they were compelled to abandon their plunder, and retreat to their ships.





Engraved by J. & C. Walker.

DRAWN & ENGRAVED FOR LEWIS' TOPOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY.

Drawn by R. Creighton.







These marauders returned three years after, in 1071, but with the like ill success, being defeated with great loss by Rhydderch, son and successor of Caradoc. In 1087, the sons of Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, a deceased prince of North Wales, raised a formidable insurrection in South Wales, against the authority of Rhŷs ab Tewdwr, the reigning prince of this country, whom they compelled to retire to Ireland. Being aided with a large body of Irish troops by his brother-in-law, the king of Dublin, Rhŷs soon returned, and was joined by numerous friends; while the sons of Bleddyn, thinking that delay would increase the strength of their antagonist, hastened to give him battle. The adverse armies met at a place called Llêchryd, and a sanguinary conflict ensued, in which the sons of Bleddyn were totally defeated, and two of them slain: the scene of this action has been generally placed in Radnorshire, but it is now thought to have been fought at Llêchryd, near the Teivy, in this county, a few miles above the town of Cardigan, rather than in a part of the principality the most distant from the Irish channel, and which Rhŷs could reach only by leading his forces a distance of nearly sixty miles over a desert and almost impassable country.

Caredigion was one of the Welsh provinces first subdued by the Norman lords, soon after they had been so much encouraged in the conquest of the country, by the successful issue of Fitz-Hamon's enterprise in Glamorgan; and Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, did homage for it to William Rufus, towards the close of the eleventh century: this baron, to secure his conquests, first erected the castle of Aberteivy, or Cardigan, afterwards so distinguished in Welsh history. But the Norman settlers had constantly to maintain an arduous contest with the native princes, in which they were frequently worsted and driven from the territory they had usurped. In 1093, Cadwgan ab Bleddyn, Prince of Powys and South Wales, expelled these invaders, and took possession of the castle of Aberteivy, or Cardigan. Gilbert Strongbow, son of Richard Earl of Clare, having obtained leave of Henry I. of England to deprive Cadwgan of all the lands which he could wrest from him, invaded the province of Caredigion with a considerable force, and subdued it without much difficulty: having thus obtained possession of the country, his chief care was to erect fortresses for the defence of his conquests, and one of the principal of these was the castle of Aberystwith. Gruffydd ab Rhŷs, the eldest surviving son of Rhŷs ab Tewdwr, having commenced a system of predatory warfare against the lords marcher in the territory of Carmarthen, his success gained him many partisans among the native chieftains, and thus enabled him to conduct his operations on a more extended scale, and to recover a large portion of his father's territories, in spite of the opposition raised against him by the English monarch, Henry I. The native chieftains of Caredigion espoused his cause and submitted to his government, esteeming him the guardian of his country, and calling on him to free them from the odious and ignominious tyranny of foreigners. Gruffydd hereupon entered the territories of these chieftains, by whom he was received with great cordiality and respect. Suddenly arriving at Cardigan Iscoed, he laid siege to a fortress which the Earl of Strigyl had erected at Blaen Porth Gwithan, in the vicinity of that place, which, after many terrible assaults, he at length took and burned to the ground.

As far as Penwedic, the like destruction fell upon the deserted houses of the English inhabitants, who, struck with dismay, had fled from the fury of the native forces. Gruffydd next laid siege to a castle called Strath Peithyll, in this county, belonging to the steward of the Earl of Strigyl, which he took by assault, putting the garrison to the sword. Hence he advanced to Glâsgrûg, where he encamped his forces for a day's rest. But his hitherto triumphant progress soon received a severe check, in a disastrous failure before the castle of Aberystwith, then belonging to Gilbert Earl of Clare, in which the slaughter of his troops was so great as to compel him to evacuate the province.

At the commencement of the reign of the English monarch Stephen, in 1135, Owain Gwynedd and Cadwaladr, chieftains of North Wales, laid waste with ruthless fury the province of Caredigion, taking the castles of Aberystwith, Dinerth, and Caerwedrôs, and two other fortresses, belonging to Walter Espec and Richard de la Mare, all of which were of great strength and well garrisoned. At the close of the following year the confederate princes again invaded this territory, with four thousand infantry and two thousand horse, besides the auxiliaries led by their allies, Gruffydd ab Rhŷs and other eminent chieftains, who also furnished their main army with considerable supplies; and with irresistible violence subdued the whole province to the town of Aberteivy, or Cardigan, taking and demolishing all the castles held by the English lords. To repel this formidable incursion, the whole force of the Normans, the Flemings, and the English, in Wales and the Marches, was united under the conduct of several powerful barons, who, however, were signally defeated, in an obstinate and bloody conflict, with the loss of three thousand men; and the routed forces, fleeing to their castles for safety, were so closely pursued, that many were made prisoners, and great numbers were drowned in the Teivy by the breaking down of a bridge across that river which afforded almost the only means of escape. Having so successfully completed their campaign, the young princes of North Wales returned to their own country, carrying with them, to grace their triumph, the horses and armour, and other rich spoils, which they had taken. In the course of these events, Richard Earl of Clare, to whom the territory of Caredigion, or Cardigan, had been granted by Henry I., was murdered by a Welshman, named Iorwerth, as he was riding through a wood: after this his wife, who was sister to the Earl of Chester, retired into one of his castles, in this county, where she was besieged by the Welsh, and in the most imminent danger of falling into their hands, but was at length rescued from this perilous situation by Milo Fitz-Walter, Lord of Brecknock, who, with a chosen body of troops, undertook a romantic expedition from his own territories for the purpose, pursuing his march along the most unfrequented ways, and carrying away the countess and her retinue, unperceived by the besiegers.

During the reign of Gruffydd's son and successor Rhŷs, an expedition was undertaken by Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, against the Normans and Flemings in Cardigan and the adjoining territories on the south, in which inroad he is stated to have demolished the castles of Aberystwith, Ystrad Meirig, and Pont Stephan, or Lampeter, in this county: retaining in his possession the whole province of Cardigan, and com-



pelling the inhabitants of Pembrokeshire to pay him tribute, he returned into his own dominions. A few years afterwards, Hywel and Cynan, the illegitimate sons of Owain Gwynedd, made another inroad into South Wales, encountered and defeated a Norman force, and took possession of the town of Aberteivy, or Cardigan. In 1150, Cadell, Meredydd, and Rhys, sons of Gruffydd ab Rhys, invaded Cardigan, and took and demolished the castle of Aber-Rheidiol and other fortresses in the northern part of the province; then, marching southward, they possessed themselves of the castle of Cardigan, at that time held by Hywel, son of the prince of North Wales, thus subduing the whole province, excepting only a single fortress in its northern part. These young princes were so much enraged at the loss of the bravest of their soldiers, which they experienced at the siege of the castle of Llanrhystid, that, on at last gaining possession of it, they put the garrison to the sword: the castle of Ystrad Meirig, which they next took, they fortified with additional works, and, placing garrisons in both these fortresses, returned to Carmarthenshire laden with rich spoil. Early in the reign of Henry II., Gilbert Earl of Clare entered Cardigan with the sanction of that monarch, to attempt the recovery of the estates which had been taken from his family during the late reign: he regained possession of the castle of Ystrad Meirig and some other places, and proceeded to attack the territories of Rhys ab Gruffydd; but the latter chieftain soon after overran the whole country of Cardigan, levelling with the ground all the castles belonging to the English. A few years afterwards, roused by the savage murder of his two nephews, whom he had delivered as hostages to Henry II., by their keeper the Earl of Gloucester, Rhys again took up arms, and, attacking Gloucester's possessions in Cardigan, took and demolished the castle of Aber-Rheidiol and other fortresses; then, marching southward, he possessed himself of the castle of Cardigan, and afterwards extended his inroads into Pembrokeshire. On the retreat of Henry II., after his invasion of North Wales, which Rhys had aided in resisting, this chieftain, returning into South Wales, suddenly invested the castle of Cardigan, which had again fallen into the hands of the English, and retook it: he then devastated the surrounding country, and made himself master of the castle of Kilgerran, an important post situated on the banks of the Teivy near Cardigan, the fortifications of which he levelled with the ground, and then proceeded to his own territories in Carmarthenshire. Henry II. afterwards granted to this chieftain, together with other extensive territories, the whole of that of Cardigan, in the castle of which he held a grand festival, in 1176, which is celebrated by the Welsh bards. Rhys died in 1196, and, with several of his successors in the lordship of Dinevor, was buried at the abbey of Strata Florida, in the eastern and mountainous part of the county. Gruffydd ab Rhys succeeded to the lordship of South Wales, together with all the territories held by his father at the time of his death; but his brother Maelgwyn, aided by Gwenwynwyn, son of Owain Cyveilioc, lord of Powys, soon after he had entered upon his inheritance, attacked him by surprise in his castle of Aberystwith, and made him prisoner: Maelgwyn then proceeded against some of Gruffydd's other fortresses; and soon made himself master of the whole province of Cardigan. In the fol-

lowing year (1198), the wronged chieftain was liberated from confinement by the English lords, into whose custody he had been delivered by Gwenwynwyn, and, being strongly supported by his friends, entered this territory and recovered all his possessions in it, except the castles of Cardigan and Ystrad Meirig. Through the mediation of the friends of the adverse parties, Maelgwyn entered into a solemn engagement to deliver up the castle of Cardigan to Gruffydd, on condition of receiving from the latter hostages for the security of his own person. But on the delivery of these, Maelgwyn sent them prisoners to Gwenwynwyn, and fortified the castle for himself: in the following year he took from his brother the castle of Dynherth, and put the garrison to the sword, but the latter about the same time obtained possession of the important fortress of Kilgerran, situated on the banks of the Teivy, in the neighbourhood of that of Cardigan, but on the opposite side of the river. Maelgwyn, fearing, from Gruffydd's increase of strength in the vicinity, that he should not be able to maintain the contest much longer, sold the castle of Cardigan to the Normans, lest it should fall into the hands of his brother: the latter died in 1202, and was succeeded in his honours and possessions by his son Rhys, whose lands in Cardigan were soon invaded by his uncle Maelgwyn, aided by his ally Gwenwynwyn.

Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, having in 1208 seized upon the territories of Gwenwynwyn, then a prisoner in England, marched an army into South Wales against Maelgwyn, who, being unable to resist so overwhelming a force, destroyed his castles and withdrew: Llewelyn rebuilt the castle of Aberystwith, which he garrisoned with his own troops; but the cantrev of Penwedig, forming the northernmost part of the present county of Cardigan, and the other lands lying between the rivers Dyvi and Aeron, he gave to Rhys ab Gruffydd and his brother Owain. Maelgwyn, rendering submission to the English monarch John, was furnished by the latter with a large body of English troops, to assist in the recovery of his possessions in this quarter; and entering Cardiganshire with these forces, he encamped at Kilcennin, in the cantrev of Penwedig. His nephews Rhys and Owain, who were not strong enough to oppose him openly in the field, came privately into the vicinity of his camp, with a chosen band of three hundred men, and, suddenly entering it in the dead of night, fell upon their enemies with great fury, put many of them to the sword, and compelled the rest, among whom was Maelgwyn himself, to seek safety in flight. When King John, in 1212, compelled Llewelyn ab Iorwerth and the other principal Welsh chieftains to do him homage, Rhys and his brother Owain at first refused; but being soon threatened by the overwhelming forces of Foulke, Viscount Cardiff, at that time warden of the marches, who was aided by their uncles, Maelgwyn and Rhys Vychan, they sued for peace, and applied for safe conduct to London, where they were graciously received by the king, and, on doing homage to him and relinquishing their territories between the Dyvi and Aeron, were allowed to retain all their other possessions: the English commander, on this occasion, strengthened the works of the castle of Aberystwith, and garrisoned it with the king's troops. After the departure of Foulke, Maelgwyn and Rhys Vychan, probably incensed at the favourable terms granted to their nephews, with whom they had



been so long in hostility, threw off their allegiance to the English monarch, and took and dismantled the castle of Aberystwith, thus affording to Rhÿs and Owain an opportunity of retaliating on their uncles, on pretence of supporting the authority of the king of England. Accordingly they entered Maelgwyn's territories, which they plundered; but it appears that both these young chieftains were shortly after stripped by their uncles of nearly all their estates, which they recovered only by the assistance of some forces furnished them by King John, and commanded by the same Lord Foulke, who defeated Rhÿs Vychan with considerable loss in a battle fought in Carmarthenshire. The latter chieftain, expelled from all his fortresses in that county, removed his family to Aberystwith, and retired to the most inaccessible parts of the neighbouring country. Some time after these events, Llewelyn ab Iorwerth led a large army into South Wales, to attack the territories of the English vassals, and, in the course of the expedition (in which he was assisted by the forces of Rhÿs ab Gruffydd, his brother Owain, and their two uncles, who had all come to a reconciliation), took the castle of Cardigan, thus once more totally expelling the English from the county. After a short interval, Llewelyn came again into Cardiganshire, in his character of lord paramount of Wales, to settle a dispute between Rhÿs ab Gruffydd and his brother Owain, on one part, and their uncles on the other, concerning the division of the reconquered territory, which he adjusted to the satisfaction of the respective claimants: he soon after placed a strong garrison in the castle of Cardigan, and in Powell's History of Wales he is also stated to have given permission, about this time, to Rhÿs ab Gruffydd to do homage to the King of England, for some of his lands. In 1220, the Flemings of Pembrokeshire, who had shortly before submitted to Llewelyn, as their sovereign lord, renouncing their allegiance to him, attacked and took the castle of Cardigan: the Welsh prince, however, soon recovered it, and razed it to the ground, after which he overran the greater part of Pembrokeshire. Rhÿs, finding that Llewelyn intended to withhold from him the castle of Aberteivy, or Cardigan, which in the late division had been allotted to him, made common cause with Llewelyn's enemy, William le Mareschal, Earl of Pembroke: this chieftain's desertion Llewelyn punished by seizing his castle of Aberystwith, and the territories appertaining to it; but King Henry III. interfering on the complaint of Rhÿs, the affair was settled amicably. Rhÿs died in the course of the same year, and his possessions were divided between his brother Owain and his uncle Maelgwyn.

Llewelyn having, during the absence of the Earl of Pembroke in Ireland, taken two of that nobleman's castles, the latter, on his return, retaliated on the subjects and possessions of Llewelyn, seizing, among other places, the castle of Cardigan. Maelgwyn ab Rhÿs died in 1230, and his possessions descended to his son Maelgwyn, who, as soon as he had entered upon his inheritance, hastened against Cardigan, and burned the town; but, finding his own forces insufficient for the reduction of the castle, which was strongly fortified, he demanded the assistance of his cousin Owain and some of Llewelyn's officers, and, thus reinforced, he destroyed the bridge over the Teivy, and, after a short siege, took possession of the castle. About the year 1233 died Rhÿs

Vychan, son of Rhÿs, the last prince of South Wales, whose decease was soon followed by that of his nephew, Owain ab Gruffydd, whose possessions were inherited by his son Meredydd, while those of Rhÿs were divided between his sons Meredydd and Rhÿs. Cardigan castle was retaken by Gilbert le Mareschal, or Marshal, Earl of Pembroke, in the year 1240, after the death of Llewelyn ab Iorwerth. Prince Edward, afterwards Edward I. of England, having, about the middle of the thirteenth century, taken forcible possession of some of the estates of the Welsh chieftains in Cardiganshire, the sufferers complained to Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, the new prince of North Wales, who thereupon entered this province with an army, recovered the lands, and gave the greater part of them to Meredydd ab Owain, who died in 1268. Edward I., soon after his accession, and at the same time that he invaded North Wales in person, sent a powerful army into South Wales under Payen de Chaworth, whose successes greatly contributed to moderate the terms of Llewelyn's treaty of peace with Edward, which was made soon after. Before his return from this great expedition, the English monarch rebuilt the castle of Aberystwith, in order to secure the advantages which he gained by this treaty; but the oppressions of the king's officers becoming intolerable to the inhabitants of the surrounding country, they revolted, and, headed by Rhÿs, son of Maelgwyn, and Gruffydd, son of Meredydd, possessed themselves of this newly-erected fortress. Llewelyn, the last native prince of North Wales, entered this province a little time before his death, and laid waste the possessions of the King of England's vassals in it, particularly those of Meredydd ab Rhÿs, who had some time before deserted his standard: hence he proceeded with his forces towards Builth, in Brecknockshire, in the vicinity of which place he met his lamentable death. According to the laws and regulations made by Edward I. for the government of Wales, the entire subjugation of which he completed immediately after this event, the territories which had latterly appertained more immediately to the princes of the house of Dinevor, and were now in the possession of the crown, were formed into the two counties of Cardigan and Carmarthen, to which sheriffs were immediately appointed, like those of England. Some few years afterwards, Edward proceeded also to tax his new subjects; but the Welsh, still ardently desirous of regaining their lost independence, revolted, and Maelgwyn Vychan headed a strong body of the malcontents in Cardiganshire, which overran and plundered both that county and Pembrokeshire. During the revolt of the Welsh under Owain Glyndwr against Henry IV., the castle of Aberystwith was several times taken and retaken by the contending parties. The Earl of Richmond, after landing at Milford with the design of wresting the crown of England from the usurper, Richard III., marched through this county, his forces increasing with his progress, on his way towards Shrewsbury, where he was rejoined by the celebrated Rhÿs ab Thomas, who had taken a different route from the place of debarkation to that of rendezvous. The inhabitants of this county seem to have taken no very active part in the civil war of the seventeenth century. Cardigan castle, which had been garrisoned for the king, was attacked by the parliamentary forces under General Laugharne, and at last taken by storm: the castle of Aberystwith, also



held by the royalists, surrendered without much opposition. Cardiganshire appears also to have been the scene of some skirmishes between the parliamentary leader, Colonel Horton, and the royalist commander, Colonel Poyer, after the great battle of St. Fagan's in Glamorganshire, so disastrous to the forces of the latter.

This county is in the diocese of St. David's, and province of Canterbury, and, together with some adjoining portions of Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire, forms the archdeaconry of Cardigan, which comprises, within the limits of the county of Cardigan, the deaneries of Sub Aëron, or Is Aëron, and Ultra Aëron, or Uwch Aëron: the number of parishes is sixty-five, of which twelve are rectories, twelve vicarages, and thirty-two perpetual curacies. For purposes of civil government it is divided into the five hundreds of Geneu'r Glyn, Ilar, Moythen, Penarth, and Troedyrour, all of which have upper and lower divisions. It contains the borough, market, and sea-port towns of Aberystwith and Cardigan, the latter of which is the county town, while the former is much frequented for the purpose of sea-bathing; the borough and market town of Lampeter; the small borough of Atpar: the sea-port of Aberaëron; and the market town of Trêgaron. One knight is returned to parliament for the shire, and one representative for Cardigan and the rest of the boroughs collectively: the county member, and the member for the district of united boroughs, are elected at Cardigan: the polling-places within the county are Cardigan, Aberystwith, Lampeter, and Trêgaron. Cardiganshire is included in the South Wales circuit: the assizes are held at Cardigan, as also are frequently both the Epiphany and Michaelmas quarter sessions, though sometimes one of these, as suits the magistrates, or is rendered necessary for the despatch of business, is held at Aberystwith, as likewise are the Midsummer quarter sessions; while the Easter sessions are invariably held at Lampeter: the county gaol is at Cardigan; and there are houses of correction for the county both at Cardigan and Aberystwith: there are forty-six acting magistrates. The parochial rates raised in the county for the year ending March 25th, 1830, amounted to £20,685, and the expenditure to £20,574, of which £17,213 was applied to the relief of the poor.

The surface of Cardiganshire consists almost wholly of mountains and lofty hills, with their corresponding valleys, having no level tract of any considerable extent. Its northern parts are more particularly mountainous, being entirely composed of a portion of the lofty hills which surround the distinguished summit of Plinlimmon, in the south-western extremity of Montgomeryshire. In Cardiganshire these hills branch into several extensive chains, the most remarkable of which, stretching southward along its eastern border, bounds the vale of the Teivy on the east, and afterwards sweeps through Carmarthenshire into Pembrokeshire. One branch stretches westward between the rivers Dovey and Rheidol; another between the Rheidol and the Ystwith; a third is bounded by the Ystwith on the north-west, and the Teivy on the east, and, extending south-westward, terminates at the river Aëron; and a fourth runs nearly parallel with the last, on the western and north-western side of the Teivy, towards Cardigan. Various detached hills of considerable elevation are scattered in different directions. All of them

are universally destitute of wood, and their aspect is bleak, dreary, and desolate in the extreme, seldom presenting any object to relieve the eye from the uniformity of their bare and gently undulating surface, except the projection of numerous naked crags. The late Thomas Johnes, Esq., of Havôd, however, has clothed some of the most elevated and exposed summits on this side of Plinlimmon, approaching the source of the Ystwith, with plantations of larch. Of the great number of natural pools and small lakes, the principal are in the most elevated part of the county, near the summit of the chain of hills approaching the border of Radnorshire, in the vicinity of Strata Florida. They form a cluster, of which Llŷn Teivy, the source of the river Teivy, is the principal, being about a mile and a half in circumference, and its waters not yet fathomed: it is surrounded by a high and perpendicular ridge, and the rocks and stones which lie scattered in every direction, unrelieved by any kind of wood or lively vegetation, impart to the whole surrounding scenery a savage and repulsive aspect. From an elevation at a short distance are seen four other lakes, within a few yards of each other, the largest of which is nearly as extensive as Llŷn Teivy, but less formal in shape; while the smallest, which is circular, and about three quarters of a mile in circumference, occupies the highest ground in the county: these lakes, from their elevated sites are much agitated by the winds. Within a short distance of them is a sixth; and another, called Llŷn Vathegy Cringlas, occurs between Pentre Rhôdven-diged and Castell Eneon; besides which are others in the same quarter, called respectively Llŷn Helygen, Llŷn Hir, Llŷn Gorlan, Llŷn Crwn, Llŷn Gweryddon Vawr, Llŷn Dŵ, Llŷn Gynvelin, Llŷn y rhôdau, Llŷn y cregnant, a second Llŷn Dû, Llŷn y Gorres, Llŷn gynon, and Llŷn cerig llwydion: within half a mile of Lampeter is Llŷn Llanbedr. Other small lakes are seen on the high lands in different parts of the county, and several of them are the sources of rivers. The extent of the sea-coast, from the mouth of the Dovey, on the north, to that of the Teivy on the south, is about forty-six miles: the lands on the shore, along the whole line, are of considerable elevation, excepting only near the mouths of the rivers, where the vales descend to the coast. The vale of the Aëron is most distinguished for extent and fertility: in the vicinity of Ystrad it is of considerable width, and contains various rich and well-cultivated farms. The scenery along the courses of the other rivers is of great variety, from the extreme of rugged and romantic grandeur to the richness and beauty of fruitful vales. The latter, although they increase in breadth and fertility in approaching the sea, are, in few instances, even in their lower levels, entirely devoid of that picturesque character which so frequently distinguishes the higher parts of their course, and is so much heightened by the grandeur of their cascades. The scenery on the banks of the Teivy becomes most beautiful and interesting below Lampeter; and the views about Llandyssul, Newcastle-Emlyn, Llêchryd, and Kîlgerran, are worthy of particular notice, as equalling any river scenery of the same kind in the principality. The Ystwith is characterized by a romantic interest in its course through the delightful scenes, so highly decorated, or rather formed, by the hand of art, which



surround Havôd, the mansion of the late Mr. Johnes. The elevation of some of the more remarkable heights is as follows: Trêgaron Down, one thousand seven hundred and forty-seven feet above the level of the sea; Talsarn, one thousand one hundred and forty-two feet; Capel Cynon, one thousand and forty-six feet; and Aberystwith, four hundred and ninety-six feet. The two most extensive bogs in South Wales are in this county: one of them, called Cors Gôch ar Teivy, extends from Trêgaron to Strata Florida, a distance of about five miles, its mean breadth being about a mile and a half: the river Teivy, not far from its source, meanders through it. The other is situated at the northern extremity of the county, adjoining the mouth of the Dovey and the sea-coast, and is between nine and ten thousand acres in extent. A vast level tract of land, called *Cantre'r Gwaelod*, or "the lowland hundred," is said to have occupied, in former times, the northern part of the present bay of Cardigan, and to have been defended from the sea by artificial banks, which giving way, it was overwhelmed by an inundation about the end of the sixth century, at which period the lord of the territory was one Gwyddno Goranhîr. In the sea, about seven miles to the west of Aberystwith, is still seen a collection of rude stones, called *Caer-Wyddno*, "the fort, or palace, of Gwyddno;" and adjoining to it, and stretching north-eastward towards the mouth of the Dovey, are vestiges of the southern embankment, called Sarn Gynvelyn: these remarkable objects are left dry at low water of spring tides.

The climate of the mountains is for the most part cold, wet, and tempestuous; and that of the vales is not so humid as in the adjoining county of Carmarthen, as they open to a smaller extent of sea, and the range of mountains separating the vales of Towy and Teivy frequently intercepts rains from the south, which would otherwise be precipitated in this county. In the vicinity of the coast the temperature of the atmosphere is of course much more equable than further inland. The wheat harvest seldom begins before the third week in August, except in one or two more genial spots, which form exceptions to the general climate: that which yields the very earliest crops is Lleiniau Llan Non, a tract noted for the production of barley, where, in forward seasons, this grain is harvested between the 10th and 20th of July. The soils vary rather from difference of situation than of substrata. Most of the higher grounds have a grey light mould, occasionally intermixed with sand, and varying in depth from a few inches to a foot. Peat, however, generally occupies the hollows, and sometimes the slopes of the mountains; and clay abounds near the surface in some places, requiring great expense to render it in any degree productive, a difficulty which is further increased by the great distance from all calcareous rocks. The whole county is included in the great slate and shale tract of South Wales; and the bluer the slate or shale, the more meagre the soil above it: the most grateful of the mountain soils are found upon the anomalous grey mountain rock and the pale grey shale, except where the elevation is too great, or the aspect too bleak. The soils of the vales, being deposits from those of the uplands, increase in fertility as they approach the sea, when the current of the rivers which traverse them becomes less rapid: thus the lower levels of the valleys

of the Teivy, Aëron, Ystwith, Rheidol, &c., possess a variety of rich loams, frequently of considerable depth. The coast has generally excellent light and early soils, which have for ages been famous for the production of barley, with little, and in some places without any, alternation with other crops: in most places these soils are more or less mixed with grey porous stones, which are known to be very favourable to the growth of corn, by retaining moisture beneath them during time of drought, and affording regular warmth to the blades of the rising grain: the pastures also abound with these stones, which the farmers will on no account suffer to be removed: the substratum of these soils in the south-western part of the county is in some places a hungry light mould, tinged with oxyde of iron, resting on thick beds of marl, beneath which is found the soft kind of argillaceous schistus, called shale.

The quantity of arable land is of difficult estimation: every farm has a certain proportion, varying according to its soil and aspect. The courses of crops are various; but grain is frequently taken in succession until the land is totally exhausted, and the last crop is scarcely equal to the seed which was sown to produce it: the most common crops are wheat, barley, and black oats. On the best soils the produce of wheat averages about twenty-five bushels: that grown in the vale of Ystwith is remarkably heavy, seldom weighing less than sixty-four lb. per Winchester bushel, and sometimes as much as sixty-seven. The produce of barley, owing to its being sown repeatedly without the intervention of any other crop, is not generally large. Oats are cultivated very extensively: one kind, which very much resembles the *avena fatua* (bearded oat-grass, or haver), is cultivated on the uplands, to which it is peculiar: it is called *blewgeirch*, or "hairy oats," and its only excellence consists in its producing a moderate crop in elevated situations, where no other grain can be expected to flourish: the black oat, however, is the most common of all crops on the uplands; its produce is usually small. Wheat is cut with the reaping-hook, and oats and barley with cradled scythes. In the more northern parts of the county a considerable quantity of rye is grown; in the uplands by itself, but in the neighbourhood of Aberystwith frequently with a mixture of wheat: this mixture makes good bread, sweeter and moister than that of wheat alone, and preferred to any other by those accustomed to eat it. The green crops commonly cultivated are peas, beans, and turnips. The kind of pea usually grown is a small, inferior, clay-coloured pea, called *pys llwydon bâch*, not at all remarkable for productiveness, which, though sown early in February, seldom ripens until late in September: on a poor soil, however, the success of its cultivation is more certain than that of the large grey peas, which are sometimes grown in the vales, as are also white boiling peas in a few of the most favourable situations: the clay-coloured peas are used by the peasantry for soup, and are sometimes thrashed for hogs, but their general use is to be given unthreshed to horses: they are occasionally sown with the hairy oat, and both cut in July for dry fodder. Beans and potatoes are not unfrequently grown together; and buck-wheat is sometimes cultivated. Turnips are not generally grown by the ordinary class of farmers. Hemp is occasionally cultivated in small patches: a



singular method is sometimes practised of fermenting the heads, to facilitate the separation of the seed, by burying the tops in the ground, in circular holes of several feet in diameter, the stems being inverted and bound together by straw bands, &c. : straw is also laid about the heads of the bundles, to keep them free from the mould. A few small hop-yards were planted in the valley of the Aëron about twenty-five years ago. The artificial grasses are of the ordinary kinds : although the arable lands of Cardiganshire are subject, like all those of South Wales, to be overrun with natural grasses, yet they are much easier kept clean than those of the adjoining counties of Carmarthen and Pembroke. The meadows of the vales naturally abound with the sweeter species of grasses ; and even those of an inferior quality, when manured with the shelly sea-sand found upon the coast, produce the most nutritious herbage that grows in the county. The meadows, in some parts, are occasionally *fogged*, that is, the aftermath is left unconsumed on the ground from the Midsummer of one year to the early spring of the next, which the mildness of the winter admits of being done, without detriment to the grass, which in the spring is of great value : this practice also increases the fertility of the land. Irrigation is practised along the course of most streams, except those which, descending from among the lead mines, bring with them mineral particles detrimental to vegetation of every kind. Besides the manures from the farm-yard, lime is the principal used in this county, to the shores of which it is brought by sea from Pembrokeshire : at different places along the coast the farmers buy the stone in its natural state, together with culm from Milford, and burn it themselves : the distance from which these materials are brought renders lime a dear article of manure to the farmers of Cardiganshire, so that they use it very sparingly : it is usual to leave it scattered in small heaps on the land during the whole summer, after which it is spread and ploughed in. A few farmers in the south-western parts of the county apply the marl found there to their lands. Sea-weed, or wrack, in Welsh called *gwyimon*, is found in great quantities on the coast after gales : as many as two thousand cart-loads have been in one night deposited near New Quay, all of which was carried away by the farmers of the neighbourhood in the course of a fortnight : it is applied in different states, sometimes intermixed with other manures, to both arable and grass lands. Sea-sand, deposited by the tide in the creeks and at the mouths of the rivers, which utterly destroys all weeds, is also abundantly used for the like purpose, and on the barley tract of this county it forms the chief manure, in perpetual alternation with the sea-weed : peat ashes are also sometimes employed. The plough in common use is of the most awkward and clumsy construction, being of the oldest kind known in Wales : the cradle, with the share, the latter of which is ill made and blunt, is at least five feet long, while the mould-board is only a round stake, about seven inches in circumference, fastened from the right heel of the share to the hind part of the plough : in working, not half the cradle rests upon the ground, the hinder parts of it being constantly held up by short awkward handles : the fields ploughed with this implement have generally a very rough appearance.

The harrows are also in general very ill-constructed ; but both ploughs and harrows of improved kinds have been introduced by some of the more opulent farmers. The carts, which are the most common agricultural vehicles, are in general very small, and are drawn either by two oxen yoked to a pole or beam, led by two horses abreast, or by three horses.

The cattle of this county are black, and for the most part small, but hardy and well made : those of Cardigan Lower, that is, of such parts of the county as lie southward of the Vale of Aëron, are of the black Pembrokeshire breed, which are hardy, work well, and fatten readily. All the farmers keep cows for the purposes of breeding and making butter and skimmed-milk cheese : the butter is salted, packed in casks containing each about eighty lb., and exported to Bristol, or taken by higglers to the iron-manufactories of Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire. Cardiganshire, more particularly the northern and eastern parts of it, has long been noted for its profitable stock of small mountain sheep, numbers of which are purchased to be fed in other counties of the principality ; they are very small, the hind-quarters seldom weighing more than seven or eight lb., and their wool is coarse and short : the average weight of each fleece is two lb. These sheep are so wild that it is impossible to confine them by any ordinary fences, on which account the rearing of them is discouraged by many landlords. The South Down, Leicester, and Dorset breeds have been introduced, and in some instances intermingled with the native sheep. In the higher districts the sheep are shorn once, generally towards the end of June ; but in the vales, and southward of the Aëron, they undergo two shearings, the first about the end of May, the second about the 10th of October : at neither of these latter periods is the body completely stripped of wool, a circumstance which gives the animal an unsightly appearance : the fleece of the first shearing weighs from half a pound to two pounds, and that of the second from three-fourths of a pound to a pound. The horses are small, but strong and hardy, and much attention has of late years been paid to their improvement, both for draught and for the saddle. The rearing of hogs is an important part of the business of the farmer : they are, for the most part, fed on the refuse of the great quantities of potatoes that are grown on the fallows : their weight is various, and vast numbers are sold to be exported, chiefly to Bristol. The gardens produce an abundance of the ordinary kitchen vegetables, but are not distinguished, like those of the eastern parts of South Wales, for their pleasing neatness. Although orchards are not numerous in Western Wales, the richer valleys of this county, being well sheltered, are highly favourable to the production of fruit, and orchards are more particularly flourishing in the valley of the Teivy, from Lampeter down to the sea. The woods are of comparatively very small extent. The most common trees of native growth are, oak, ash, and alder ; but various others are frequently seen. The most extensive plantations in South Wales have been made on the estate of Havôd, by the late Thomas Johnes, Esq., to whom the county is much indebted for extensive improvements, dictated by a refined taste, both in its arboriculture and agriculture : they are of various kinds of trees, but chiefly of larch. There are several nurseries, which afford a supply of almost all kinds of young forest trees. The



districts at present most distinguished for the luxuriant appearance of their woods are, the Vale of Teivy, from Llangedmore upwards, by Llêchryd, Newcastle-Emlyn, Dôl Haidd, Llŷs Newydd, and Llandyssil; the Vale of Aëron, which has its slopes finely decorated with groves, chiefly of oak; the banks of the Ystwith, in the vicinity of Havôd, the plantations around which seat occupy no less than fourteen hundred acres, and adjoin the extensive coppices of Crosswood; and, in the northern part of the county, the estate of Gogerddan: almost every rivulet is, besides, engulfed in a deep ravine, whose sides are clothed with oak, either protected and thriving, or neglected and consisting only of brushwood. The waste lands are of vast extent, and, including the tracts only partially cultivated or enclosed, have been computed to occupy nearly half the surface of the county: the greater part of them are, however, claimed as private property. In the lower parts of the county most of the commons, and the lands which were formerly cultivated in their open state, are now enclosed; but in the more elevated regions there are extensive tracts, which will probably be left for ever in their native wildness, to be depastured by the small hardy mountain sheep and cattle. All the wastes are included in Cardigan Upper, north of the river Aëron, except an elevated range of table land, extending from that river southward to within five miles of Newcastle-Emlyn, on the river Teivy. The fen of Cors Vochno, at the northern extremity of the county, before its enclosure under an act obtained in 1813, contained three thousand acres of sound salt marshes, bordering on the Dovey, three thousand acres of peat or moss, and three thousand five hundred acres of sands. The fuel in most extensive use is peat, of which the best in the principality is said to be obtained from the great bog of Cors Gôch, where it is in many places of unknown depth, and has been dug as deep as twenty feet. The peat in Cors Vochno is also of excellent quality and great depth: when well got in it kindles readily, and gives a greater external heat than most kinds of coal; and its ashes, like those of all the best kinds of peat, are small in quantity and very light. Some stone coal is obtained by sea from the mines of Pembrokeshire. The "Society for the Encouragement of Agriculture and Industry in the County of Cardigan" was established in the year 1784: in its transactions the county is regarded to be under the two distinct divisions of Upper and Lower, the boundary between which is formed by the river Aëron.

The whole of Cardiganshire is geologically included in the great slate and shale tract of South Wales, and produces in different places roofing slates of various qualities, flooring stones, &c., besides an excellent hard kind of building stone, of which the houses of Aberystwith exhibit good specimens, and a kind of sand-stone of a fine grain, found in Penbrŷn parish, which is little inferior to freestone, but of a darker colour. The stratification is in most places very irregular: the grey mountain trap rocks, which produce the excellent building stones above-mentioned, extend in prominent lines from north-east to south-west, the broadest constituting ranges of hills abounding with mineral veins: their stratification is in some places very irregular, while in others it presents regular quadrilateral columns of excessively close texture: it is the most extensively quarried on Llanwenog Hill, to the west of Lampeter; near Llêch-

ryd; and near Penbrŷn; forming good ashlar, tombstones, troughs, rollers, &c.: connected with the rocks are beds of indurated schist, porphyroids, &c. One range of these hills extends the whole length of the county, from the banks of the Dovey to the west of Machynlleth, through the mining districts, to Plumstone mountain in Pembrokeshire. The roofing slates, which vary in colour from grey to blue, are sometimes interstratified with argillaceous schistus of a softer texture, commonly called shale, which soon decomposes when exposed to the action of the atmosphere: this shale is also found singly in various places. The best blue argillaceous slates for roofing are quarried and dressed at Ynis Hir, near Cors Vochno; and various other quarries of the same material occur along the sea-coast; but none of any extent have been opened in the interior, and the slates are far inferior in size and quality to those of Carnarvonshire. The strata of blue schist also, in numerous places, afford excellent building-stones, of which the new gaol and the church tower at Cardigan are good specimens: the blue colour of this stone, when neatly worked, gives it a very pleasing appearance. Large veins of a very hard and glossy white spar, called *hungry spar rider*, frequently occur among the other strata. The strata nearest the surface, in the south-western part of the county, consist of the clay marl, which is sometimes used as a manure: the higher layers of it are brown and of an inferior quality; the lower are blue and richer, resting immediately on the schistose strata above described: the eastern and northern boundary of this tract of clay marl, crossing the Teivy into this county from the vicinity of Penboyr, in Carmarthenshire, curves north-westward towards the mouth of the Aëron, forming on the land side part of the periphery of a circle, within which is included the whole south-western part of the county: between Llanina and New Quay the cliff overhanging the sea is composed, for the most part, of this marl, which there varies in depth from six to twenty feet and upwards.

Cardiganshire forms one of the richest and most extensive mining fields in Britain. The veins generally bear east and west, with very few exceptions, which run in a transverse direction from north to south: the matrix is chiefly quartz, not unfrequently mixed with blende and spar, and imbedded mostly in grey mountain rock, though sometimes in argillaceous schistus: some veins containing lead-ore have been discovered even in the peat bogs. As it has been so long celebrated for its produce of silver, as well as of lead, a concise historical description of the working of its mines may not be uninteresting. Among these, the open and oblong trenches of the Roman miners, and the vertical pits or shafts of the Danes, have been recognised by different antiquaries. During a long period subsequent to the Norman conquest of South Britain, the property of all mines was claimed by the reigning monarch, and no private individual could dig for ore, even on his own estate, without especial leave from the crown. A patent, granted by Queen Elizabeth, in 1563, to Thomas Thurland and Daniel Houghsetter, two German adventurers and metallurgists, assigning to them, upon certain terms, "all the mines royal of gold, silver, copper, and quicksilver" within several specified counties of England, and the principality of Wales, became, in 1567, the foundation of a corporation consisting of twenty-four persons, among whom were several noblemen, called the "Society for



the Mines Royal," within the several districts specified in the above-mentioned patent. The most eligible of the Cardiganshire mines were worked for some time at the joint expense and for the joint profit of this company; but it may be presumed that the latter was hardly a sufficient remuneration for the former, since the society was at length induced to let the whole of them to Mr., afterwards Sir Hugh, Myddelton, for the low annual rental of £400: this gentleman acquired by the speculation an immense fortune, which he wholly and nobly expended on that arduous undertaking, the construction of the New River, for the supply of London with water: the mine of Cwm Symlog was the most valuable of those worked by him, its ore producing forty ounces of silver to every ton of lead. After his death, in 1631, the royal mines of Cardiganshire were leased to Sir Francis Godolphin, Bart., of Cornwall, and Thomas Bushel, Esq.; and on the death of the former, the whole management of them devolved to the latter, who worked about six of them. Charles I., in 1637, granted this gentleman a license to coin the produce of his mines of silver, at Aberystwith, into pennies, twopences, sixpences, shillings, and half-crowns, instead of conveying it at great expense and risk, as formerly, to the mint in the Tower of London: this coinage was distinguished by being stamped with the ostrich plume which forms the crest of the Prince of Wales: Lundy Island, in the Bristol channel, was also granted to Mr. Bushel, as a *dépôt* for the produce of his mines. Favoured by these singular advantages, this gentleman rapidly acquired an immense fortune, with which, on the breaking out of the great civil war of the seventeenth century, he was enabled to render his royal benefactor signal service, by clothing the whole of his army, and advancing him a loan of forty thousand pounds: he afterwards raised a regiment from among his own miners, which he maintained to the end of the contest at his own charge. Aberystwith probably not being considered a place of sufficient security, the bullion, during that turbulent period, was conveyed to be minted at Shrewsbury: on the return of peace, Mr. Bushel changed the scene of his mining operations from this county to the limestone hills of Mendip, in Somersetshire; and from this period the extent of the works in Cardiganshire seems to have gradually declined. Bushel published several small tracts, from 1642 to 1649, in which he enumerates the mines of Darren-Vawr, Brÿn-llwyd, Tâl y bont, Goginan, and Cwm Ervin, in this county. It seems probable that he did not live later than the period of the Restoration, for at that time the mines royal of Cardiganshire became the property of a company, of which Sir John Pettus, author of *Fodina Regales*, was a member. Cwm Symlog, though deserted by the last proprietor for others in the neighbourhood more profitable, now again became a considerable silver mine, as also did those of Darren-Vawr, Cwm Ervin, Goginan, Tâl y bont, Cwm Ystwith, Tre'r Ddôl, Trawscoed, and Rhôs-Vawr: the smelting-houses and refining-mills of this company were situated, conveniently for exportation, on the river Dovey, in the township of Scybor y Coed, in the parish of Llanvihangel-Geneu'r-Glyn, and, from the use to which they were applied, were commonly called *silver mills*. The exercise of the prerogative of the crown, in claiming as mines royal all those of which the ores yielded silver sufficient to pay the expense of extracting it, and the

loss of lead experienced in this process, occasioned several expensive and vexatious law-suits between the proprietors of the mines and the patentees of the crown, the last of which was concerning a very rich vein, discovered in 1690, at Bwlch yr Esgair Hîr, the property of Sir Carbery Pryse, and since commonly called the Welsh Potosi. Sir Carbery engaged the Duke of Leeds and other powerful noblemen as partners in his newly-opened mine; and by their interest was procured the celebrated act of the 6th of William and Mary, entitled, "An Act to prevent Disputes and Controversies concerning Royal Mines," which vested the mineral treasures in the proprietors of the soil, reserving to the crown the right of pre-emption at fixed prices, according to the value of the ores. Waller, agent to the company of mine adventurers of England, about the close of the seventeenth century, published a pamphlet for the information of his employers, containing a very favourable estimate of the mineral treasures of this county, a subject which he further illustrated, in the year 1700, by publishing an account of the Cardiganshire mines, with a map of the mining tract, and plans of nine different works, which was followed, in the same year, by an "Abstract of the present state of the mines in Bwlch yr Esgair Hîr, &c." After the death of Sir Carbery Pryse, his mining estates, through a female heir, became the property of Sir Humphrey Mackworth, who, in the year 1700, in conjunction with the other members of the company formed by Sir Carbery, took a lease, for ninety-nine years, of certain places, called Bwlch Cwm Ervin, Pwll yr Ynad, and Goginan, and afterwards carried on, at these and other places, numerous and extensive mining-works. About the year 1709, however, discords arose among the partners, which eventually ruined the mining interest in this district. In 1744, Esgair Hîr, Tâl y bont, Cwm Symlog, and most other leases in the county, were abandoned: Goginan, Cwm Ervin, and Brÿn-pica were retained, but not worked; while the four mines of Pencraig ddû, Gröau Gwynion, Cwm Ystwith, and Eurglawdd only were worked: and ever since that time only partial, temporary, and frequently ineffectual, trials have been made in search of ores by different adventurers, except for a short period under the direction of Mr. Lewis Morris, the Welsh antiquary, who, in 1750, was appointed agent and superintendent of the king's mines in Wales. Those now worked are numerous, but none of them are conducted on an extensive scale. Together with others now abandoned, they amount to about fifty: the greater number is situated in a district extending nearly from the shores of the Dovey, south-eastward across the Rheidiol and Ystwith, to the source of the Teivy; and most of the remainder in a line along the eastern bank of the latter river. Nearly all the mines now worked produce lead, with every ton of which, in the Cwm Symlog mine, are obtained forty ounces of silver; in that of Darren-Vawr, thirty-five ounces; and in that of Llanvair, one hundred ounces, the last being at this time considered the richest in Cardiganshire. This mine, too, produces a small quantity of copper-ore, as also do those of Ynys Cynvelin and Eurglawdd, near Tâl y bont. On a waste in the manor of Creuddyn, near Cwm Ystwith lead mine, much copper-ore was formerly raised, but very little has been procured of late years. Sulphate of zinc, blende, or black-jack, is obtained in vast quantities in the mining districts, and is generally worked with the lead: in some



mines the latter is in the greater proportion, as at Llywernog, Penbank, &c.; but in others the ores of zinc predominate, as at Gwaith Côch, Nant y Meirch, Rhiw Regoes, Nant y Crair, and Llwyn Unhweh: some mines, indeed, are worked exclusively for the zinc. The quality, as well as the quantity, of lead-ore obtained from the different mines is very various; and it is most likely that there are other valuable mineral veins yet unexplored.

The chief manufacture is that of coarse stockings and flannels, almost wholly for home consumption; and, though of a domestic nature, it is expedited by carding machines scattered over the country at convenient distances, and by spinning-jennies in the farmers' and cottagers' houses. The Cardiganshire wool has long been noted for its felting quality, owing to which, and to the cheapness and abundance of peat fuel, the hat-manufactories are very numerous: in these are made most of the common hats worn in South Wales, which are strong and durable: the wool of the Michaelmas shearing is the best for this purpose. The above manufactures consume the greater part of the wool produced in the county. The fisheries, though formerly of considerable importance, are not now carried on extensively, though Cardigan bay affords great variety and abundance of fish: the kinds most sought after and taken are herrings and salmon, by a few boats belonging to Aberystwith and the other small ports: herrings generally make their appearance in the bay from the middle to the end of September. The salmon fishery in the river Teivy is very considerable, one hundred of the *coracles* described below being sometimes seen busily employed within the space of two miles in the navigable part of its course. The right of fishery, as far as the tide flows, which is to the weir at Llêchryd, is claimed by the crown; and a lease of the river was granted on that ground, but to no purpose, the peasant fishermen claiming it by immemorial prescriptive right. This county not only produces sufficient grain for the supply of its own inhabitants, but also exports considerable quantities of barley and oats to the western and southern coasts of England. Its commerce, however, is on a very contracted scale: the chief exports are, its mineral produce of lead, sulphate of zinc, and argillaceous roofing slates; cattle, sheep, and hogs to England; butter, as above-mentioned; wool, chiefly for the manufactures of the North of England; hats, to other Welsh counties; and leather, to Bristol: the chief extraordinary imports are coal and limestone. The external commerce of Cardiganshire is greatly facilitated by its maritime situation and the number of its ports, which are chiefly frequented by small coasting vessels. The most southern of these, namely that of Cardigan, is formed by the lower reaches of the Teivy, the entrance of which river is, however, much obstructed by a bar, covered at high water of neap tides by from ten and a half to eleven feet of water, and at ordinary spring tides from fifteen to sixteen feet. Aberporth, two leagues further eastward, has a secure road; and Llanina, or New Quay, has an excellently sheltered road, with a small pier. Aberaeron has a small harbour at the mouth of the Aëron, which has two piers, and the bar of which is dry at low water. The small port of Aberarth, almost contiguous to the latter, has likewise a bar, dry at low water. The port of Aberystwith, being greatly exposed to the south-west winds, is so much choked with

sand as to prevent the entrance of ships of any considerable burden, except at spring tides, when the bar has about fourteen feet of water: this place, besides the articles above-mentioned, exports oak timber and poles to the Pembrokeshire collieries. The mouth of the Dovey also forms a harbour for small vessels, which has of late years greatly risen in importance.

The rivers, taking each an independent course to the sea, are numerous in proportion to the size of the county: the principal are the Teivy, the Ystwith, and the Rheidiol, or Rheidol. The Teivy issues in a very insignificant stream from the lake called Llŷn Teivy, situated near the highest summit of the mountains in the eastern part of the county, and flows immediately southward, over a rocky bed, to the vicinity of the ruined abbey of Strata Florida: hence it winds first westward and then southward to Trêgaron, receiving in this part of its course the Meyrig, Marchnant, Camddwr, and other small streams. Flowing south-south-westward from Trêgaron to Lampeter, a little above the latter town, and at the distance of eleven miles from its source, it becomes the southern boundary of Cardiganshire, which it continues to form throughout the rest of its course, separating it first for twenty-seven miles from Carmarthenshire, and afterwards from Pembrokeshire: a little below Trêgaron the Teivy is joined from the east by the romantic mountain stream called the Berwyn, which descends from a lake of the same name, five miles distant, and afterwards, before reaching Lampeter, receives from the same side the Brevi and the Clywedog. Below Lampeter it runs for the most part westward, until, after being joined successively from the north by the streams of the Croyddyn, Crannell, Clettwr, Cerdyn, and Cerry, and by another small stream at Cardigan, it turns nearly northward, a little below the latter town, and flows in a majestic stream into that expanse of St. George's channel called Cardigan bay, after a course of fifty-three miles. The Teivy is navigable up to Cardigan for vessels of rather more than two hundred tons' burden, and up to Llêchryd bridge, to which place the tide flows, for barges: its tributaries are more numerous than copious, and the greater part of its course is through narrow mountainous defiles. The salmon of the Teivy are esteemed particularly fine and delicious, and have a peculiar marbled appearance: great quantities are annually caught, dried, and sent to the London and other English markets: this is the most northern of the Welsh rivers in which the fish called the *sewin* is found. Giraldus states, that in his time this river was inhabited by the beaver; and on this, more than most other rivers of Wales, is used a small fishing boat of singular construction, called by the Welsh *corwg*, and by the English corruptly *coracle*, which is not adapted to carry conveniently more than one person: in form it is nearly oval, but flattened at one end like the stern of a common ship's boat, its length being usually from five to six feet, and its breadth about four. The frame is formed of split rods, which are plaited like basket-work, and covered on the outside, sometimes with a raw hide, but more commonly with strong coarse flannel, which is made water-proof by a thick coating of pitch and tar: a narrow board is fastened across the middle, on which the fisherman sits and guides his little bark with a paddle. When proceeding to their employment, or returning from it, the fishermen fasten these boats, the weight



of which is generally from forty to fifty lb., on their backs, by means of a leathern strap attached to the seat, which they pass round their bodies. The Ystwith has its source among the hills on the borders of Montgomeryshire and Radnorshire, and, rushing westward in an impetuous torrent past the mines of Cwm Ystwith, and through a deep precipitous gulph, afterwards flows over a more level bed through the rich scenes of Havôd, and still further pursues a picturesque, but less romantic, course to Cardigan bay, into which it falls, after a course of about twenty-two miles, a little southward of Aberystwith, to which place it gives name. The Rheidiol, or Rheidol, rises in a small lake, called Llygad Rheidol, or "the Eye of Rheidol," on the western side of the Plinlimmon group of mountains, near the sources of the Severn and the Wye: the early part of its course, which it pursues south-westward, is distinguished by no remarkable feature; but its bed, as it approaches Ysppyty Cen Vaen, lies along the rocky bottom of a deep, precipitous, and woody gulph, where it is repeatedly thrown with prodigious violence, and in foaming torrents from a great height into natural basins, which foam like vast boiling cauldrons: immediately below the inn called the Havôd Arms it receives from the east the smaller river Mynach, which, darting through the deep cleft in the rocks which is crossed by the Devil's Bridge, throws itself into the Rheidol over a succession of precipices, and in an almost unbroken cataract: thus augmented, the Rheidol flows westward by Llanbadarn-Vawr, a little below which it turns southward by the town of Aberystwith, and falls into the sea near the mouth of the Ystwith. The town of Aberystwith has derived its name from its situation at the junction of the Ystwith with the Rheidol: these two rivers, having, at a subsequent period, become divided by the operation of floods, which caused them to enter the bay of Cardigan in separate places, were, a few years ago, artificially re-united, by a cut made in order that the land floods of both might more effectually keep open the mouth of the harbour. The Dyvi, or Dovey, a Merionethshire and Montgomeryshire river, forms the northern boundary of this county for about seven miles, from Llyvnant to the mouth of its small æstuary, and is navigable the whole distance. Between the Dovey and the Rheidol the principal streams which discharge their waters separately into the sea are the Clarach and the Leri. Southward of the Ystwith occur successively the Gwyre, or Gwyrail, which rises near Llanvihangel-Lledrod, and, flowing south-westward through the Cardiganshire barley tract, falls into the sea at Llanrhystid; the Arth, which issues from a small lake in the upper part of the hundred of Penarth, to which it gives name, and, running due west, falls into the sea at Aberarth; and the Aëron, which is next in magnitude to the principal rivers above described, and waters the rich valley to which it gives name: the latter stream has its source in a small lake called Llŷn Aedwen, in the parish of Llanrhystid, whence it flows southward to Llangetho, and thence in a very devious course by Talsarn and Tŷglyn, to the sea at Aberaëron. Various smaller streams also take each a distinct course to Cardigan bay. The celebrated river Tywy, or Towy, most of the course of which is in the county of Carmarthen, has its source in an extensive morass in the alpine valley of Berwin, in this county, near Llŷn Teivy: thence it takes its course southward, at first through a rugged,

dreary, and inhospitable region, and afterwards through a more romantic and occasionally wooded vale, until it enters Carmarthenshire near Ystrad Fin, about eleven miles from its source: the principal streams which join the Towy from this county are the Camddwr, the Dethia, and the Pyscottwr. The small river Claerwen, which issues from a lake called Llŷn Rhuddon Vâch, among the mountains on the eastern border of the county, after separating it from Brecknockshire for a few miles, enters the latter in its course to the Irvon. The Elain, which rises near the summit of the mountains a little to the south of Cwm Ystwith, flows eastward to the Wye, which it joins a few miles below Rhaiadr in Radnorshire. The roads are now in general pretty good, although the communication between the different towns was formerly attended with considerable difficulty: the materials used in making and repairing them are the grey mountain rock and the more indurated of the slate strata. The passage over the Teivy has been more facilitated by the erection of bridges than that over most Welsh rivers, for it is crossed by thirteen above Cardigan: in those parts of the county where the grey mountain rock is not found, many of the old bridges are of timber. Cardiganshire is traversed from east to west by two principal lines of road from England. The road from London to Cardigan, continued to St. David's, enters across the Teivy from Llandovery, in Carmarthenshire, and passes through Lampeter, and down the valley of that river to Cardigan, whence it re-crosses the Teivy into Pembrokeshire. That from London to Aberystwith enters from Rhaiadr, in Radnorshire, and runs immediately westward to that town: the road from London to Trêgaron, in this county, branches from the latter at Presteign, in Radnorshire, through Radnor and Builth. A line of road extends from Aberystwith to Shrewsbury, by way of the Devil's Bridge, or Pont ar Vrynach; but it has not been so much used since the formation of a more level line up the valley of Rheidol to Eisteddva Gurig, where it joins the old road to the Devil's Bridge, which was opened in the spring of 1831, and forms one of the greatest of modern improvements within the county. Another improved line of road from Aberystwith to Machynlleth is much wanted.

The remains of antiquity are numerous and of various periods. In the churchyard of Ysppyty Cynvyn are four large stones standing upright in the ground, and forming part of a Druidical circle. Near the seat called Carrog, a few miles from Llanllwchairn, are two upright stones, about ten feet high and five thick, which, from the appearance of the ground in the vicinity, have evidently formed part of a circle of the same kind: and there are remains of another on a hill called Alltgoch, near the town of Lampeter. Another relic, of a no less remote period and of some celebrity, is that called *Gwely Taliesin*, "the Bed, or Grave, of Taliesin," situated on a mountain called Pen Sarn-ddû, in the parish of Llanvihangel-Geneu'r-Glyn: it consists of a rude stone chest, formed by five upright stones, with another of larger dimensions for a cover, or lid, measuring about six feet by three: this chest was placed in the centre of an artificial mound, surrounded by two concentric circles of stones, the larger about thirty feet, and the smaller twenty-seven feet, in diameter. At Llanio-issa, about seven miles above Lampeter, in the Vale of Teivy, very



extensive remains of Roman buildings have been discovered, which Sir R. C. Hoare and others consider as indicating the site of the station or city of *Loventium*, and where there has evidently been an important Roman settlement: the ground for a considerable extent is strewn with fragments of bricks and earthen utensils, and on one spot have been traced the foundations of a building, one hundred and fifty feet long, and seventy-two broad: various coins and inscribed stones have also been found here. There is a small Roman camp in the vicinity of Lampeter, near the banks of the little river Dulais; and a square intrenchment, probably formed by the same conquerors, is visible on a farm called *Tŷcam*, in the parish of Llanwenog. The remains of the *Via Occidentalis*, and its branches in this county, are every where called *Sarn Helen*, or "Helen's Causeway," a corruption of *Sarn Lleon*, or "the Legionary Way." Entering it on the north from the station at Penallt, near Machynlleth, the main road proceeded in a direct line to *Loventium*, at Llanio, and traces of it are yet visible, first on a farm called Llwyn-rhingyll, in the parish of Llanbadarn-Vawr, and afterwards on another, called Brenau, in the parish of Llanvihangel y Creiddyn: adjacent to its course, in the Vale of the Teivy, below Trêgaron, is an artificial mount, called Tommen Llanio, perhaps the site of a Roman watch-tower. From the last-mentioned station the main line of the *Via Occidentalis* proceeded direct to *Menapia*, at the western extremity of Pembrokeshire, and has been traced below Lampeter, running parallel with the course of the river Teivy, which it crossed in the vicinity of Pencarreg, and is again visible on the Carmarthenshire side of the valley, along which it proceeded through the parishes of Llanllwney and Penboyr, in the latter of which some parts of it still remain entire. A branch of this road may yet be traced in many places, crossing the Teivy at the village of Llanvair, above Lampeter, and ascending, immediately beyond it, the mountains in the parish of Kellan, which bound this county on the south, in its course to the station at Llanvair ar y brŷn, in Carmarthenshire: another branch extended from the vicinity of Lampeter to the station at Carmarthen. The number of British fortifications in Cardiganshire is very great: one of the most ancient, and certainly the most remarkable, is situated on a farm called Ciliau, or "the Retreats," in the neighbourhood of Llandysilio-Gogo, and is a large circular enclosure, about sixty-eight yards in diameter, divided into three compartments, and surrounded by rude ramparts of stones, from which it has acquired the name of *Y Garn Wen*, or "the White Heap." Near the church of the same parish is an ancient circular fortification, called *Castell Llwyn Davydd*, and sometimes *Castell Caerwedros*, about two hundred feet in diameter, defended by two deep ditches, with ramparts of corresponding height. In the parish of Llanvihangel-Penbrŷn is a very extensive British camp, called *Castell Nadolig*, formed by three ditches and embankments, near which is a large tumulus; and at the distance of about half a mile is another, of equal size and strength, called *Castell Pwntan*. Near the village of Blaenporth are, an encampment called the Gaer, and two others, called respectively *Caer Lonydd* and *Castell Tydur*, the latter of which is on the sea-coast. There are divers ancient intrenchments within the limits of the county, namely, one called *Cribyn Clottas*, in the parish

of Llanvihangel-Ystrad; another of considerable extent, called *Castell Moeddyn*, at the southern extremity of the parish of Llanarth; a third called *Pen y Gaer*, in the same vicinity; a fourth in the neighbourhood of the mansion called *Llwyn Dyrys*, on the banks of the Teivy, near which is a large artificial mound, or barrow; several in the parish of Lampeter, one of which is situated on the same eminence with the supposed Druidical stones above-mentioned; and a variety of small ones on the hills in the parish of Kellan. A short distance to the north-west of Trêgaron is an intrenchment of considerable extent, forming a segment of a circle, and strongly situated in the midst of a deep morass: it is commonly called *Castell Fleming*, from its having been considered as a work of some of the Flemish invaders of the country; but it is thought by antiquaries to be of British construction. The parish of Trêgaron, besides several of the sepulchral heaps of stones called *carneddau*, contains also a singular embankment of earth, extending from east to west a distance of several miles, called *Cwys Ychain Banawg*, or "the Furrow of the Bannog Oxen," from a fabulous tradition current in the neighbourhood: Dr. Meyrick, the historian of the county, considers it as the remains of an old British road. An ancient intrenched fortification, called *Plâs Crûg*, occupies the summit of a hill in a wide marsh, adjacent to the village of Llanbadarn. Near Wervilbrook, in the vicinity of Llandysilio-Gogo, are several *carneddau*, or sepulchral heaps of stones: divers monuments of the same kind are situated in the parish of Llanvihangel-Penbrŷn, and many others on the mountains in the parish of Kellan. Near the little river Frwd, in this parish, is a large stone called *Llêch Cynon* or "Cynon's Stone;" and on a mountain to the north are several kistvaens, one of which is called *Bedd y Vorwyn*, or "the Maiden's Grave." Besides the *carneddau* on these mountains, there are several single stones of great magnitude, only one or two of which, however, now retain their originally erect position. Various ancient upright monumental stones of large size, all bearing inscriptions much defaced, are visible near the church of Llandewy-Brevi; and a single one in a field called *Maes Mynach*, in the parish of Llanvihangel-Ystrad, together with a remarkable monument of the same kind, ornamented with Runic knots, but without any inscription. In the vicinity of Llanwenog is a very large barrow, called *Crûg yr Udon*; near the passage over the river Clettwr, called *Rhŷd Owain*, or "Owen's Ford," is another, called *Tommen Rhŷd Owain*; and on the summit of a hill in the vicinity of Llangranog is a third, which gives to the spot where it stands the name of *Pen Moel Badell*. About six miles from Llanrhŷtid is a lofty mountain, called *Mynydd Trichrûg*, from three tumuli near its summit. There are artificial mounts, supposed to be the sites of ancient fortresses, situated respectively at Castle Hill, near the point where the road from Aberystwith to Rhaiadr and that from Machynlleth to Trêgaron and Lampeter intersect each other; and a little to the north of the church of Lampeter, near the banks of the Teivy, in the parish of Llanwenog; besides which, in the parish of Llanbadarn-Vâch, near the seat called *Mynachtŷ*, are several, called *Hên Gastell*.

At the time of the general dissolution of religious houses there were, at Cardigan, a small Benedictine priory; at Llandewy-Brevi, a college of priests; at



Llanleir, a Cistercian nunnery; and at Ystrad-Flur, a Cistercian abbey, commonly called that of *Strata Florida*. Inconsiderable fragments of the walls yet point out the site of the abbey of Strata Florida: the chief relic is a beautiful round-arched gateway. On the premises of a house in the town of Lampeter, called the Priory, are some small remains of an ancient monastic edifice. The most remarkable specimens of ecclesiastical architecture are seen in the churches of Cardigan; Eglwys Newydd, or New Church, within the grounds of Havôd; Llanarth, Llanbadarn-Vawr, Llandewy-Brevi, Llandyssil, Llansantfraed, and Trêgaron. There are striking remains of the castle of Aberystwith, and of those of Cardigan, Castell Gwalter (on the summit of a lofty hill near the church of Llanvihangel-Geneu 'r-Glyn), and Ystrad-Meirig. There are also inconsiderable remains of an ancient fortress at Aberaëron, called Castell Cadwgan; of Castell Stephan, or "Stephen's Castle," at Lampeter; of a fortress on a hill near the church of Llandyssil, formerly called Castell Gwynionydd, but now Castell Coed-von; and of an ancient fortress near Aberystwith, called Llanychaïarn Castle. On a mound near the village of Blaenporth anciently stood a fortress of great strength; a moated hill near the river Clettwr, in the vicinity of the farm called Castle Howel, indicates the site of an ancient mural fortification of the same name; at a place called Cil y Graig, in the parish of Llandyssil, is an artificial mound, the site of a castle called in the Welsh annals Castell Aber-einon; near the church of Bangor is a moated mount, called Castell Pistog; and near the village of Trêvilan is a lofty mound, on which anciently stood Trêvilan castle, though Dr. Meyrick has placed the site of this fortress at the small mounds called Hên Gastell, in the parish of Llanbadarn-Vâch, above mentioned. There are yet some fragments of the ancient town walls of Cardigan. This county contains several remarkable old mansions; and on the eastern part of the Teivy, below Llandewy-Brevi, are the ruins of an ancient and magnificent mansion, called, from the parish in which it is situated, Plâs Llanvair-Clywedogau, once the residence of the ancestors of the late T. Jones, Esq., of Havôd. The more modern seats most worthy of notice are, Alderbrook Hall, in the parish of Troedyraur, the residence of J. Lloyd Williams, Esq.; Blaenpant, in the parish of Llandygwidd, that of W. O. Brigstocke, Esq.; Bronwydd, in the parish of Llangunllo, that of Thomas Lloyd, Esq.; Coedmore, near Llêchryd, that of T. Lloyd, Esq.; Crosswood, that of the Earl of Lisburne; Derry Ormond, in the parish of Bettws-Bledrws, that of I. Jones, Esq.; Falcon Dale, that of — Harford, Esq.; Allt-yr-Odin, in the parish of Llandyssil, that of John Lloyd, Esq.; Gernos, in the parish of Llangunllo, that of Major Parry; Gelli dywyll that of W. O. Brigstocke, Esq.; Havôd, or Havôd-Uchtryd, the elegant and justly celebrated residence of the late T. Jones, Esq.; High Mead, in the parish of Llanwenog, the seat of Major Evans; Llanerchaëron House, in the Vale of Aëron, that of Colonel Lewis; Llanleir, in the parish of Ystrad-Meirig, that of Colonel Lewes; Llanvaughan, near Llanwenog, that of the late John Thomas, Esq., Rear-Admiral of the Red; Llwynduris, that of John Griffiths, Esq.; Mabus, in the parish of Llanrhÿstid, that of Colonel Lloyd; Noyadd Llanarth, that of Lord Kensington; Noyadd Trêvawr, in the pa-

rish of Llandygwidd, that of Captain Webley Parry; Pigeonsford, in the parish of Llangranog, that of G. B. I. Price, Esq.; Stradmore Vale, near the banks of the Teivy, below Newcastle-Emlyn, that of Dr. Sheriff; Troedyraur House, in the parish of Troedyraur, that of the Rev. Thomas Bowen; and Tÿglyn, in the parish of Llandewy Aberarth, that of the late Mrs. Thomas Jones Gwynne. Great improvements have of late years taken place in the appearance and comfort of the farm-houses and offices, which were formerly of a very inferior class, more particularly as wanting granaries. The appearance of the cottages is for the most part very wretched, to which the frequent want of good building materials greatly contributes: their walls are of mud, about five feet high, with a low thatched roof, surmounted at one end by a wattle and dab chimney, frequently held together by hay-rope bandages, and greatly inclining from the perpendicular. Fences of sods, or of stones and sods in alternate layers, are common in the tracts near the coast. The fences, which are entirely of sod and mould, are raised five or six feet high on a base of as many feet wide, from which they slope upwards to a breadth of three, two and a half, or two feet, with a double facing of green sods. These are effectual barriers, but the tracts where they are seen have a dreary and naked appearance, although of late years it has become a common practice to plant or sow furze and hawthorns on the tops of these mounds. The stones, sometimes placed in alternate layers in them, extend in length towards the centre of the bank; and those by which many of them are entirely faced are commonly laid according to the Roman method of building walls, as described by Vitruvius, and as seen in many old Roman edifices. The favourite and ordinary bread of the peasantry is that made from barley-meal, unleavened, and baked in thin cakes on cast-iron plates over the ordinary fires. On some of the hills separating the vales of the Towy and the Teivy oats and barley are sown together, threshed, kiln-dried, and ground into meal, from which is made a kind of bread called *sipris*. Oaten bread is sometimes used in the uplands, and rye bread is not uncommon in some parts of the county. Servants are hired at the autumn or spring fairs, but for the most part at the former: at Aberystwith, the first Monday in November and the first Monday in May are called "hiring Mondays," on which great numbers from the surrounding country meet for the purpose. This county contains several mineral springs, sulphureous, or powerfully chalybeate: two of the most remarkable are Fynnon y Graig, near Llÿn Teivy, and Aberystwith spa. The other chief natural curiosities of Cardiganshire are its waterfalls, of which the most remarkable, besides those of distinguished romantic beauty in the grounds of Havôd, are those of the small river Mynach, a little below the Devil's Bridge, which are four in number, and in immediate succession, the first being twenty, the second sixty, the third twenty, and the fourth about one hundred, feet in perpendicular height; those on the larger stream of the Rheidiol, into which the Mynach immediately falls, which are particularly sublime and romantic; and those on a tributary of the Teivy, near the church of Hênllan, called Frydiau Hênllan, or "the Hênllan Falls." There are also waterfalls and a salmon leap at Cenarth, in the parish of Llandygwidd.



**CAREGRINA**, or **CREGRINA** (CRÛGYNAU), a parish in the hundred of COLWYN, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E.) from Builth, containing 119 inhabitants. This place is situated upon the banks of the river Edw, or Edwy, which falls into the Wye at Aberedw. The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacy of Llanbadarn y garreg annexed, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 6. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. David, is a small structure of mean appearance, consisting of a nave and a chancel, neither of which is ceiled; it has no tower, but there is one bell hanging under a small shed. This parish participates in the bequest of the Rev. Rees Powell, of Boughrood, who left certain property for charitable purposes, among which is the apprenticing of one child from it; and the Rev. Thomas Williams gave ten shillings per annum for the relief of decayed housekeepers. A little above the church there is an artificial elevation, surrounded by a moat, called Pennard's Mount, probably a corruption of the Welsh word Penarth, which is descriptive of its situation at the head, or in front, of a hill: though nothing authentic has been recorded of it, it was, most likely, at some remote period, occupied by a fortress, as it appears well situated for defending the pass of the river and the descent from the hills, being just above a bend of the river, communicating with an ancient castle in the parish of Glâscomb, from which it was easy to apprise Colwyn castle, the head of the lordship, of any approach. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £108. 3.

**CAREW**, a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (E. by N.) from Pembroke, on the road from Narberth, containing 1020 inhabitants. This parish probably derives its name, which was perhaps originally *Caerau*, from several ancient British fortifications, upon the site of some of which a magnificent castle in the Norman style was erected by Gerald de Windsor, lieutenant to Ralph de Montgomery, and who, on the subsequent disgrace of that baron, was appointed by Henry I. castellan of Pembroke. Gerald married Nêst, daughter of Rhÿs ab Tewdwr, Prince of South Wales, with whom, among other manors, he obtained that of Carew, on which he built a strong and superb castle, equally adapted to the purposes of a military fortress and a splendid baronial residence. Before Gerald was well fixed in his new palace, it was attacked by Owain, the son of Cadwgan ab Bleddyn, who, being informed of the surpassing beauty of Nêst, at a banquet given by Caëdwgan, at the castle of Aberteivy, or, as some think, at that of Eare Weare, in the parish of Amroath, became enamoured of her, and assaulting the castle at night, with a party of his adherents, carried her off by force. This celebrated structure, of which the ruins plainly indicate its pristine grandeur, descended to William, the son of Gerald, who first assumed the name of Carew, probably corrupted from *Caerau*, and continued for several generations in his family, till the reign of Henry VII., when Sir Edmond Carew mortgaged the estate to Sir Rhÿs ab Thomas, who, it is generally believed, added the noble suite of state apartments on the north-east, and made it his residence during the latter period of

his life. Sir Rhÿs being a knight of the most noble order of the garter, and unable from age and infirmity to attend his sovereign in London, on the celebration of St. George's day, kept that festival with princely magnificence at his castle of Carew, upon which occasion he entertained with sumptuous hospitality six hundred of the principal nobility and gentry of the surrounding country, whom he feasted for a whole week, and diverted with jousts, tournaments, and other exercises of chivalry. On the attainder of Gruffydd ab Rhÿs, son of the above nobleman, in the reign of Henry VIII., the estate was leased for a term of years to Sir Andrew Perrot and others, from whom the remainder of the term was subsequently purchased by Sir John Carew, lineal descendant of Sir Edward Carew, to whom the whole was granted in fee by Charles I. Thomas Carew, Esq., great grandson of Sir John, dying in 1760, without male issue, the estate was divided between his two daughters and coheireses, and is now the property of John Warrington Carew, Esq., of Cromcombe Court, in the county of Somerset. The castle was erected on a peninsular promontory of inconsiderable elevation, in the southern branch of Upton creek in Milford haven, and occupies a quadrangular area of considerable extent, defended at the angles with massive circular towers: the more ancient part, built in the reign of William Rufus, is in the Norman style of architecture, and the splendid range of state apartments, on the north-east, is in the most elaborate and finished style of the later English. The ruins are extensive, and may be regarded as among the most interesting and beautiful in the principality: the walls of several of the noble apartments and of the chapel are still remaining, and are replete with elegant detail; the former consisted of a noble range, two stories in height, lighted by lofty square-headed windows of elegant design, and enriched with beautiful tracery; and the exterior of the front was decorated with two lofty and spacious oriel windows. From the towers, to the summits of which an ascent is afforded by staircases in a dilapidated condition, an extensive and pleasing prospect is obtained of the haven, on one side, and of the surrounding country on the other, which abounds with interesting scenery, enlivened by numerous seats in the vicinity. Within the parish are several gentlemen's seats, of which the principal are, Milton House, formerly part of the extensive estate belonging to Upton castle, and now the property and residence of William Bowen, Esq., an elegant modern mansion, pleasantly situated within grounds tastefully laid out, and comprehending some interesting and diversified scenery; Freestone Hall, the residence of J. Allen, Esq., commanding from the grounds some of the finest views in the county, embracing Lawrenny and its fine æstuary, Clareston, and the hundred of Rhôs, to the west; and Wilsdon, a substantial modern house, the seat of George Donne, Esq. This last was erected on the site of an ancient family mansion, in which Oliver Cromwell took up his quarters, while besieging the castle of Pembroke: during his abode here, he was confined to his bed by an attack of the gout, and, in writing a despatch to the parliament, is said to have spilled some ink upon the coverlid, which is still preserved in the family. The parish contains a vast quantity of excellent limestone, which is conveyed in small craft of twelve or fifteen



tons' burden to the upper parts of this county and of Cardiganshire. Coal of inferior quality is procured on the north side of the parish, but only for the supply of the immediate neighbourhood.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, not rated in the king's books, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £400 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a spacious and venerable structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a lofty square embattled tower, comprising a nave and aisles, a chancel, and a north transept; the floor is paved with bricks, several of which bear curious inscriptions. In the north transept, which was the sepulchral chapel of the owners of the castle, is an altar-tomb, on which are the recumbent effigies of Sir John Carew and his lady, with the date 1637; and in the south aisle are the effigies of a crusader and a priest, but without either date or inscription. In the churchyard is an ancient building, apparently coeval with the church, which is occasionally used as a parochial school, the master being appointed by the vicar. There are places of worship for Baptists and Wesleyan Methodists. Near the turnpike gate is a perfect cross, of that kind usually called St. Catherine's, of which the circular head is fixed into a tall shaft, ornamented with scrolls and tracery, rising from a substantial pedestal; in one of the compartments into which the shaft is divided there is an illegible inscription. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £406. 13.

CARMAIN, an extra-parochial district, in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 2½ miles (S.E. by E.) from Cowbridge. The population is returned with the parish of Llantrithyd. This place is locally in the parish of Llantrithyd, and consists of only a farm of about one hundred and twenty acres, with a contiguous plot of twenty-four acres, tithe-free, the property of Henry Seymour, Esq., who has here a cottage ornée, pleasantly situated on rising ground above the village of Llantrithyd. A great part of the parish of Llantrithyd is the property of this gentleman.



Seal and Arms.

CARMARTHEN (CAERMARTHEN), an inland port, borough, market town and parish, and a county of itself, locally in the hundreds of Elvet and Derllys, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 216 miles (W. by N.) from London, on the road to Milford, containing 9995 inhabitants. This place is allowed by all writers to

be of very remote antiquity, though they materially differ in assigning its origin. According to some, it was the capital of a principal division of the island, called by the Britons *Dyved*, and by the Romans *Dimetia*; and by others its origin is attributed to Maximus, a Roman general, who, having espoused Helena, daughter of Euddav, Duke of Cornwall, is said to have built Carmarthen, Cardigan, and Haverfordwest. From the con-

current testimony of all antiquaries it appears to have been the *Maridunum* of Ptolemy, and the *Muridunum* of Antoninus, one of the principal stations in the country of the *Dimeta*, situated on the *Via Julia*, or great Roman road, which formed the chief line of communication between this remote part of Britain and the more eastern portions of the island, and, in its course westward through the present county of Monmouth, divided into two branches, which re-united at this place. From *Maridunum* the *Via Julia* was continued to the furthest extremity of the present county of Pembroke; and another road, also branching from this station, extended northward to *Loventium*, in the present county of Cardigan. The Roman station is supposed to have occupied the site upon which the castle was subsequently erected; and this opinion is greatly strengthened not only by the natural advantages of the situation, and its peculiar adaptation for the site of a Roman camp, but also by existing vestiges of ramparts and earthworks enclosing a quadrilateral area, and the discovery of Roman coins, chiefly of the Lower Empire, and of other Roman relics, among which is one supposed to have been an altar, now preserved in the garden of the vicarage-house. After the departure of the Romans from Britain, that part of *Dimetia* which now constitutes the present county of Carmarthen became part of the principality of *Ceredigion*; and the princes of that territory, who assumed a kind of superiority over the petty sovereigns of South Wales, selected *Maridunum* as the principal seat of their government, and consequently made it the metropolis of South Wales. Its modern name of *Carmarthen*, or *Caer Fyrddin*, as it is called by the Welsh, (by a change of the convertible consonants *f* and *m*, common in their language), implies "a military station fortified with walls," and perfectly agrees with the description given by Giraldus Cambrensis, who calls it "*Urbs antiqua coctilibus Muris*." Its history, for nearly four centuries, is involved in obscurity; nor does any mention of it worthy of notice occur till the year 877, when, on the division of the kingdom of Wales among the three sons of Roderic the Great, the seat of government of the princes of South Wales, which had heretofore been fixed at Carmarthen, was transferred to Dynevor, a place strongly fortified both by nature and art, and consequently more suited to the character of the times than their ancient residence, which, according to the Welsh annals, had been repeatedly assailed during the continued struggles among the native chieftains for the sovereignty of South Wales, and which probably at that early period was in the possession of the Saxons, who at that time were making frequent incursions into this part of the principality. In the year 1021, Hywel and Meredydd, two Welsh chieftains, aspiring to the sovereignty of South Wales, which they intended to divide between them, obtained the assistance of Eulaf, or Aulaf, with a large army of Irish and Scots, and, landing on the coast of Pembroke, advanced to Carmarthen, where they were encountered by Llewelyn, the reigning prince, and his brother Conan, who put them to flight after a severe engagement, in which Llewelyn was slain. In 1038, Howel, Prince of South Wales, in the fourth attempt which he made to recover his dominions from the usurpation of Gruffydd ab Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, advanced to a place called Pen Cader, a few miles to the north of Carmarthen, bringing his wife with him, to share in the



victory which he too sanguinely anticipated. But his army was entirely defeated by Gruffydd; and Howel himself narrowly escaped, leaving his wife a captive to the conqueror.

The Myvyrian Archaeology frequently notices, during the eleventh century, a fortress at Rhŷd y Gors, or "the boggy ford," on the bank of the river Towy, about half a mile below the town, where a road was discovered some few years since, leading directly to the river, on the opposite bank of which are the remains of a circular camp, evidently designed to protect the ford, or pass. It is not, however, known at what time, or by whom, the castle of Carmarthen was originally built: the first notice of it occurs about the year 1116, when Gruffydd ab Rhŷs ab Tewdwr, a native prince of South Wales, whom Henry I. had dispossessed of his hereditary dominions, and who had passed the greater part of his minority in Ireland, after carrying on a desultory warfare against the Norman invaders of his territory, resolved to make a more powerful effort for the recovery of his right. With this view he attacked the castle of Carmarthen, which, from the strength of the fortifications and the number of the garrison, resisted all his attempts. But Gruffydd, having received a considerable accession of forces, and obtained possession of the surrounding country, aware of the importance of that fortress in the hands of his enemies, renewed his efforts, and advanced again to besiege it. In the mean time the Normans, foreseeing the danger, and conscious of their own insufficiency for its defence, invited to their aid the Welsh chieftains who had become vassals to the English monarch, each of whom, in succession, they appointed to defend it for fourteen days; and Owain ab Caradoc, who was among the first to obey the summons, took upon himself the command of the garrison. Gruffydd, having informed himself of the state of the fortifications, advanced with great secrecy, and ordering his men, upon the first assault, to raise the shout of victory the garrison was thrown into confusion, and Owain ab Caradoc, being deserted by his men, was killed upon the ramparts. The castle was taken and dismantled, and Gruffydd, having plundered and afterwards demolished the town, retired laden with booty to his retreat in the forest of Ystrad Tywi. The castle and town were subsequently restored by the Normans, and remained, for short periods only, in the alternate possession of these invaders and the Welsh, by each of whom they suffered severely. In 1137 it was destroyed by Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, and again by his sons in 1143. In the following year, Gilbert Earl of Clare, having recovered a considerable portion of the territory of which he had been deprived by Gruffydd, rebuilt the castle, and garrisoned it with Normans, who were immediately attacked by Cadell, son of Gruffydd ab Rhŷs, to whom it was surrendered, on condition that the lives of the garrison should be spared: the victorious chieftain repaired and strengthened the fortifications, and for some time retained possession of Carmarthen, from which place he made repeated incursions into the territories of the Norman settlers in that part of the country. The castle, which appears to have been an object of continual attack during the hostilities that prevailed between the English and the Welsh, being in the early part of the reign of Henry II. in the hands of the English, was assailed in 1159, by Rhŷs ab Gruffydd, Prince

of South Wales, and eldest brother of Cadell, who was ultimately compelled to raise the siege, in consequence of the powerful succours thrown into it by the Earls of Bristol and Clare, whom King Henry had sent to its relief, and of the presence of the English monarch's Welsh allies, Cadwaladr, Cynan, and Hywel, sons of Owain Gwynedd, with their forces. The English monarch, in 1163, received at Pen Cader the submission of Rhŷs, who there did him homage, and gave hostages for his future good behaviour. Notwithstanding which, in 1195, during the absence of King Richard I. in Palestine, that turbulent prince again laid siege to the castle, which, after a feeble resistance, he took and demolished, and afterwards laid waste the adjacent country. In 1212, Rhŷs Vychan, a powerful chieftain, and one of the sons of Rhŷs ab Gruffydd, fighting against his nephews Rhŷs and Owain, who were in alliance with King John of England, was taken prisoner, and confined in this town, but was soon after released, on giving hostages to that monarch for his future good conduct. In 1215, Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, in an expedition against the foreign settlers in this part of the principality, invested the castle of Carmarthen, which he took and dismantled, after a siege of five days; but on doing homage to Henry III. at Gloucester, in 1218, he promised to restore it and others to the English, together with all the dependent territory. In the following year, however, instead of performing his promise, he repaired the fortifications; and placing in it a strong garrison of his own forces, kept possession of it till the year 1223, when the Earl of Pembroke captured it after an obstinate defence, and put the garrison to the sword. Llewelyn, apprised of this event, sent his son Gruffydd, with an army of nine thousand men, to give battle to the earl; and Gruffydd, advancing to Carmarthen from Kidwelly, drew up his forces on the opposite side of the river Towy. The earl crossing the river to meet him, a sanguinary battle ensued, which terminated doubtfully, darkness alone parting the combatants, who remained in sight of each other for several days, on the opposite sides of the river; but, owing to a scarcity of provisions, Gruffydd was eventually compelled to withdraw his forces, and retire into North Wales.

From this period the castle appears to have appertained for a considerable time to the English crown. The Earl of Pembroke, in 1233, having quarrelled with Henry III., and being joined by Owain ab Gruffydd, Rhŷs Vychan, and Maelgwyn ab Maelgwyn, laid siege to the castle, which held out for three months, and, being relieved by a reinforcement of troops, and a supply of provisions, which arrived by sea, the confederates were compelled to raise the siege. In 1256, Henry sent a large army by sea to this place, for the protection of his vassals in South Wales, who were frequently attacked by the native chieftains. After the entire subjugation of the principality by Edward I., Carmarthen was constituted the metropolis of the district to which it gives name, and which was then first formed into a county by that monarch, who established in it his courts of chancery and exchequer and the great sessions for South Wales. In the reign of Henry IV., Owain Glyndwr, having obtained the assistance of an army of twelve thousand men from France, under the command of the Marshal de Montmorency, and being joined by several of the Welsh chieftains, advanced from Milford



to Carmarthen, in 1405, and laid siege to the castle, which, together with several other fortresses in the neighbourhood, was soon surrendered to him; but, upon the subsequent defeat of his foreign auxiliaries, the principal men of the county abandoned his cause, and returned to their allegiance to King Henry. About the year 1450, a grand Eisteddvod, or congress of the Welsh bards, was held in this town, against which the synod of the primitive bards of Glamorgan strongly protested, as tending to subvert the ancient institutions of their order. Soon after the debarkation of the forces of the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., at Milford Haven, a division of his army passed through this town, under the conduct of the celebrated Rhys ab Thomas, who rejoined the young prince at Shrewsbury, with a powerful body of Welsh adherents whom he had collected in his march. In the persecutions on account of religious tenets which took place during the reign of Mary, Dr. Ferrars, Bishop of St. David's, was accused of heresy and condemned to be burnt at the stake, which sentence was carried into execution at the High Cross, in this town, on the 30th of March, 1555. Carmarthen was visited by the plague in 1604, and again in 1606, when the pestilence raged with such fatality that the sessions were held this year at Golden Grove, to avoid the contagion, which re-appeared here in 1651. During the civil war of the seventeenth century, the castle, which had been garrisoned for the king, was taken for the parliament by Colonel Laugharne, who afterwards, abandoning the cause of the parliament, withdrew the garrison to Pembroke castle, where, being joined by Colonel Poyer, who had also come over to the royal cause, he made a memorable stand against the authority of that assembly. In 1648, the castle reverted to the parliament, and was ordered by Oliver Cromwell to be dismantled; in which state it remained, part of the keep only being used as a common gaol, till 1787, when the principal part of it was incorporated with the new county gaol, completed in 1792.

The town is beautifully situated on the north-western bank of the navigable river Tywi, or Towy, about nine miles from its influx into that portion of the Bristol channel called Carmarthen bay, on a moderate eminence, which commands some of the finest views in the Vale of Towy, and imparts to the town a striking and picturesque appearance. It is above a mile in length, and about half a mile in breadth, and consists of several streets, the two principal meeting near its centre, where formerly stood the High Cross, the site of which is now occupied by the fish and butter market: the descent to the bridge, an elegant stone structure of seven arches, surmounted with an iron balustrade, is inconveniently narrow and precipitous, as are also several of the smaller streets which lead down to the water side. The principal streets contain a large proportion of good houses and many excellent shops, and in the minor streets there are several of respectable character. Considerable improvement has taken place of late years by modernizing old buildings and erecting new ones in a style of comfort and taste suited to the improvement of modern times: among the latter are, Picton-Terrace at the western end of the town, and Waterloo-Place to the north. The principal streets are well paved, and lighted with gas, first introduced here in 1821, and the inhabitants are amply supplied with ex-

cellent water, conveyed from springs in the neighbourhood into public conduits in various parts of the town, by iron pipes laid down at the expense of the corporation, in 1803. At the western end of the town, near the entrance from Pembrokeshire, is a column, erected by public subscription, at an expense of £3000, to the memory of Lieut.-General Sir Thomas Picton, G. C. B., who represented the borough in parliament, and was slain at Waterloo. It consists of a pedestal and column, sixty-four feet in height, supporting a colossal statue of the general, nine feet and a half in height, habited in the Roman costume, and having a sword in the left hand. The pedestal on which the figure stands displays a tasteful arrangement of shields and halberts, and at the angles of the platform are mortars mounted on carriages. On one side of the pedestal of the column is an inscription, recording in the English language the various exploits of the general during his military career, and on the opposite side is a literal translation of it into the Welsh language: the other two faces are respectively occupied with representations in alto relievo of the storming of Badajos and the battle of Waterloo, in both of which he particularly distinguished himself. The ornamental parts of this column were finely executed by F. H. Bailey, R. A., but the composition of which they are formed has not withstood the influence of the weather. The environs are adorned with neat villas and some pleasingly varied scenery; and the view of the town, with its castle and bridge, the vessels in the river, and the bold and diversified character of the hills by which it is terminated, is strikingly beautiful. The Cambrian Society in Dyved, for the preservation of the remains of ancient British literature, and for the encouragement of the national music of the harp, established in 1818, under the patronage of Dr. Burgess, late Bishop of St. David's, and now Bishop of Salisbury, is at present nearly extinct; and the Cwmreigyddion Society, for the encouragement of Welsh poetry, by the distribution of medals and premiums, is also in a declining state: the affairs of both these societies are transacted here. The theatre, an old mean-looking building, is open during the months of November and December, when dramatic pieces are performed every evening; and concerts and balls are occasionally held at the principal inns. Races take place annually in September, and continue for two days, on the first of which the Carmarthen stakes of £5 each, with an addition of £40 from the fund, are run for by all horses; a sweepstakes of £5, with £30 added from the fund, by all horses bred in Carmarthenshire and the adjoining counties; and a sweepstakes of £10 each, with a tradesmen's purse of £30: on the second day the Dynevor stakes of five sovereigns each, with an addition of £50, are run for by horses of all ages; a hunters' stakes of five sovereigns each, with £20 added from the fund, by half-bred horses; the county members' plate of fifty sovereigns by horses bred in South Wales; and a forced handicap of five sovereigns, with £20 added from the fund, by the beaten horses. The race-course, which is well adapted to the purpose, is about four miles distant from the town, higher up the vale. During the races, which are usually well attended, balls take place alternately at the two principal inns.

The port of Carmarthen, though only a creek to that of Llanelly, carries on a small foreign, and a very considerable coasting, trade; and, from the great increase in



the shipping within the last five years, application has been made by the merchants to have it constituted an independent port. The principal exports are, British timber, bark, marble, slate, bricks, lead-ore, leather; manufactured goods, grain, butter, and eggs; and the principal imports are foreign timber, pitch, rosin, tallow, coal, culm, malt, and manufactured goods for the supply of the town and neighbourhood. In the year ending January 5th, 1830, one hundred and thirty-six thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine bushels of oats, one thousand four hundred and seventy bushels of barley, seven hundred and sixty bushels of wheat, and seven hundred and forty bushels of malt, were shipped from this port; and previously to that time, the average quantity of butter, of which no separate entries are now kept in the custom-house books, was annually twenty-two thousand casks, weighing eighty lb. each; and the average value of the eggs annually sent away is £6050. During the year ending January 5th, 1831, thirteen vessels from foreign parts, of the aggregate burden of one thousand five hundred and three tons; and four hundred and twenty coasting vessels (including different arrivals of the same vessel), of the aggregate burden of sixteen thousand eight hundred and fifty tons, entered inwards at this port: and in the same year, three vessels from foreign parts, of the aggregate burden of four hundred and thirty-three tons; and one hundred and seventy-four coasting vessels (reckoning as above), of the aggregate burden of eight thousand nine hundred and nine tons, cleared outwards: in the course of that year also, the amount of duties paid to the custom-house was about £3000. The number of registered vessels belonging to the port is fifty-one, the aggregate burden of which amounts to two thousand one hundred and ninety-five tons, and which employ one hundred and fifty-two men. Towards the close of the year 1830, a weekly communication was established between Bristol and Carmarthen, by the Frolic steam-packet, which was unhappily lost off the Nass sands, in its voyage from Tenby to Bristol, in March 1831, when all on board perished; and since that time this mode of communication has not been renewed: there are, however, vessels called Bristol traders, which sail alternately every week. With that city, which is regarded as the emporium of South Wales, Carmarthen carries on a very extensive trade, obtaining from it large quantities of goods of various descriptions, with which it furnishes an extensive and populous district entirely dependent on it for supplies. The quay, which at spring tides is accessible to ships of three hundred tons' burden, extends several hundred yards along the north-western bank of the river, and is commodious. The river Towy is celebrated for its salmon and sewin fisheries, in which several of the poorer inhabitants are allowed to employ themselves throughout the year, with the view of preventing them applying for parochial relief, to the great detriment of the fisheries, and to the injury of the health of the consumers. There are three weekly markets, on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday: the last, which is the principal, is abundantly supplied with corn and every article of consumption: the market on Wednesday is chiefly for meat, poultry, butter, and vegetables; and that on Friday is almost disused, except for fish, which is also exposed for sale every day in the week: dairy produce of every description is remarkably cheap here. Fairs, chiefly for

cattle, are held on April 15th, June 3rd and 4th, July 10th, August 12th, September 9th, October 9th, and November 14th and 15th. The corn market is held in an area beneath the guildhall, and on market days the guildhall square is occupied by temporary booths for the sale of hats, shoes, hardware, and other articles. The markets for cheese, and butchers' meat and poultry, erected by the corporation in 1801, are situated in Red-street: the latter is quadrangular, with covered shambles round the sides, and a range down the centre. The fish and butter markets, as before observed, occupy the site of the old cross, at the junction of the leading thoroughfares: the roof is supported by a range of plain pillars, and surmounted by a clock turret: the market for cattle and pigs is at present held in Lammas-street.

The borough, which is of great antiquity, probably possessed several municipal privileges under the native princes of South Wales, who made this place the seat of their government, and these are said to have been subsequently confirmed and extended by charter of Edward I.; but the earliest charter of incorporation of which there is any authentic record is that of Henry VIII., which was afterwards confirmed by James I., who constituted the borough a county of itself, under the designation of "the county of the borough of Carmarthen," and substituted two sheriffs for the bailiffs appointed under the former charter. This form of municipal government remained till the fourth year of the reign of George III., when the inhabitants petitioned for a new charter, which was granted, on the 27th of July, 1764, and ordained that the government should be vested in a mayor, recorder, two sheriffs, twenty common-councilmen, and an indefinite number of burgesses, assisted by a town-clerk, sword-bearer, two serjeants at mace, and subordinate officers, under the style of "The Mayor, Burgesses, and Commonalty." Six of the burgesses, called peers, are, together with the mayor and recorder, justices of the peace within the borough (which is co-extensive with the parish of St. Peter), with power to fill up vacancies in their number from among the burgesses. The mayor is also coroner, clerk of the market, and the king's admiral on the river Towy, with a jurisdiction extending from Carmarthen bridge to the sea, and, with the two sheriffs, is annually chosen, from among the burgesses, on the Monday after the festival of St. Michael: the recorder, who must be a barrister, and the town-clerk, who is also clerk of the peace, clerk of the assize, and prothonotary, retain their offices for life: the mayor and sheriffs must be resident within the borough, or are otherwise liable to a penalty not exceeding £100. The qualification requisite for the mayor, recorder, and peers, is either a freehold of not less than £75 per annum, a leasehold of not less than £100 per annum, for a term of thirty years, or a personal estate of not less than £2000. The qualification for a burgess is either a servitude of seven years to a resident freeman; a life interest within the borough of not less than £4 per annum, held for three years prior to application for admission, unless acquired by inheritance or marriage, in which cases actual possession is sufficient; or an actual tenure to the amount of £10 per annum within the borough, held for three years prior to the time of application. The burgesses are exempt from serving on juries out of the borough, except on matters in which its interests are concerned, and are free from all tolls and



customs throughout the kingdom. The borough first received the elective franchise in the 27th of Henry VIII., since which time it has continued to return one member to parliament: the right of election was formerly in the burgesses generally, in number about seven hundred, of whom between three and four hundred are resident. By the late act for amending the representation of the people, which, however, has caused no alteration in the boundaries of this borough, the town of Llanelly has been united to Carmarthen in the return of a member to parliament: this act vests the franchise in the former resident constituency, if duly registered according to its provisions, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of ten pounds and upwards, provided they are capable of registering as the act demands: the number of such tenements within the limits of the borough is seven hundred and thirty-eight: the sheriffs are the returning officers. The corporation hold general courts of session twice in the year, at which the mayor presides, assisted by the recorder and justices, for the trial of all offenders not charged with the commission of capital crimes. The mayor, recorder, and town-clerk, also hold a court of record, every alternate Monday, commonly called the Mayor's Court, or Fortnight Court, which may sit for two days, if requisite, for determining all manner of pleas, with the power of issuing process to hold to bail in actions for debt, to an unlimited amount; but that process is seldom applied for in this court, such proceedings being generally carried on in the court of great sessions, in which also actions above forty shillings are now usually brought and determined, and the business of the Fortnight Court, which is tolerably extensive, is now by custom principally confined to the recovery of debts under forty shillings, though actions above that amount are occasionally tried and determined. The sheriffs are empowered to hold their courts monthly, for the county of the borough; and courts of pie powder are attached to the markets and fairs. The mayor and justices, or two of them, of whom the recorder must be one, have power to hold a court of view of frankpledge, twice a year, within the borough. Petty sessions are also held weekly; and the assizes and general quarter sessions for the county, and the election of the two knights of the shire, take place at Carmarthen, as the county town. The guildhall, in which all the public business for the borough and for the county is transacted, is a handsome modern structure, supported on a range of columns of the Doric order, surmounted by an entablature and cornice: the principal front is ornamented with three lofty Venetian windows, the central compartment of each of which is circular-headed, and separated by Ionic columns from the side compartments, on the outer sides of which are pilasters of the same order. In the centre is a grand flight of stone steps, leading through the middle compartment of the central window, which opens with folding-doors into the principal story, containing, besides the hall in which the courts for the borough and county are held, a grand jury room, in which is an excellent portrait of Lieut-General Sir Thomas Picton, G. C. B.; a room for the transaction of county business; and a banqueting-room. Beneath are the offices of the clerk of the peace, and

the remainder of the lower area is appropriated to the use of the corn market. The gaol for the borough is a neat and commodious building, adapted to the reception of eight prisoners in separate cells, and contains three day-rooms and four airing-yards. The county gaol and house of correction occupy the site of the ancient castle, and are partly incorporated with its remains: the buildings were begun in 1789, and completed in 1792: the appearance of the exterior is appropriately massive, without any unnecessary heaviness, and the interior, which is arranged upon the plan recommended by the philanthropic Howard, comprises, in the portion appropriated as a gaol, four compartments for the classification of prisoners, eighteen day-rooms, including apartments for debtors, and four airing-yards; and in the house of correction, four compartments for classification, six work-rooms, four day-rooms, and four airing-yards: both departments are well adapted to the system of classification, and each of them is capable of containing twenty-six prisoners in separate cells, or sixty by placing more than one in the same cell.

Henry VIII. is said to have meditated the removal of the seat of the ancient diocese of St. David's from that city to Carmarthen; but abandoned his design on the representation that the remains of his grandfather, Edmund of Lancaster, were interred in the cathedral of the former place, which would probably, after the removal of the see, fall into decay. The town is wholly within the parish of St. Peter, to which, by charter of the 4th of George III., the Priory-street, or Old Carmarthen, was united, the whole forming what is now called the borough of Carmarthen. The living of St. Peter's is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., endowed with £400 private benefaction, £400 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Principal and Tutors of St. David's College, Lampeter, to whom, since the last presentation in 1816, it has been ceded by the crown, in whose gift it was previously. Of the five churches which formerly existed here, only those of St. Peter and Llanllwch are remaining; the others, not being used for sacred purposes, have long since been suffered to fall into decay. The church of St. Peter is situated without the walls of the ancient Carmarthen, but nearly in the centre of the present town: it is supposed to have been originally a cruciform structure, in the early style of English architecture, but of the ancient building only the nave, chancel, and south transept, are remaining, and these have been greatly disfigured, by the insertion of modern windows of incongruous character, and other injudicious alterations. After the suppression of the monasteries, and the neglect of the other churches, it was probably found necessary to enlarge St. Peter's church; and at this time the north aisle, which is of much later date than the rest of the building, is supposed to have been added to it. The interior is handsomely fitted up, and divine service is performed twice every Sunday in the English, and twice in the Welsh language. There are some very ancient and interesting monuments, among which the most remarkable is one to the memory of Sir Rhys ab Thomas, who attended the Earl of Richmond to Bosworth Field, and for his signal services on that memorable occasion was, immediately after the battle, made



Knight of the Garter, and was invested with divers other distinctions. This monument, which was removed at the dissolution from St. John's priory, consists of an altar-tomb, on which are the recumbent effigies in alabaster of that warrior and his lady, the former in complete armour, booted and spurred, with long flowing hair, the hands upraised in the attitude of prayer, and a short sword lying by the right side: the tomb is richly ornamented with small figures, escutcheons, and shields charged with armorial bearings. There were also three other effigies in alabaster of individuals of the same family, which were destroyed by the masons, some years since, and converted into plaister. The church, or chapel of Llanllwch is not distinguished by any remarkable architectural features: the living is a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of the Vicar of St. Peter's. Owing to the great want of accommodation in these edifices, it has for some time been in contemplation to erect an additional church, to defray the expense of which a considerable sum was raised by subscription; but, in consequence of the inability of the parliamentary commissioners to grant pecuniary assistance, the design is for the present relinquished. There are two places of worship each for Baptists, Independents, and Wesleyan Methodists, and one each for Calvinistic Methodists and Unitarians.

The free grammar school was founded by the Rev. Morgan Owen, D. D., who was promoted to the see of Llandaf in 1639: he endowed it with £20 per annum, chargeable on the tithes of the parish of Ishmael, in this county, which was subsequently increased by the Rev. William Jones, who gave a house and garden adjoining the school-room in Lammas-street. It has an exhibition of £4 per annum at Queen's College, Cambridge; and boys from this school have the preference to two exhibitions at Jesus' College, Oxford, which are open to the whole of the county of Carmarthen. The patronage of the school, which was a licensed institution, and from which young men were admitted into holy orders, prior to the establishment of St. David's College, at Lampeter, is vested in the corporation, who intended to found an exhibition of £10 per annum for boys from it at that college; but it is supposed that it will not be accepted, unless thrown open to the principality at large, which the corporation refuse to accede to. Here is an institution called the Presbyterian College, for the education of fourteen young men intended for the ministry, which owes its origin, as is reported, to some of the ejected ministers in the reign of Charles II., and which has of late years been under the management of a board of directors in London: there are at present twelve students, who, in addition to the advantages of a gratuitous academical education, receive from the funds of the institution an allowance, for four years, of £20 per annum, for their maintenance while in the college: it has not been stationary in this town, to which it was last removed from Swansea, and is held in a house, hired for the purpose, adjoining the Independent chapel, in Lammas-street. Many distinguished dissenting ministers have received their education in this establishment, and young men intended for the ministry in the church of England were formerly admitted, though not on the same foundation, to participate in the literary advantages it afforded. Belonging to the college are,

an excellent theological library, containing about four thousand volumes, and a valuable philosophical apparatus. Among the most eminent men that have presided over this institution may be noticed, John Jones, L.L.D., compiler of the first Greek and English Lexicon, and author of several elementary works; and Dr. Abraham Rees, author of the Encyclopædia which bears his name, was for many years one of the visitors. Two houses were left by an unknown benefactor, as an endowment for instructing six young men in mathematics and navigation, the rental of which has long been received by the Rev. Mr. Peter, minister of the Independent congregation, and theological professor to the college, but there are no students on the foundation. A Lancasterian school, under the superintendence of a committee, was established in 1813, for teaching boys reading, writing, and arithmetic: it is supported by subscription, and one hundred and fifty boys at present receive gratuitous instruction. National schools, for which two spacious and commodious rooms have been erected by public subscription, aided by a grant of £150 from the National Society, have been established, for the instruction of children of each sex, that for girls in 1818, and that for boys in 1822, having previously existed for many years as Sunday schools, under the direction of the minister and a committee: in these schools, which are liberally supported by subscription, one hundred and twenty boys and the same number of girls are gratuitously instructed. There are also Sunday schools in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations. Charles Powell, Esq., in 1687, bequeathed a house and stable, to be converted into six rooms, with a garden to each, for the residence of six aged men, and £300 to be invested in the purchase of lands for their endowment: the inmates receive each an annual allowance of £2. 15. in money, coal to the amount of ten shillings, shoes and stockings of the value of £1. 4., and, every alternate year, a blue gown and a hat, together worth £2. 15. The Rev. Edward Meyrick, treasurer of St. David's, gave a house and garden for the use of a charity school and lending library. Sir Rice Rudd, of Aberglasney, Bart., by deed bearing date the 16th of Charles I., charged certain premises with an annual payment of £25, towards the support of a charity founded by Bishop Rudd and his lady, to which also he gave the hospital, or almshouse, in St. Peter's-street, with all its lands and appurtenances. Of the charity founded by Bishop Rudd nothing whatever is known: the rent-charge of £25 is at present received by the proprietor of Aberglasney, in the parish of Llangathen, and paid to the inmates of the hospital in St. Peter's-street, who must be natives of the county of Carmarthen. Alderman John Philipps, in 1730, gave £200 to be laid out in land, or on other good security, directing the produce to be given annually to the most deserving of the indigent inhabitants of the county of the borough, not receiving parochial relief. There are also numerous other small donations and bequests for distribution among the poor.

The ancient castle occupied a spacious quadrangular area on the brow of a hill rising abruptly from the river Towy, enclosed on the south-west, south-east, and north-east by lofty walls, defended in the centre by semicircular bastions, at the southern angle by a



strong square tower, and at the eastern and western angles by massive circular towers. The principal entrance was in the north-west front, and was guarded by an advanced gateway: the keep and principal buildings were situated in the northern angle of the area. The few existing remains of this fortress, being incorporated with the gaol, are concealed from public observation, except one of the entrances and portions of the walls above the river. There are only considerable remains either of the priory of St. John, or of the convent of the Grey friars in Lammas-street: the former was founded for Black canons, about the year 1148, but by whom is uncertain; its revenue at the dissolution was £174. 8. 8., and the site, in the 35th of Henry VIII., was granted to Richard Andrews and Nicholas Temple: the latter was a cell to the monastery of St. Augustine, at Bristol, and the site was granted by Henry VIII. to Thomas Lloyd, and, in the 5th of Edward VI., to Sir Thomas Gresham. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, was situated on the south side of the guildhall, in a street of that name; but not being used after the Reformation, it was converted into dwelling-houses, on the timbers of the roofs of which may be discerned the heads of saints, which formed part of its original ornaments. Near the remains of the Grey friars' house, in Lammas-street, are some vestiges of another church, supposed to have been the chapel belonging to that convent. The church of the priory of St. John was taken down after the suppression of religious houses, and several of the ancient monuments were removed into St. Peter's church. In the garden of the vicarage-house is still preserved a Roman altar, of a cubic form, in the upper surface of which is a cavity, probably the *patella*, for holding the blood of the victim. Near the northern part of the town, in a field called the Bulrack, or Bulwark, are the remains of a Roman camp, the *prætorium* of which may be clearly distinguished by the superior elevation of the ground within the area, and which evidently appears to have been the *campus æstivus* of the principal station. The remains of a causeway have recently been discovered, extending in a line from the priory to the castle, and apparently indicating the direction of the *Via Julia Montana*, which led to *Maridunum* from the east, and here joined the *Via Julia Maritima*, which, having its course nearer to the sea, is supposed to have passed through this station from east to west, in the line of the present turnpike road. The village at the extremity of this causeway still retains the name of Pen y Sarn, "the Head of the Causeway;" and it is related by Giraldus Cambrensis, who flourished about the close of the twelfth century, that, in his time, Roman bricks might be seen in the walls by which the town was surrounded. Near Llanllwch are some imperfect remains of an extensive encampment; and an intrenchment on a smaller scale, but in a very perfect state, which was probably thrown up during the great civil war, may be seen in a field near the gas-works. Carmarthen is said to have been the birth-place of the celebrated Merlin, or Ambrosius, whose exploits were the subject of the romances of former ages: his mother is said to have been the daughter of a king of South Wales, and he is supposed to have taken the name of Merddyn, or Merlin, from the place of his nativity, and to have spent much of his time

in seclusion in a grove, about three miles to the east of this town, still called Merlin's Grove. His extraordinary skill in various sciences, especially in the mathematics and astronomy, caused him to be regarded as a magician in the dark age in which he lived. The Rev. Lewis Bailey, D.D., Bishop of Bangor, was a native of this town: he was the author of the "Practice of Piety," which passed through many editions, and was translated into the French and Welsh languages. Walter D'Evereux, Earl of Essex, and father of the accomplished and unfortunate nobleman who suffered in the reign of Elizabeth, was buried here. Sir Richard Steele was for some years a resident at Carmarthen, where he is said to have composed his play entitled "The Conscious Lovers." He married the daughter and only child of Jonathan Scurlock, Esq., of this place, and towards the close of his life retired to a small estate called Tŷ-Gwyn, on the opposite bank of the river, in the parish of Llangunnor: he died at his house in King-street, Carmarthen, at a very advanced age, and was interred in the family vault of the Scurlocks in St. Peter's church. A neat monument was erected to his memory, in the church of Llangunnor, by the late William Williams, Esq., of Ivy Tower, in the county of Pembroke. Carmarthen gives the inferior title of marquis to the noble family of Osborne, Dukes of Leeds. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £3072. 5.

CARMARTHENSHIRE, a maritime county of SOUTH WALES, bounded on the west by Pembrokeshire, on the north by Cardiganshire, on the east by Brecknockshire, on the south-east by Glamorganshire, and on the south by the broad estuary of the Burry river, and Carmarthen bay, in the Bristol channel: it extends from 51° 30' to 52° 2' (N. Lat.), and from 3° 45' to 3° 58' (W. Lon.); and includes nine hundred and seventy-four square miles, or six hundred and twenty-three thousand three hundred and sixty acres. The population, in 1831, was 100,655.

The territory at present forming the county of Carmarthen, at the period of the Roman invasion of Britain, was, according to Ptolemy, included in the country of the *Dimetæ*, the *Dyved* of British writers; and contained one of their chief cities, called by the same author *Maridunum*, and by Antoninus *Muridunum*, which has been identified with the present Carmarthen. The subjugation of this district is ascribed to Julius Frontinus, about the year 70; and from that commander the name of the road which crossed it from east to west, called *Julia Strata*, or *Via Julia Maritima*, was derived: according to Sir R. C. Hoare, Bart., and others, it was also traversed by the *Via Julia Montana*, or Superior. Besides the station of *Maridunum*, on the first-mentioned road, it contained another important one at Llan-vair ar y brŷn, or "St. Mary's church on the hill," near Llandovery. When the Romans had withdrawn their forces from Britain, and the country became divided into numerous petty states, modern Carmarthenshire was for the most part included in the principality of *Ceredigion*, or Cardigan, the history of which, for a long period, is involved in obscurity. About the middle of the ninth century it was annexed to the other dominions of Rhodri Mawr, or Roderic the Great, Prince of Gwynedd, who united the whole of Wales into one



# CARMARTHENSHIRE









kingdom. On his death, in 876, he allotted to his son Cadell the territory of Caredigion, or South Wales, including, besides the present counties of Cardigan and Carmarthen, those of Brecknock, Glamorgan, Monmouth, and Pembroke, and fixed the seat of government at Dynevor, in the vale of Tywi, where he had erected a palace, though the successors of Cadell removed it to Carmarthen, where it continued, until the progress of the Anglo-Norman invaders compelled the native princes to retire to the former residence. Cadell, the year after he had entered upon his government, invaded the dominions of his brother Mervyn, and took forcible possession of the kingdom of Powys, but was, in his turn, invaded by his other brother, Anarawd, sovereign of North Wales, who committed dreadful ravages in the counties of Carmarthen, Cardigan, and Pembroke, burning the houses and destroying the corn. On the death of Cadell, in 907, he was succeeded in his government of South Wales and Powys by his eldest son Hywel, who holds so distinguished a rank in Welsh history, by the name of Hywel Dda, or Hywel the Good, and who, in 940, on the decease of Idwal Voel, son of Anarawd, added the kingdom of Aberffraw to his other dominions, and became sovereign of all Wales. During the compilation of this monarch's celebrated code of laws, which continued in force throughout the principality until its subjugation by Edward I., and was retained, in some districts, until its union with England in the reign of Henry VIII., he held an extraordinary council in this county, at his hunting seat of Whitland, in the vicinity of St. Clear's. Hywel died, after a long and peaceful reign, in 948, leaving four sons, Owain, Rhun, Roderick, and Edwin, who, relinquishing the kingdom of North Wales to Ievav and Iago, the sons of Idwal Voel, partitioned among them the principalities, or lordships, of South Wales and Powys: the government of Dynevor fell to Owain, who, though defeated with his brothers in a battle fought with the princes of North Wales, in Cardiganshire, yet, in the year 950, when the latter were making a predatory incursion into Pembrokeshire, compelled them to retreat with such precipitation, that a great part of their army was drowned in the Teivy, which forms the northern boundary of Carmarthenshire. The contest thus begun, between the sons of Hywel and the princes of North Wales, was long maintained by both parties, but at last terminated in favour of Ievav and Iago, who subjected the whole of Wales, and held the kingdom of Dynevor under their dominion for several years. Owain, being driven from his own government, seized, in 958, upon the district of Ewyas, in the Vale of Usk, forming part of the territories of Morgan Mawr, King of Glamorgan; but the quarrel to which this gave rise having been referred to the arbitration of Edgar, the Anglo-Saxon king of England, that monarch gave his award in favour of the king of Glamorgan, and forbade the encroachments of Owain. On a rupture between the two princes of North Wales, Owain seems to have seized the opportunity to regain possession of his dominions, for, in 966, he met Edgar at Caerlleon, in Monmouthshire, to arrange with him for the payment of the tribute which the laws of his father adjudged to be due to the king of England. Einon, son of Owain, with some of his father's troops, invaded Gower, and afterwards assisted in repelling an incursion of the Saxons under Alfred, Earl of Mercia,

into Brecknockshire and Gwent. On his death, he was succeeded in the command of his father's troops by his youngest brother Meredydd, who, in 985, invaded North Wales, and having slain its prince, Cadwallon, in battle, shortly subjugated the whole of that kingdom. On the death of his father, Meredydd took possession of the government of South Wales also, to the exclusion of the sons of his elder brother, the eldest of whom, Edwin, having raised an army, and obtained considerable succours from the Saxons and Danes, entered Cardigan, and advanced through Pembrokeshire and along the coast of this county to Kidwelly, and into Gower; but a reconciliation being speedily effected between Edwin and his uncle, their united forces proceeded to ravage the territories of Ithel, Prince of Glamorgan, in which expedition they sustained a signal defeat. The frequent invasions of the Danes, and the hostilities of the neighbouring states, afforded exclusive employment in South Wales for the whole of Meredydd's forces; so that the people of North Wales, having the power of exercising their own choice, transferred the government to Idwal, son of Meirig, whom Meredydd, on being informed of this revolution, made an immediate attempt to dethrone, but without success.

Both these chieftains died soon after, Meredydd leaving issue only one daughter, who had been married to Llewelyn ab Sitsyllt, lord of Essyllt, in Powys, when he was only fourteen years of age; and who was yet in his minority. Aedan, who had succeeded to the dominion of North Wales, after a contest in which he slew his rival, Conan ab Hywel, in battle, taking advantage of Llewelyn's youth, reduced the kingdom of South Wales, without much difficulty, in the year 1000; but in 1015, the young prince, being then of full age, and having assembled a sufficient number of forces, gave battle to Aedan, routed his army, and slew that prince himself. By this signal victory Llewelyn became not only master of the kingdom of Dynevor, or South Wales, but also of that of North Wales. In 1020, an adventurer from Scotland, calling himself Rhun, and pretending to be the son of Meredydd, appeared in South Wales, and, having prevailed upon some of the most powerful chieftains to espouse his cause, found himself in a short time at the head of a sufficient force to take the field. Llewelyn, who was then in North Wales, hearing of these proceedings, hastened southward with his forces, and encountered Rhun at Aberguilly, near Carmarthen, where the latter had already arrayed his army in order for battle: the conflict was long and pertinaciously maintained, but at last terminated in favour of Llewelyn, who pursued his advantage with so much vigour, that Rhun was overtaken and slain. In the following year, Hywel and Meredydd, sons of Edwin, accompanied by Eulaf, or Aulaf, and a large army of Irish and Scots, landed in South Wales, with a view to the conquest of that kingdom, and, having pillaged the church of St. David's, in Pembrokeshire, advanced to Carmarthen, where they were met and routed by Llewelyn and his brother Conan: this engagement, however, proved fatal to Llewelyn himself, through the treachery of Madoc Min, Bishop of Bangor. Llewelyn left one son, named Gruffydd, who was in his minority: availing themselves of this circumstance, Iago, son of Idwal, took possession of the principality of North Wales, while the kingdom of Dynevor was usurped by Rhydderch, son of Ies-



ty, lord of Glamorgan; but the latter, in 1031, lost both the kingdom and his life in an engagement with Hywel and Meredydd, who had again invaded South Wales with a powerful army of Irish and Scots. The sons of Conan ab Sitsyllt soon rose in arms against these princes, to avenge the murder of their uncle Llewelyn, and, in this enterprise, they slew Meredydd, but failed in their efforts to dethrone Hywel. Gruffydd, being now of age, asserted his claims to his father's dominions, and the people, flocking to his standard from all quarters, soon took the field against Iago, Prince of North Wales, whom he defeated and slew; then, marching southward, he compelled the states of South Wales also to acknowledge his sovereign authority, and defeated Hywel in various attempts to recover his dominion there. The latter, undismayed by his ill fortune, still repeatedly took the field, aided by parties of Danes, who pillaged the country; but at last, being attacked unawares, he was defeated and slain by Gruffydd. On the death of Hywel, the sovereignty of South Wales was claimed by Rhydderch and Rhys, sons of Rhydderch ab Iestyn, who, with a powerful army raised in Glamorgan, fought an obstinate but indecisive battle with Gruffydd, after which both parties withdrew their forces. Soon after this event, some partisans of Caradoc, son of Rhydderch ab Iestyn, came from Gwent and Glamorgan into this county, where, in alliance with some of Gruffydd's discontented subjects, they attacked the possessions of that prince's friends, of whom they put several to death; but Gruffydd, leading his forces southward, punished his rebellious nobles by laying waste their estates in Dyfed, Ystrad Tywi, or Carmarthenshire, and Gower in Glamorganshire. In 1056, Gruffydd's brother Rhys was defeated and slain in his invasion of Glamorgan and Gwent; and, soon after, Gruffydd himself experienced a similar catastrophe in a battle fought against Caradoc, son of Rhydderch ab Iestyn, aided by the Saxon chieftain, Harold, with a powerful body of forces. Harold gave the sovereignty of Dynevor to Meredydd ab Owain, thought to have been descended from Hywel Dda, who, in 1069, was defeated and slain on the border of Glamorgan, by Caradoc, who had engaged in his cause a considerable body of Norman forces from England. Caradoc died in the following year, and was succeeded in his government of South Wales by his son Rhydderch.

In 1072, Rhys ab Owain, the grandson of Hywel Dda, who had for some time remained in obscurity in the Isle of Man, suddenly appeared in South Wales, to assert his claim to the dominion of that principality; and, having collected a considerable body of forces in this county and that of Brecknock, marched northward, and defeated the troops of Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, the reigning prince of North Wales, who was himself treacherously slain during the action. Rhys then turned towards Dynevor, but gave Rhydderch a friendly meeting, in which terms were entered into so little satisfactory to Rhydderch's relatives, that the latter was soon after put to death by his cousin, Meirchion ab Rhydderch, and Rhys became sovereign of all Wales. In 1074, however, he was attacked by Goronw and Llewelyn, the sons of Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, aided by a large force from Glamorgan, by whom he was twice defeated, and in the last engagement taken prisoner, and afterwards put to death. In 1077, Rhys ab Tewdwr, a descendant of

Hywel Dda, who had been compelled to take refuge in Armorica, on the usurpation of the principality of Dynevor by the princes of Glamorgan, came into South Wales, with the view of recovering to himself that sovereignty, now held by Iestyn ab Gwrgan, Prince of Glamorgan; and his pretensions being favoured by the hatred which prevailed against the latter, the native chieftains consented to his assumption of the sovereign authority. Rhys, in 1080, assisted to place Gruffydd ab Conan on the throne of North Wales, and afterwards invaded the territories of Iestyn ab Gwrgan, in Glamorgan; but he had no sooner withdrawn his troops, than the latter retaliated by ravaging Ystrad Tywi, or Carmarthenshire, and Brecknockshire, whence he carried away a large booty. In the same year also, William the Conqueror marched an army into South Wales, and, abstaining from all hostilities, received the feudal homage of the Welsh princes, and performed a pilgrimage to the shrine of St. David, in Pembrokeshire. In 1087, the sons of Bleddyn ab Cynvyn raised so formidable an insurrection in South Wales, that Rhys was compelled to retire to Ireland; but having obtained from his brother-in-law, the king of Dublin, a large body of Irish forces, he returned to South Wales, where he was joined by many of his friends, and gained a complete victory over his enemies. Having suppressed a rebellion in Dyfed, Rhys had shortly afterwards to oppose Iestyn, Prince of Glamorgan, and his Norman auxiliaries, by whom he was totally defeated within the limits of the present county of Glamorgan, and, according to the Welsh chronicles, was soon after taken and beheaded by Iestyn; but Mr. Jones, in his History of Brecknockshire, thinks that he retired to Caerbannau, in that county, and was slain fighting against the Normans under Bernard Newmarch. From this period the kingdom of Dynevor, in consequence of civil dissensions, fomented by the Norman monarchs of England, and the encroachments of the Norman barons, rapidly declined in power and extent, and was soon reduced within the boundaries of the present counties of Carmarthen and Cardigan. The defeat and death of Rhys and his eldest son left the government without a head, until the year 1092, when Cadwgan ab Bleddyn, Prince of Powys, a man of bold and enterprising spirit, assumed the sovereignty of South Wales, and carried on an almost uninterrupted series of contests, either with the Norman lords, or with the English monarch himself. William de Londres, one of the Norman knights who had assisted Robert Fitz-Hamon in the conquest of Glamorgan, led a powerful force, in 1094, into Kidwelly and Ystrad Tywi, now included in this county, and at the former place built a castle to secure his conquests. Cadwgan, and Gruffydd Prince of North Wales, were both compelled, at one time, by a formidable insurrection of the subjects of the latter, to withdraw to Ireland; but they returned the next year with a large body of Irish mercenaries, and re-established themselves in their respective governments. Cadwgan continued for some time upon amicable terms with Henry I., but at last became embroiled with that monarch, owing to the misconduct of his son in forcibly carrying away to Powys, Nest, the wife of Gerald de Windsor, governor of the castle of Pembroke. Henry urged the nobles of Powys to avenge the insult, not only by the destruction of Owain himself, but also



by attacking the possessions of his father Cadwgan, both of whom, finding the whole country in arms against them, fled to Ireland; but in the following year Cadwgan returned, and, having made his peace with Henry, was restored to his dominions. Owain also returned after a short interval, and, being unable to appease the king's displeasure, engaged in a desultory warfare with the lords marcher, which once more drew upon Cadwgan the resentment of Henry, who sent for him to London to answer for the conduct of his son, and there detained him a state prisoner. Henry, however, once more restored to him his honours and possessions, which he enjoyed only for a short time, being assassinated, in 1110, by his nephew, Madoc ab Rhyrid.

On this event, Henry was enabled, by the divided and unsettled state of the whole country, to effect the conquest of the sovereignty of South Wales, which he held for several years, to the exclusion of various competitors. In 1113, Gruffydd ab Rhys, eldest surviving son of Rhys ab Tewdwr, who, during his minority, had resided in Ireland, came to South Wales, where he was encouraged by Gerald de Windsor, who had espoused Gruffydd's sister, to assert his claim to the principality; but Henry, being soon apprised of his designs, took prompt steps to frustrate them, and Gruffydd was obliged to seek refuge at the court of Gruffydd ab Conan, Prince of North Wales, where he was shortly joined by his brother Hywel, who had effected his escape from Montgomery castle. But Gruffydd ab Conan entertaining a design of delivering up these young princes into the hands of the king of England, they made their escape by sea to South Wales, and Gruffydd ab Rhys, having reached this county in safety, determined to prosecute his claims by open warfare. His cause was eagerly espoused by his countrymen, and he soon commenced active hostilities, at the head of a large body of warriors, by entering Gower, where he made an unsuccessful attack on Swansea, and, having ravaged the surrounding country, returned into Ystrad Tywi with great booty. He afterwards successively attacked the Norman castles of Llandovery and Carmarthen, but without success; and in 1114, he again marched towards Gower, capturing on the way the castle of Kidwelly from William de Londres. Giraldus Cambrensis, in his *Itinerary*, states that, a few years after, Gruffydd's wife, Gwenllïan, attended by her two sons, led in person a body of troops into the vicinity of this fortress, where she was defeated, made prisoner, and put to death, with several of her followers, by Maurice de Londres, grandson of William. Whether or not this may have been, the reputation which Gruffydd acquired by these expeditions greatly added to the number of his followers; and Henry, regarding this affair as important, encouraged his Norman and Flemish vassals, and such Welsh adventurers as had something to expect from his favour, to unite their forces against him. Gruffydd, aware of the advantages derived by his enemies from the king's possessing so strong a fortress as the castle of Carmarthen, in the heart of his little dominion, led his forces against it with great secrecy, and took it by surprise: he then marched into Cardiganshire, where he was frequently successful against the Norman lords, but experienced a severe loss in an incautious attack upon the castle of Aberystwith. The English sovereign, finding that Gruf-

ydd was completely master of the country, engaged Owain ab Cadwgan and Llywarch ab Trahaern, by liberal promises, to lead their forces into South Wales to the assistance of his vassals, and they accordingly entered the Vale of Tywi; but Gerald de Windsor, who had recovered his wife from the hands of Owain, and was now in arms in support of Henry's dominion, in revenge for the injury he had received from that profligate chieftain, fell upon him unawares, when attended only by a few forces, and slew him, after a short conflict; and this event terminated the expedition, for Llywarch, seeing that the king's vassals, on whose co-operation he depended, were not to be trusted, withdrew his forces. Some other expeditions were undertaken, but with the like ill success; and, in 1121, Henry concluded a peace with Gruffydd, ceding to him a large portion of the ancient kingdom of Dynevor. In 1130, however, the English monarch, on the complaints of the Norman lords, ordered Gruffydd to be again attacked; but the latter, with his own troops and the assistance of Hywel ab Meredydd, a chieftain of Brecknock, acting wholly on the defensive, succeeded in driving the Norman and Flemish invaders from his territories, and then despatched an embassy to Henry, to ascertain the particulars of his offence, which information was refused him.

On the accession of Stephen to the English throne, in 1135, he sent to Gruffydd a peremptory summons to attend him without delay in London, to answer complaints which had been preferred against him; but the latter, instead of complying, having been joined by several native chieftains of both North and South Wales, overran the whole of Cardiganshire and Pembrokehire, repeatedly defeating the forces of the Norman lords with great slaughter: after this series of victories, which had nearly proved fatal to the English settlers in South Wales, Gruffydd held a grand festival at his palace in this county, to which he invited all the princes and nobles of Wales and the Marches, and which continued for forty days. Gruffydd, after having revised the existing laws of his people, died in 1136, and was succeeded by his eldest son Rhys, the earlier part of whose reign seems not to have been marked by any important event. One of the first transactions recorded is an expedition of Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, against the Normans and Flemings in Cardiganshire and the contiguous counties, in which he is stated to have destroyed the castle and town of Carmarthen, of which the Norman lords had again obtained possession. A similar incursion was made a few years afterwards, in 1144, by Owain's sons; and Stephen was so fully employed in maintaining himself on the English throne, that he was unable to exercise any power in behalf of his vassals in this country, who, however, carried on hostilities independently of their sovereign; and, in 1145, we find the Earl of Clare in possession of the castle of Carmarthen, though the chief exertions of Rhys and his brothers, at this time, seem to have been directed against the attempts of these lords to reinstate themselves in their dominion over this part of Wales. In the same year, Rhys and his brother Cadell recovered possession of the castles of Carmarthen, Dynevor, and Llanstephan, all on the Tywi. The last-named fortress was immediately after beset by a large force of Normans, English, and Flemings, but was successfully defended by Meredydd, the brother of Rhys. The castle of Carmarthen was



committed to the custody of Cadell, who repaired and strengthened the works, and made repeated incursions from it into the neighbouring territories of the Norman settlers, devastating more particularly the lands of Kidwelly and Gower. He afterwards joined his forces to those of his brother Meredydd, in an expedition with a powerful army into Cardiganshire, from which they returned laden with booty. Other similar expeditions were afterwards undertaken; and Rhys, having nearly rebuilt and greatly strengthened his royal castle of Dynevor, began to concert a plan for the total expulsion of the foreign settlers from Wales, in which, however, he could obtain no co-operation from the other Welsh chieftains. On the accession of Henry II. to the English throne, Rhys refused to join in the general peace offered to that monarch by the Welsh; but, being summoned to the English court, an accommodation was speedily effected, by which Henry was to cede to Rhys the district of Cantrev Mawr, in which stood his castle of Dynevor, and some other lordships, at that time in his possession; and to deliver up to him several castles, which he was to hold as securities for the ratification of the treaty: for these the Welsh prince rendered homage, and returned to his country, leaving two of his sons at the English court, as hostages; but the conditions, on the part of the English king, were but partially fulfilled. Gilbert Earl of Clare, after recovering some of those estates, in Cardiganshire, which had been taken from him in the reign of Stephen, proceeded to attack the possessions of Rhys, in Carmarthenshire: the latter complained to the king of England, but receiving only evasive answers, he attacked and destroyed several of the castles of the English, and obtained forcible possession of the territories, which, in violation of the agreement before mentioned, had been withheld from him. While he was besieging the castle of Carmarthen, King Henry despatched against him a powerful army, under the command of the Earls of Bristol and Clare, augmented by the forces of the prince of North Wales: Rhys withdrew his men to the mountains of Cevn Rhester, and the confederated army, finding no enemy to oppose, encamped for a short time in the Vale of Tywi, and then removed into North Wales.

On the return of Henry from Normandy, in 1163, being informed that Rhys had, during his absence, continued to molest his vassals, he led an army into South Wales, as far as Pencader, in this county, ten miles north of Carmarthen, where, before the commencement of hostilities, some of the chieftains of Brecknockshire interfering, matters were so arranged that Rhys, on condition of retaining certain districts, gave two of his nephews as hostages for his future submission. These the king delivered into the custody of the Earl of Gloucester, who inhumanly put them to death; and, on this act of treachery, the Welsh prince again flew to arms, and proceeded against the possessions of Gloucester, in Cardiganshire, and afterwards against those of other English proprietors, in Pembrokeshire. After this expedition, which proved completely successful, he was joined in his operations against the English by Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, and the chieftains of Powys: this confederacy was soon attacked by the English monarch, but the blow fell upon North Wales, whither Rhys led his troops to the common defence of their country. He afterwards again invaded Cardigan

and Pembroke, and returned to his castle of Dynevor, loaded with spoil; but, for a long period subsequent to this expedition, he remained on the most friendly terms with the English monarch, whom he met at Cardiff, on his way to Ireland, in 1172, and again at Tâlacharn, now commonly called Laugharne, in this county, on the king's return from that country. Some time after, when Henry was about to leave England for France, he appointed Rhys chief justice of South Wales. On the accession of Richard I. to the throne, in 1189, Rhys once more became the enemy of English power, and, having mustered his forces, laid siege to the castle of Carmarthen, which he took and demolished, and then proceeded towards the Marches, where he captured several castles, and returned to Dynevor in triumph: on this occasion he strengthened the castle of Kidwelly, rendering it handsomer than any of his other fortresses. Rhys died in 1196, being then styled *Arglwydd*, or lord, which title was transmitted to his descendants, having lost his rank and authority as a sovereign by his forced submissions to the English monarch. He was succeeded in his territories and his lordship of South Wales by his son, Gruffydd ab Rhys, who was attacked and made prisoner at his castle of Aberystwith, in Cardiganshire, by his brother Maelgwyn, aided by Gwenwynwyn, son of Owain Cyveilioc, lord of Powys, but was released in the year following by the English lords, into whose custody he had been given by Gwenwynwyn, and, in 1199, succeeded in expelling his usurping brother from his domains in Cardiganshire: on the death of his brother Meredydd, in 1201, he also seized upon his estates and his castle of Llandovery, the latter of which, on the death of Gruffydd in the year following, fell into the possession of Maelgwyn, from whom it was taken, in 1204, by Rhys, son of Gruffydd, who had succeeded to the territory of his father. Rhys afterwards took and fortified Llangadock castle, in this county; but his uncle, assisted by his ally Gwenwynwyn, forced him to abandon his conquests, of which, however, he re-possessioned himself on Maelgwyn's withdrawing his forces into Cardiganshire. About the year 1209, Rhys Vychan, or Rhys Grŵg, brother of Maelgwyn, who had hitherto been on friendly terms with his nephews, Rhys and Owain ab Gruffydd, turned his arms against them, and took the castle of Llangadock; but they marched against that fortress with all their forces, destroyed the garrison, and razed it to the ground. Rhys Vychan, fearing also the power of Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, who had espoused the cause of the younger chieftains, departed for England, where he obtained a supply of troops from King John; and returning with these reinforcements, he invested and took the castle of Llandovery: Maelgwyn also, on making submission to the English monarch, was allowed a large body of English auxiliaries, with which he marched into Cardiganshire. After some refractory conduct on the part of the young lords, who had refused to do homage to the English king, they were received into favour; but the uncles soon after throwing off their allegiance, Rhys and Owain carried on a protracted warfare against them, and at last implored the assistance of King John in the recovery of their property, of nearly the whole of which their uncles had by degrees deprived them. That monarch ordered Viscount Foulke to demand of Rhys Vychan the castle of Llandovery, with the territory appertaining to it, for the



use of young Rhÿs and his brother; but all accommodation of that kind being refused, the English commander, attended by the two brothers, with all the forces they could collect, marched towards Dinevor, and, being met on the way by Rhÿs Vychan, a battle ensued, in which the latter was defeated with considerable loss. From the field of action he retreated towards Dynevor, and, having reinforced the garrison of that fortress, burned the town of Llandilo-Vawr to the ground, and retired to the most inaccessible parts of the neighbouring country. Foulke and the young lords assaulted the castle with such vigour, that the next day the garrison surrendered, on condition of being allowed to depart with their arms; and the remainder of the district submitted without resistance. Rhÿs Vychan removed his family to Aberystwith, in Cardiganshire, but was himself shortly after taken prisoner at Carmarthen, and committed to the king's prison there, but soon released on giving hostages: after the departure of Foulke, the castle of Llandovery surrendered to Rhÿs ab Gruffydd.

This young prince having been reconciled to his uncle Maelgwyn, their united forces invaded Pembrokeshire: these chieftains afterwards did homage to Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales; and Rhÿs attacked several of the English vassals, taking first the castle of Kidwelly, in this county, and afterwards advancing into Glamorganshire. The same year, Llewelyn ab Iorwerth led a large army into South Wales against the English settlers; and in the course of the expedition, in which he was assisted by the forces of Rhÿs ab Gruffydd, his brother Owain, and their two uncles, he took the castle of Carmarthen, which he razed to the ground, and afterwards those of Llanstephan, St. Clear's, Talacharn, or Laugharne, and Emlyn, in this county, besides others in Cardiganshire. Afterwards, young Rhÿs and his brother, in alliance with Llewelyn, attacked the territories of Llewelyn's son-in-law, Reginald de Breos, in Brecknockshire: Llewelyn placed a strong garrison in the castle of Carmarthen, and is also stated to have given Rhÿs Gruffydd permission to do homage to the king of England for some of his lands. Rhÿs afterwards quarrelled with Llewelyn concerning the possession of his castle of Cardigan, but was reconciled to him through the mediation of Henry III., and died in the course of the same year. In the absence of William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, then engaged in Ireland on behalf of the English monarch, Llewelyn took several of that nobleman's castles in South Wales, the garrisons of which he put to the sword, and replaced with his own soldiers; but the earl, on his return in 1223, retaliated upon the possessions and subjects of Llewelyn, taking the castles of Cardigan and Carmarthen. The Welsh prince, to oppose his progress, despatched into Carmarthenshire his son Gruffydd, who, having arrived at Kidwelly, intended to have taken up his quarters there; but hearing of a conspiracy that had been formed by the inhabitants to betray him to the Earl of Pembroke, he set fire to that town, and marched towards Carmarthen, where the earl was then posted. The latter crossed the river Tywi, and gave him battle; and the obstinate engagement that ensued was terminated only by the darkness of the night, when both commanders withdrew their forces, neither of them having obtained any advantage: the earl kept his troops in Carmarthen, and Gruffydd encamped for a

few days at some distance on the opposite side of the river, but his provisions beginning to fail, he withdrew into North Wales, and the earl retired into Cardiganshire. Rhÿs, son of Rhÿs Vychan, having made his father prisoner, in 1226, obtained from him, as the condition of his liberation, the castle of Llandovery, in this county. In 1233, Richard Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, in consequence of a quarrel with Henry III., in which he was aided by Owain ab Gruffydd, Rhÿs Vychan, and Maelgwyn, son of Maelgwyn ab Rhÿs, who had died in 1230, committed great devastations on the lands of many of the English settlers, and laid siege to the castle of Carmarthen, which successfully resisted his assaults for three months, when the arrival of succours by sea compelled the earl to abandon his enterprise. About this time Rhÿs Vychan died at Llandilo-Vawr, in this county; and his death was followed soon after by that of his nephew, Owain ab Gruffydd, whose possessions descended to his son Meredydd, while those of Rhÿs were shared between his sons Meredydd and Rhÿs, also named Rhÿs Vychan in the Welsh annals. On the death of Davydd ab Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, King Henry sent Nicholas de Myles to Carmarthen, with a commission for Meredydd ab Rhÿs Vychan and Meredydd ab Owain to assist in dispossessing Maelgwyn Vychan, son of Maelgwyn ab Rhÿs, of his territories, which the latter abandoned, and retired into North Wales. Rhÿs Vychan, in 1254, obtained possession of the castle of Carreg Cynnen, in this county, which his mother had placed in the hands of some of the English settlers: and having his territory of Builth, in Brecknockshire, taken from him by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, who gave it to Rhÿs' brother Meredydd, he obtained from King Henry a powerful force to aid him in recovering that portion of his territories which was held by Meredydd; and, with these auxiliaries, commanded by Stephen Bacon, he came by sea to Carmarthen, and thence marched against Dynevor castle. Llewelyn, however, sent a large force to the relief of this fortress; and the Welsh leaders, Meredydd ab Owain and Meredydd ab Rhÿs, being thus reinforced, gave battle to the English army, which they totally routed, in one of the most sanguinary conflicts that ever occurred in the principality, with the loss of about two thousand men: Llewelyn's troops afterwards proceeded towards Pembrokeshire, destroying in their march the castle of Llanstephan, in which it is thought that the remains of the English army had taken refuge. In 1258, the Welsh nobility held a convention, in which they solemnly bound themselves to maintain the common cause of their country against the attacks and encroachments of the English; but Meredydd ab Rhÿs soon passed over to the side of the English king, and, during a truce which existed about this period, was sent, in company with Patrick de Canton, the king's lieutenant, to Carmarthen, to negotiate a peace with Llewelyn, who, on his part, appointed commissioners to meet them at Emlyn, now called Newcastle-Emlyn, in this county, and among the number sent his own brother Davydd. Patrick, learning on his journey that his own followers were more numerous than those of the Welsh deputies, attacked the latter unawares with great fury, and slew several of their men, while the chieftains themselves escaped with great difficulty: Davydd their leader, however, immediately raised the surrounding country,



and, overtaking the offenders, slew Patrick, with the greater number of his attendants. Edward I., soon after his accession to the English throne, at the same time that he invaded North Wales in person, sent into South Wales a powerful army under the command of Payen de Chaworth, who laid waste the territories of several of the native chieftains, and took possession of the castle of Dynevor, which he had found in the hands of Rhys ab Meredydd, who at that time took part with the English. Edward, on his second and final invasion of North Wales, again had a powerful force actively employed in the southern part of the principality, under the Earl of Gloucester and Sir Edward Mortimer: these noblemen encountered the Welsh forces opposed to them at Llandilo-Vawr, where they completely defeated them. Edward, having accomplished the subjugation of Wales, provided for its future government by the laws contained in the celebrated statute of Rhuddlan, the provisions of which did not interfere with the territories of the lords marcher, in which they exercised *jura regalia*, but erected the districts which had of late years belonged more immediately to the princes of the house of Dynevor, and were then in the possession of the crown, into the present counties of Carmarthen and Cardigan, which were placed under the same laws and regulations as those of England.

For some years the country remained peaceable; but, during Edward's absence in France, Rhys ab Meredydd, whom that monarch had knighted for his services in aid of the subjugation of South Wales, revolted from his allegiance, took the castles of Llandovery and Dynevor, and burned several towns: Edward sent against him the Earl of Cornwall, who, advancing with his forces into this county, compelled Rhys to abandon the field, and then proceeded to attack his castles. On account of the approach of winter, the Earl of Cornwall suspended his operations, and granted the enemy a truce; and as soon as Rhys found that the English commander had withdrawn his forces, he again took the field, and besieged the castle of Emlyn; but Robert de Tibetot, the justiciary of South Wales, suddenly raising a large force, with the intention of opposing him, he fled to Ireland. Three years afterwards Rhys returned into South Wales, and, having collected a large body of partisans, fought a fierce and sanguinary battle with the justiciary, in which he was defeated with the loss of four thousand men; and being himself taken prisoner, he was shortly after executed as a traitor at York, and his possessions were bestowed on Tibetot in reward for his services. The only important manifestation of public opposition to the authority of the kings of England after this period, in which this county had any share, was at the time of the great revolt under Owain Glyndwr: at this period the French landed twelve thousand men in aid of that chieftain at Milford Haven, whence they marched towards the English border, by way of Carmarthen, the castle of which they took; but on the retreat of the French, the chief men of the county soon after abandoned the cause of Glyndwr, and renewed their allegiance to the English sovereign. On the landing of the Earl of Richmond in Pembrokehire, in August 1485, to contest the possession of the English crown with Richard III., he was immediately joined from this county by Rhys ab Thomas of Abermarlais, the most powerful subject in this part of the island,

attended by a numerous body of his friends and adherents, who afterwards led part of the earl's small army through Carmarthenshire into Brecknockshire, in which progress its ranks were swelled by great numbers favourable to the cause, collected by the light of the beacons. Rhys was knighted on Bosworth Field, being the first who received that honour from Henry VII.: and, for his eminent services throughout this contest, Henry appointed him governor of all Wales, constable and lieutenant of Brecknockshire, chamberlain of South Wales in the counties of Cardigan and Carmarthen, and seneschal of the lordship of Builth in Brecknockshire. Invested with these powers, Sir Rhys calmed the disorders which had arisen from the unsettled state of the supreme government, and fully restored obedience to the laws. During the civil war of the seventeenth century, Richard Vaughan, the first earl of Carberry, about the year 1644, enjoyed the rank of general over this county, together with those of Pembroke and Cardigan, by commission from Charles I.; but, although the forces under his command were far more numerous than those of the parliamentary leaders sent against him, he made no opposition to their progress, and the latter made themselves masters of the country: nevertheless, Vaughan was shortly after created Baron Emlyn, and lord of Carmarthen, yet received not the least molestation from the parliament, and was in high favour with Cromwell. After the great battle of St. Fagan's, in Glamorganshire, this county was the scene of several skirmishes between Colonel Horton, the victorious parliamentary commander in that engagement, and Colonel Poyer, his defeated adversary.

Carmarthenshire is in the diocese of St. David's, and province of Canterbury: it is almost wholly included in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, which comprises the deaneries of Carmarthen, Kidwelly, Llandilo, and Llangadock, in Carmarthenshire, and that of Gower in the county of Glamorgan: four of its parishes are comprised in the archdeaconry of Cardigan: the total number of them is seventy-six, of which fifteen are rectories, thirty-eight vicarages, and twenty-three perpetual curacies. For purposes of civil government it is divided into the hundreds of Cathinog, Cayo, Derllys, Elvet, and Perveth (each of which has Higher and Lower divisions), and the three comots, or hundreds, of Carnwallon, Iscennen, and Kidwelly, which form a separate liberty, distinct from the rest of the county, having its own bailiff, coroner, &c. It contains the boroughs, market towns, and ports, of Carmarthen and Llanelly; the incorporated market and sea-port towns of Kidwelly and Laugharne; the market towns of Llandilo-Vawr, Llandovery, Llangadock, and Newcastle-Emlyn; and the small sea-port of St. Clear's. One knight was formerly returned to parliament for the shire, which, by the late act for amending the representation of the people, will henceforward send two, and one representative for the borough of Carmarthen, to which that of Llanelly has been made contributory: the county member was, prior to the passing of the act, elected at Llandilo-Vawr, but they are now to be elected at Carmarthen: the polling-places are Carmarthen, Llandilo-Vawr, and Llandovery. This county is in the South Wales circuit: the assizes, and the Epiphany, Easter, and Michaelmas quarter sessions are held at Carmarthen, and the Midsummer quarter sessions at



Llandilo-Vawr: the county gaol and county house of correction are at Carmarthen: there are thirty-five acting magistrates for the county. The parochial rates raised in the county for the year ending March 25th, 1830, amounted to £37,957, and the expenditure to £37,978, of which £30,863 was applied to the relief of the poor.

Nearly the whole of the surface of Carmarthenshire is hilly, but it seldom attains a mountainous elevation: by far the greater portion is comprised in the slate tract of South Wales, which occupies all the northern part of the county, from Cwm y Dwr and the river Tywi to its northern and western confines. Here a broken chain of hills, connected with the mountain of Plinlimmon, in Montgomeryshire, and forming for the most part one side of the Vale of Teivy, extends from Brecknockshire towards the sea. On the eastern side of Carmarthenshire commences the long chain called the Black Mountains, which thence extends into Monmouthshire, a conspicuous summit of which, called *Y Van*, or *Ban Sir Gaer*, "the Carmarthenshire Beacon," is the highest summit in the county, being two thousand five hundred and ninety-six feet above the level of the sea. This striking and picturesque eminence is separated by a deep and narrow chasm from another of similar appearance, but rather superior elevation, in Brecknockshire; and the summits of both are usually noticed together as *Bannau Sir Gaer*, or the Carmarthenshire Beacons, to distinguish them from the hills near Brecknock, called *Bannau Brecheiniog*, or the Brecknockshire Beacons. They are included in the line of red sand-stone soils which extends in a direction generally from east to west across the whole of the southern part of the principality; and hence, suddenly contracting, passes south-westward in a tract of a few miles broad, bounded on the north by the slate district, and on the south by limestone, to the innermost part of Carmarthen bay, and thence west by north into Pembrokehire. From this, beyond a narrow range of limestone, the rest of the county, forming its south-eastern extremity, is included in the great coal field of South Wales, and contains Bettws mountain, being part of a chain which diverges from the Black Mountain, near the upper end of the Vale of Tawe, in Brecknockshire, and thence stretches along the banks of the Amman and Loughor nearly to the sea. The valleys, through which run the rapid and sometimes impetuous streams descending from the more elevated districts, are distinguished for their picturesque beauties, more especially that of the Tywy, or Towy, one of the most extensive in South Wales; but the smaller valleys are of more uniform appearance than those of Glamorgan and Cardigan. The mountainous tracts are for the most part bleak and dreary, except to the north of Llandilo-Vawr and Llandovery, where the scenery has the general character of that of Cardiganshire, upon which it borders. On the shores of the Burry river and the bay of Carmarthen, from Loughor to Kidwelly, are several extensive salt marshes; and Laugharne marsh, on the northern side of the bay, comprises two thousand acres of excellent land, besides a large sandy tract. This county contains several small lakes worthy of notice: of these, Llyn Tegwyn, sometimes called Pwll yr Escob, or the "Bishop's Pool," of a circular form and about half a mile in diameter, is

remarkably situated at its northern extremity, and on the highest summit of Mynydd Mawr, or the Great Mountain, a few miles to the westward of Llandeibie. A lake of the most limpid water, in form nearly a parallelogram, and about a mile in length, is situated at the bottom of the almost perpendicular declivity of the upper part of the Carmarthenshire Beacon: its scenery is rendered awfully grand by the precipitous rocks which overhang it; while, so great is its elevation, that the snow remains unmelted on its shores for seven months in the year. There are also two small lakes at the foot of a lofty hill, near which stand the ruins of the abbey of Talley.

The climate partakes of the great humidity which characterizes that of the western parts of Wales, and which, though favourable to the production of grasses, prevents, in many situations, the perfect and seasonable ripening of corn; more particularly in the Vale of Towy, which opens south-westward to the accumulated vapours of the Atlantic, and up which are attracted dense clouds and mists that are broken by the mountains towards the source of that river, and fall in frequent showers: the harvest commences in few places before the third week in August, except in the south-western part of the county, where it begins towards the close of July, or early in August. Except on the mountains in the eastern and northern parts, the air is in general extremely mild, and hoar frost scarcely ever occurs in the Vale of Towy, save on the southern side, where, the sun being excluded, the frost, after having set in, commonly continues the whole day. The Vale of the Teivy, on the northern side of the county, is not subject to the same degree of humidity as that of the Towy, the range of mountains separating them intercepting the rains from the south, and causing them to be precipitated almost wholly on the southern side. The climate of the higher mountains is cold, wet, and tempestuous.

The soils are very various. In the slate and coal tracts, occupying so much of the surface, they are for the most part of an inferior quality: peat is here found in all the hollows, and sometimes upon the slopes of the mountains; while unfertile clay abounds near their surface in many other places. The soils resting on the slate, which is for the most part of a greyish colour, are poorer wherever the latter assumes a blue cast. The clay of the coal tract contains a considerable admixture of sand, and is therefore less stubborn and more easily brought under tillage than that of the slate. The red soils are in general of an excellent kind and depth for either tillage or pasture; and barley produced on this land, southward of the Vale of Towy, is in great request for seed on the soils of the slate tract. In general, the limestone soils are very shallow; but limestone forms the substratum of a part of the rich tract of Laugharne marsh. The soil of the valleys is for the most part of a light brown or red colour, and a very rich quality, which increases in their descent towards the sea, in proportion to the length of the course of the streams which traverse them: the banks of the Towy and the Taf are more particularly distinguished for their exuberant fertility.

The general system of farming is injudicious, the ground being exhausted by a constant succession of corn crops. Agricultural societies for the encouragement of improved systems of culture, by the distribu-



tion of prizes, have been formed in different parts of it ; and the Norfolk system has of late years been introduced on several extensive farms, and various superior modes of management adopted in other places. In the enclosed lands the proportions under grass and under tillage are about equal. Wheat is most extensively cultivated in the Vales of Towy, Llangendeirn, and Llandeibie, in the neighbourhood of St. Clear's, and in Laugharne marsh, which is, nevertheless, chiefly a dairy farm ; but the climate not being favourable to the growth of this grain, good samples are very scarce, and the quantity raised not near sufficient for the supply of the inhabitants of the county, who are therefore under the necessity of importing a great deal from Bristol. The produce in the vales of Towy and Teivy, and in the other richer lowlands, is from twenty to twenty-five bushels per acre, but on the uplands only from ten to fifteen. Barley succeeds better, and produces good crops in bulk, but generally ill-coloured, and frequently thin-bodied, owing to almost incessant rains and damps : the best quality grows on the northern side of the hills separating the vales of Towy and Teivy : the produce on the uplands averages about thirteen bushels per acre, though it is sometimes as low as nine, and sometimes as high as twenty. Oats are very extensively cultivated, more particularly on the uplands, and are the most profitable crop grown : the produce is generally small, but in the vale of the Teivy it is sometimes as much as fifty bushels per acre : large quantities of oats, though of an inferior quality, are annually exported to Bristol and other markets, together with some barley. On some of the hills, separating the vales of Towy and Teivy, oats and barley are sown together, and the produce, being kiln-dried and ground, is made into a kind of bread, called *sipris* : oaten bread is also frequently used among the hills. Peas are very little cultivated, and beans only in Laugharne marsh. Buckwheat is occasionally grown ; potatoes commonly. Turnips are sometimes grown, but suffer greatly from being choked by the natural grasses produced by superabundant moisture. Vetches are sown in some instances, as also are flax and hemp, more particularly in Laugharne marsh. The principal artificial grasses are trefoil, red and white clover, and rye-grass : lucern is cultivated in a few places. After a course of tillage, more particularly in Laugharne marsh, the land is sometimes left to recover its native sward without being sown with any kind of grass seeds, but this practice is gradually falling into disuse. The beautiful Vale of Towy is the tract most distinguished for the excellence of its grass lands, more particularly from Llangadock down to Carmarthen, and thence to the sea, in which latter extent they consist chiefly of drained marshes : next to this the banks of the Tâf are most noted. In those parts of the county which border on Cardiganshire and Pembroke-shire the pastures are frequently fogged ; that is, they lie ungrazed from June until March, when the grass becomes of great value, and, owing to the mildness of the winter, has suffered no damage. Meadows conveniently situated have, in a few instances, been brought under a system of artificial irrigation. The chief produce of the dairy is butter and cheese : the former is exported in considerable quantities to Bristol and Merthyr-Tydvil, in casks containing about one hundred lb. ; while the cheese, which is made almost exclusively of

skimmed milk, is chiefly consumed in the county. Lime is the most common manure, and is frequently brought from a considerable distance : the practice of folding sheep is generally pursued on the upland farms. The agricultural implements are for the most part of a light and improved construction ; the ploughing teams generally consist of two horses with a driver. Waggon's are sometimes seen in the more level parts of the county, but carts are every where in more common use : these are drawn by one horse in the shafts, and two abreast before him, which are usually driven in hand, and guided by a single rein fastened to the bridle of the near leader. The most common kind of cattle is a native black breed : on the mountains they are very small, but in the vales and richer lands attain a middling size, though they are every where ill-shaped and unprofitable for the dairy. Besides these, Carmarthenshire contains also black Pembroke-shire cattle, better known as the Castle-martin breed, which are chiefly found in the parts bordering on that county ; some of the brown Devonshire breed ; and, in the neighbourhood of Llandovery, Llangadock, &c., a few of the Herefordshire sort. The breed of sheep for which it is most distinguished is that of its mountains, which occupies more particularly the high bleak and open tracts between the Teivy and the Towy. Little attention is in general bestowed on these sheep : some of them are horned, and for the most part they have white faces and legs : their wool is short and coarse, and is used in the manufacture of flannels, blankets, ordinary cloths, and felt hats : the general average weight of the wethers of this small, hardy, and intractable race is from eight to twelve lb. per quarter. Many South Down sheep have been introduced. The horses are in general compact, bony, and of a middling size, and many for the saddle are handsome. The hogs are partly of the old slouch-eared kind, and partly of the same intermingled with the short-eared Chinese breed : great numbers are reared, and exported chiefly to Bristol. The genial climate of the districts bordering on the coast is particularly favourable to horticulture : there are but few orchards. This county, which was formerly well wooded, is now the reverse : various plantations have, however, been made of late years by different gentlemen ; and at Velindre, near Newcastle-Emlyn, are several extensive nursery-grounds for forest trees. About one-third of the county consists of wastes, many of which are not common, but have been appropriated in respective portions to the adjacent estates. One-half of them is supposed to be capable of improvement by cultivation, and is now being enclosed ; but the other half, owing to superior elevation and other difficulties, can never receive such amelioration. They are depastured by the occupiers at large within the several manors to which they belong, subject only to the restriction that no one must turn upon them more than his farm will support during the winter. Numerous flocks of the small mountain sheep are kept upon most of the hills, together with a few inferior cattle and horses : but the highest elevations, during the winter, are occupied by no kind of stock. The greatest extent of these wilds is on the hills between the rivers Towy and Teivy : the rest lie to the south-east of the Vale of Towy, on the red sand-stone tract, on the limestone hills, and on the mountains of the coal tract : those on the Black Mountains, occupying parts



of each of these three districts, on the eastern side of the county, are very extensive and elevated. A greater number of acres of waste land has, of late years, been enclosed (under the sanction of acts of parliament), in this county than in any other of South Wales. In the south-eastern parts of it coal is the principal fuel, being there obtained in great abundance: in the parts remote from the coal tract, peat and turf are frequently used.

The mineral productions are various and important, but consist chiefly of coal and iron. The south-eastern part of the county is included in the great coal and iron tract of South Wales, bounded on the north by a narrow range of limestone, which, running eastward from the border of Pembrokeshire, appears first in the parish of Pendine below Laugharne, and then dips under the inner part of the bay of Carmarthen, to Llanstephan, whence it takes a north-easterly direction through the parishes of Kidwelly and Llangendeirn, by the lake on the Great Mountain and the village of Llandeibie, and over the Black Mountain into Brecknockshire. The deepest part of the mineral basin, of which this limestone range forms the northern rim, extends from the vicinity of Llanelly eastward nearly to Neath in Glamorganshire; and from this tract the strata of the whole formation rise to the surface in every direction. The beds of coal rising immediately to the north and south of Llanelly are of a bituminous quality, but those lying lower in the formation, and appearing on the surface, between four miles north of Llanelly and the limestone range, are of the kind called by the Welsh *glo caled*, and by the English "stone coal," and of excellent quality: the latter species neither soils the fingers, nor flames when ignited, being entirely devoid of bitumen: this coal is the sort chiefly burned in the county, for which purpose the culm or dust of it is mixed with clay and formed into balls, which, when ignited, emit a strong heat. Of the bituminous coking coal of the higher strata, which is of excellent quality, large quantities are raised in the neighbourhood of Llanelly, of which part is consumed in the county, and the rest exported. The iron-ore accompanying the coal strata is worked near Llanelly, as it also was formerly on the Great Mountain, from which latter situation it was conveyed by a tram-road to the furnaces at Llanelly. In the vicinity of Kidwelly, accompanying the limestone which forms the northern edge of the coal and iron tract, copper-ore is found in great abundance, but at present is worked only on a limited scale, and is conveyed by land carriage to Llanelly, where it is smelted. The only lead mine is one belonging to Lord Cawdor, situated in the slate tract, at Rhandir y Mwyn, in the parish of Llanvair ar y brÿn, about six miles above Llandovery, in the Vale of Tywi: this was formerly one of the most extensive works of the kind in the kingdom, and its produce was conveyed by land carriage to Llanelly, to be smelted; but it is now discontinued. The principal building stones obtained are, anomalous ranges of freestone in the slate tract, one of which is worked at Cwm Cerrig Nadd, near Ystyfylan Carn, about three miles north-east of Carmarthen; the siliceous stone of the red sand-stone tract; the freestone of the coal measures; and semi-indurated shale, which, for want of better materials, is frequently used in the slate tract. Great quantities of argillaceous slates, of a

good quality, are raised at Coed Gwili, two miles from Carmarthen: several other quarries are worked in the dingles to the north-west of the Towy; and micaceous schist forms part of the strata of the Carmarthenshire Beacons, and of the coal tract. Firestones, for ovens, are obtained in some parts of the red sand-stone and slate tracts. In the parish of Llangendeirn are several marble quarries, in the range of limestone forming the northern border of the coal tract: this marble has a black ground variegated with white, bears a beautiful polish, and is wrought on the spot into chimney-pieces, &c., which are exported chiefly to Bristol: it is also used for tombstones in the surrounding country. Lime is obtained from some detached rocks about Llandilo and Dryslwyn, in the Vale of Towy; as well as in the continued line from the southern side of the Carmarthenshire Beacons, westward by Clogau Mawr, Cerrig Cynnen, Llandeibie, Mynydd Mawr, Llangendeirn, &c.; and under the head of Carmarthen bay, to Llanstephan Castle and Pendine. Fossil impressions of plants are common in the strata of sand-stone, alum shale, &c., lying contiguous to the coal beds. The manufactures and commerce of Carmarthenshire are by no means extensive. The chief manufacturing district is that of which Llanelly forms the centre, where the great abundance and excellent quality of the coal obtained in this part of the county have caused the establishment of three copper-works and two iron-foundries. A few years ago there were also iron and tin works at Carmarthen and Kidwelly, the former of which have been wholly abandoned at both places; and the tin-works at the latter are now conducted only on a very limited scale. All these works have been established in their present situations for the convenience of obtaining coal, and of maritime conveyance. Considerable quantities of woollen stockings are knitted by the women in the mountainous districts, and many of them brought for sale to the fairs: many hides and skins are tanned, dressed, and exported. The principal articles of export are, butter for the English border counties, Bristol, the great mineral tract of Glamorgan, &c.; considerable quantities of wool for the manufactures of the North; leather for Bristol, &c.; coking and stone coal, and culm; iron, in pigs, bars, bolts, and castings; tin plates; copper, in plates or unmanufactured; lead; and marble. The chief imports are shop goods, for the most part from Bristol; copper-ore, from Cornwall, Anglesey, &c., to be smelted; and tin, from Cornwall, to be manufactured. According to the custom-house regulations, this county has but one port, that of Llanelly, to which all the rest are creeks. The fishery off the coast is nearly monopolised by a Dartmouth company, which supplies the market of Bristol with much of its white fish, by trolling here: the main bed of fish extends from Worms Head, in Gower, westward towards Tenby, in Pembrokeshire, and southward several leagues around Lundy Island: the species are basse, mullet, whittings, cod in small quantity, turbot, bret, soles, maiden rays, and flat-fish.

The principal rivers are the Tywi, or Towy; the Tâf, or Tave; the Llychwyr, or Loughor; the Teivy; and the Gwendraeth Vawr and Gwendraeth Vâch, or Greater and Lesser Gwendraeth. The largest of these, and one of the finest in South Wales, is the Towy, which rises in the wildest part of Cardiganshire, between Strata Florida and the border of Brecknockshire: after a southerly



course of about ten miles, it enters Carmarthenshire near Ystrad-Fin, and pursues the same direction through a romantic valley, for about eight miles further, to Llandovery: approaching this place, the mountains recede on each side, leaving in the interval a rich and beautiful valley of considerable width, through which the Towy winds south-westward, gradually assuming a more majestic character: after a further course from Llandovery of about twenty-seven miles, it reaches the metropolis of the county, where it becomes navigable for vessels of three hundred tons' burden, and whence it winds southward a distance of eight miles through fertile marshes, and falls into the Bristol channel in Carmarthen bay, near the village of Llanstephan: the influence of the tide extends upwards to the distance of about a mile above Carmarthen. The fish of this river are much esteemed, more particularly its salmon and sewin, the latter of which are found only in the rivers of South Wales that take a southerly or westerly course. This river, running through the centre of the county, collects the great mass of its waters: its chief tributaries from the north are the Gwili, which joins it at Aberguilly; and the Cothi, which rises at Cwm Cothi, near the border of Cardiganshire, and falls into the Towy above the mouth of the Gwili, after a course of about twenty-four miles: from the south it receives the waters of the Brân, near Llandovery; those of the Sawddwy (which descends from the small lake at the foot of the northern steep of the Carmarthenshire Beacon), near Llangadock; and those of the Cynnen to the south of Llandilo; besides innumerable smaller streams on both sides. The Tâf, or Tave, has its source in the Llanvyrnach mountains, in Pembrokeshire, and, having formed for a short distance the boundary between that county and Carmarthenshire, enters the latter, and flows south-eastward to St. Clear's, where, on receiving the Cowyn, it becomes navigable, and thence flows through a rich and level tract, by the town of Laugharne, emptying itself into the bay of Carmarthen through a small æstuary, after a course of about twenty-four miles: this river is navigable to Laugharne for large ships, and to St. Clear's for those of one hundred tons' burden: besides inferior streamlets, the Tâf receives the small rivers Morlais and Cathgenni. The Loughor rises in a copious stream from a limestone rock called the Eye of Loughor, in the parish of Llandilo-Vawr, and near the western extremity of the Black Mountain: near its source it forms a fine cascade in precipitating itself over a ledge of limestone rocks, eighteen feet in height, and thence, flowing southward, is joined from the north-east by the Ammon, a stream considerably larger than itself: still proceeding southward, and receiving the waters of various smaller streams, it soon becomes the boundary between this county and that of Glamorgan; and at last, after a course of about fourteen miles, enters the creek of Loughor, near the town of that name, in Glamorganshire: this noble æstuary, however, on being joined by an insignificant stream from Gower, receives the name of Burry River, and, sweeping westward round the south-eastern extremity of the county, joins the bay of Carmarthen a little below Llanelly, where its mouth is contracted by the north-western extremity of the county of Glamorgan: this creek is navigable for vessels of small burden up to Loughor, and is distinguished for its fine salmon and sewin. The Teivy, which has its source in the moun-

tains of Cardiganshire, becomes the northern boundary of Carmarthenshire at Kellan, and so continues for a distance of twenty-seven miles, until it is joined by the small stream of the Cuch, which, for some distance, separates the counties of Carmarthen and Pembroke: the scenery on the banks of this river, below Lampeter, is beautifully picturesque: its salmon is of a particularly fine sort, and it is the most northern river in which the sewin is found. The Gwendraeth Vawr has its source in the lake on the Great Mountain, and thence flows south-westward: the Gwendraeth Vâch, taking a nearly parallel course, flows through the town of Kidwelly, and joins the Gwendraeth Vawr a little below that town: their united waters are discharged into the bay of Carmarthen through a small æstuary opening westward, after a course of about six miles: the lesser Gwendraeth is navigable for vessels of small burden up to Kidwelly. Various canals have been projected in the mining parts of the county, but the only one yet constructed is the Kidwelly canal, made about the year 1766, which is about three miles long: it was originally called "Keymer's," and was private property, having been formed for the purpose of a ready communication between some coal mines and the small harbour of Kidwelly. Some years ago, however, it was transferred to a company known as the "Kidwelly Canal Company," by whom it was extended a distance of two miles up the Vale of Gwendraeth; and a branch, three miles and a half in length, was constructed to communicate with Pembrey harbour. The rail-roads are of small extent, pervading only the limited district which comprises the mines and manufactures. The principal one, which forms a communication between the mines and works of Mynydd Mawr, or the Great Mountain, and the port of Llanelly, commencing at the former, where coal and iron were formerly raised in vast quantities, is carried down to Llanelly, a distance of thirteen miles; and from this place a branch three miles in length has been extended westward, under the provisions of an especial act of parliament, to Pembrey, a distance of three miles. Carmarthenshire is intersected in almost every direction by good turnpike roads. The road from London to St. David's, by Oxford and Gloucester, runs the whole length of the county from east to west, entering from Trêcastle, in Brecknockshire, and passing through the towns of Llandovery, Carmarthen, and St. Clear's, into Pembrokeshire: that from London to Cardigan branches from this at Llandovery to Lampeter, in Cardiganshire; and from Trêcastle there is a branch into this county through Llangadock to Llandilo-Vawr. The road from London to Haverfordwest by Cardiff enters from Loughor in Glamorganshire, and passes through Llanelly, Kidwelly, and Laugharne, into Pembrokeshire.

Among the most remarkable ancient British remains is a large Druidical circle of upright stones, of about twenty yards in diameter, in the parish of Llanboidy: this is called "Buarth Arthur," and sometimes "Meini Gwyr," and the entrance to it is by an avenue of smaller stones of a similar description. Near this is a large cromlech, called Gwael y Vil ast, or Bwrdd Arthur, "Arthur's Table," formed by a rough flat stone, of about ten feet in diameter and three feet thick, supported upon four others placed perpendicularly in the ground. Near Convil in Elvet is another very large cromlech, now nearly destroyed, surrounded by upright stones placed at irregular



distances; and in its vicinity is a large tumulus, or barrow: other tumuli occur in different places, more particularly in the parish of Llanvihangel ar Arth, near the banks of the Teivy; higher up the same valley is one called Y Castell, or "the Castle," in the adjoining parish of Llanllwny; another in the parish of Newchurch, or Eglwys Newydd; another, a very remarkable one, at Trelech ar Bettws, consisting of loose stones with a thin covering of earth; and several others in the parish of Penboyr. In the parish of Convil in Elvet is a very remarkable earthwork, consisting of an embankment about eighteen feet in height, and nearly a mile and a half in length, called the Line. In the same neighbourhood is also a very large British encampment, of an oval form; and near this are two tumuli. Other encampments of similar origin may be traced on Grongar Hill, overlooking the Vale of the Towy, and near Golden Grove, in the same neighbourhood. Near Llanduvaen, in the vicinity of the Black Mountain, are some remarkable excavations, supposed to have been the sites of ancient British habitations; and south-eastward from Llangadock is a hill, forming the extremity of the Black Mountain range in this direction, called Tri Crûg, or the "Three Hillocks," from three large heaps of stones raised upon its summit, which are conspicuous objects to a great distance around, and near which are the remains of a large circular encampment. The Roman road, the *Via Julia Maritima*, entered Carmarthenshire at Loughor, and proceeded to the present town of Carmarthen, whence it is judged to have been continued by or near the village of Llanboidy to the station *Ad Vice-simum*, in Pembrokeshire; but no traces of it have yet been discovered in this county. The *Via Julia Montana*, the course of which rests only on conjecture, is thought by some to have entered from Brecknockshire at Tâl y Sarn, in the parish of Mothvey, and thence proceeded by Llangadock and Llandilo-Vawr to Carmarthen, where it joined the *Via Julia Maritima*; but others, among whom is Sir Richard Colt Hoare, are of opinion, that, from Rhÿd y Briw, in Brecknockshire, it reached the same point by Trêcastle and Llandovery. Several vicinal ways have been traced through parts of the county: one of these, called the *Sarn Helen*, entering from Lampeter in Cardiganshire, may be traced as far as the New Inn on the road towards Carmarthen, where all appearance of it is lost: this formed the communication between the station *Loventium*, in Cardiganshire, and that of *Maridunum*, at Carmarthen. Another, also called the *Sarn Helen*, led from the station at Llanvair ar y brÿn, to that of *Loventium* in Cardiganshire, and may be traced from the former place, passing near Llanyerwys church, to the valley of the small river Twrch; while a third, from Llanvair, takes a north-easterly course along the Vale of the Brân into Brecknockshire, through which it was continued to the station on the Ython, in Radnorshire. The remains of Roman occupation discovered at Llanvair ar y brÿn are remarkably numerous, consisting of bricks, pottery, coins, lamps, &c. A great variety of Roman coins has been found, more particularly at Killymaenllwyd, in the parish of Llanboidy; in that of Convil-Cayo; and in that of Penboyr: some of these are among the most ancient that have been found in the island: various other minor relics of that people are occasionally discovered in other places, more especially near Convil-Cayo, where a golden

torques has been found; and Roman encampments may yet be seen on Grongar Hill, and in a field on the northern side of the town of Carmarthen, called the Bulrack, and near the church of Penboyr.

At the period of the Reformation there were in this county, at Aberguilly, a considerable college of prebendaries, priests, &c.; at Alblanda, or Whiteland, called in Welsh *Tŷ Gwyn ar Tâff* (the white house on the river Tâf), a Cistercian abbey; at Carmarthen, an Augustine priory and a house of Grey friars; at Kidwelly, a Benedictine priory; and at Talley, a Premonstratensian abbey: prior to that era there was also a small alien priory at St. Clear's. There are remains of the abbeys of Talley, near Llandilo-Vawr, and Whitland, about five miles from St. Clear's, and also of the priory of Carmarthen: in the parish of Llanllwny, near the church, are some remains of a priory, called by the inhabitants Yr hên Briordy; and upon a farm, called Maes Nonny, or the "Nun's Field," in the same neighbourhood, are those of a nunnery. The most remarkable specimens of ecclesiastical architecture are seen in the churches of Carmarthen, Kidwelly, and Laugharne. There are remains of the castles of Carmarthen; Carreg Cynnen, about four miles east of Llandilo-Vawr; Dynevor, near Llandilo-Vawr; Dryslwyn, on a singular detached eminence in the Vale of Towy; Kidwelly; Laugharne; Llandovery; Llanstephan, near the mouth of the Towy; and Newcastle-Emlyn: the remains of the castle of Kidwelly are more perfect than those of any other similar edifice in the principality: Carmarthen and Dynevor castles were the chief residences of the princes of South Wales. The modern seats are numerous; some of them are noble edifices, and many of them elegant. Among those more particularly worthy of notice are, Aberguilly, now the only episcopal residence belonging to the see of St. David's; Aberglâsney, the residence of John W. Philipps, Esq.; Abermarlais, that of Admiral Sir Thomas Foley, G. C. B.; Court Henry, that of the Rev. Henry Green; Dôlcothy, that of — Johnes, Esq.; Dôlhaid, that of — Lloyd, Esq.; Glanbrân, that of Col. Gwynne; Glanrhÿdw, that of J. E. Saunders, Esq.; Glyn hîr, that of Mrs. Dubuisson; Golden Grove, that of Earl Cawdor; Iscoed, that of the Rev. Edward Picton; Kilgwyn, that of Major J. P. Gwynne Holford; Killymaenllwyd, that of John Rees, Esq.; Llanelly House, that of William Chambers, Esq.; Llanstephan Place, that of George Meares, Esq.; Llÿs Newydd, that of Thomas Lewis, Esq.; Llwynbrân, that of Captain Rice; Maes Gwynne, that of Walter R. H. Powel, Esq.; Middleton Hall, that of — Adams, Esq.; Dynevor Castle, that of Lord Dynevor, lineally descended from the celebrated Rhÿs ab Thomas, who was knighted by Henry VII.; Rhÿdygors, that of D. J. Edwardes, Esq.; Stradey, that of — Lewis, Esq.; Taliaaris, that of the late Lord Robert Seymour; Ystrad, that of John Jones, Esq.; &c. The farm-houses and offices, and the cottages, are in many instances of an inferior kind, the chief cause of which in the slate district is the want of proper materials for their construction: in that district, and in some places in the other parts of the county, the walls of the cottages are often built of mud, about five feet high, the roof being of thatch, and the chimney of wattle and dab, held together by bandages of hay-ropes. In different parts of the county are springs possessing medicinal properties, and noted in their respective vicinities for the cure of various disorders: those



of the greatest celebrity and most resorted to are chalybeate, and are situated in Middleton Hall Park, near the village of Llanarthney, about seven miles above Carmarthen, in the delightful vale of Towy. In the parish of Convil-Cayo are two very strong sulphureous springs, of ancient fame, and a chalybeate spring; and near Convil in Elvet is a chalybeate water, called "the spring of Fos-Sana," which, from its name, is supposed to have been known to the Romans, and called by them *Fons Sana*: other mineral springs occur in the parish of Penboyr and some other places. In the parish of Llandeveyson, near Llandilo, is a spring which ebbs and flows twice every day, and is called Fynnon or Nant y Rheibio, "the bewitched well or brook." The fences in the slate and coal tracts frequently consist of dry, stone walls: in these districts the holly is very common and flourishing. In this county, as in those of Pembroke and Cardigan, there is a remarkable intermixture of landed possessions, a small patch of land often lying isolated in the midst of an estate belonging to another individual: this was particularly the case with the estates of Sir Rhys ab Thomas, which, besides the demesnes attached to his castles and manors, were scattered all over this part of the country, in small and unconnected tenements. The manners of the people are considered to be, on the whole, less pleasing than in most parts of Wales: this is more especially remarked at the western extremity of the county, the rudeness of the inhabitants of which is attributed to their habitual jealousy and dislike of their neighbours of Pembrokeshire, who are descended from the Anglo-Norman and Flemish colonists of that region.



Arms.

CARNARVON (CAERNARVON), a sea-port, borough, and market-town, having separate jurisdiction, in the parish of LLANBEBLIG, locally in the hundred of Isgorvai, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 250 miles (N.W. by W.) from London. The population is returned with the parish. This place, which is the county town of Carnarvonshire, and may be regarded as the metropolis of North Wales, owes its origin to the Roman station *Segontium*, so named from its situation on the river Seiont, which, rising in the lake of Llŷn Peris, falls into the Menai straits near the spot. It was the most important post occupied by the Romans within the limits of North Wales, and communicated with the station *Deva*, now Chester, by the ancient Watling-street, and with South Wales by the road since called the *Via Occidentalis*. This station is by Nennius, in his catalogue of British cities, called *Caer Cystenig*, or "the castle of Constantine;" and the writer of the life of Gruffydd ab Cynan states that Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, built a castel at *Hén Gaer Cystenni*, which the Latin translator has rendered "*in antiqua urbe Constantini Imperatoris*." From the situation of *Segontium*, opposite to *Mona*, or Anglesey, it obtained the British name of *Caer yn Arvon*, signifying the strong hold in the country opposite to the isle of *Mona*; and this appellation, with a very trifling alteration, was transferred to the present town, which

subsequently rose from the ruins, and was partly built with the materials, of the ancient station. After the departure of the Romans from Britain, the city of *Segontium* was frequently the residence of the British princes of North Wales, who assumed and exercised supreme authority over the petty states into which the Roman province of *Britannia Secunda* was now divided. Cadwallon, son of Cadvan, who distinguished himself by his valour in opposing the inroads of the Saxons into North Wales, and who was killed while fighting against them in Northumbria, in the year 676, was the first of these princes that held his court in this place, which was probably selected, on account of the strength of its fortifications and the security of its situation, as a residence for their families, while they themselves were employed in the prosecution of the wars in which they were almost incessantly engaged, not only with the Saxons, but also with the Irish and Picts, and at a later period with the Danes, who were continually making predatory incursions into their territories. Carnarvon continued to be the residence of the native princes till about the year 873, when Roderic the Great transferred, or rather restored, the seat of government to Aberfraw, on the southern shores of the Isle of Mona, or Anglesey, where it had been originally established, in the fourth century, by Caswallon Law-hîr, the first native sovereign, and where it afterwards remained for several centuries.

Soon after the Norman conquest of England, Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, having nearly subdued the whole of North Wales, in which he committed the most frightful ravages, erected several fortresses in different parts of the principality, in order to secure his conquests, and among them the castle at this place, which was probably the first building of any importance near the site, and was perhaps the origin of the present town, which, though it is supposed to have taken its name from Edward I., to whom its foundation has been attributed, is mentioned under that name at a much earlier period. Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, having banished his brother Cadwaladr, the latter engaged in his service several Irish chieftains and a large body of troops, and landed at Abermenai, a few miles to the south-west of Carnarvon, where he was opposed by Owain, with a powerful army. But the two brothers having amicably adjusted their differences, without having further recourse to arms, the Irish were so incensed, that they detained Cadwaladr a prisoner, until they received their stipulated remuneration. That prince, having given them two thousand head of cattle, was set at liberty; and Owain, being apprised of this, suddenly attacked the Irish, and, having slain great numbers of them, took from them not only the cattle given by Cadwaladr, but other spoils and prisoners captured by them in the adjacent country. Giraldus Cambrensis, who accompanied Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, on his route through Wales, to preach the crusades, in 1188, mentions this place in his Itinerary; and a charter granted by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth to the priory of Penmon is dated from Carnarvon, in the year 1221. Edward I., immediately after his subjugation of the principality, struck with the importance of a situation so well calculated by nature for security and strength, erected a magnificent castle in this place, to keep the native chieftains in subjection, and to render himself



master of his newly acquired dominions, and more especially of the districts in the vicinity of Snowdon, which had been the safe retreat of numbers who set his power at defiance, and still refused to submit to his authority. In this castle he generally resided, while engaged in completing the conquest which he had achieved, and occasionally held his court; and, if not the original founder of the present town, he certainly laid the basis of its subsequent importance and prosperity. This splendid fortress, which for its extent and architectural beauty was the admiration of the country, and of which the remains strikingly display its original grandeur and magnificence, occupies the summit of a compact schistose rock, boldly projecting into the bay of Carnarvon, and bounded on one side by the Menai, on another by the æstuary of the Seiont, and on the third, and partly on the fourth, by a creek, or inlet, from the strait. It was commenced in the year 1282, and is said to have been completed in the short space of one year, Edward having compelled the native chieftains not only to procure artisans and labourers, but also to contribute large sums of money towards the expense of its erection, to which also he appropriated the revenues of the archiepiscopal see of York, which had been kept vacant for that purpose. The walls of the ancient *Segontium* furnished a portion of the materials, limestone was brought from Anglesey, and breccia, or grit-stone, from the vicinity of Vaenol, near Bangor, for the conveyance of which heavy substances the straits of the Menai afforded every facility. Probably only so much of the castle was completed, within that short period of time, as was necessary for the immediate accommodation of a garrison, as, from a document formerly in the exchequer of Carnarvon, it would appear that the whole of this stately pile was not completed in less than twelve years. The first governor was John de Haverling, under whom, with a chaplain, surgeon, and smith, was a garrison of forty armed men, of whom fifteen were cross-bowmen, and the remainder performed the duty of watch and ward. This establishment, according to Sir John Doddridge's historical account of North Wales, published about the commencement of the seventeenth century, was afterwards differently constituted, and consisted of a constable of the castle, a captain of the town (whose office was occasionally held with that of constable), twenty-four soldiers, for the safe custody both of the castle and the town, and a porter of the town gates.

Notwithstanding all the vigilance and precaution of Edward, that monarch experienced much difficulty in repressing the free spirit of his new subjects, and in 1283, the Welsh chieftains firmly refused either to yield obedience to him as sovereign, unless he would consent to reside in Wales, or to any other person who was not a native of their country. The English monarch, with a view to reconcile them to his government, immediately despatched a messenger to his consort Eleanor, at that time near her confinement, requiring her presence at Carnarvon, for which place she immediately set out, though in the depth of winter, and, performing the journey on horseback, through the almost impassable roads of the country, arrived at the castle, where she was afterwards delivered of a son, on the 25th of April, who, from the premature death of his elder brother, succeeded to the throne by the title of

Edward II., and from the place of his birth was styled Edward of Carnarvon. This prince, immediately after his birth, was presented by his father to the Welsh chieftains, as their future sovereign; and in the year following, Edward, who was then at Bristol, issued from that place a writ tending to conciliate his Welsh subjects, and declaring the town of Carnarvon, among other places in the principality, to be for ever free from the payment of the tax called talliage. With a view to allure the Welsh from their retreats in the mountains, and to encourage trade, that monarch granted the inhabitants a charter of incorporation, and endowed them with many privileges. In 1289, Adam de Wetenhall was constable of the castle, which office Edward probably conferred afterwards upon his distinguished favourite, Sir Roger de Pulesdon, whom, in 1284, he appointed sheriff and "keeper" of Anglesey, and who resided in a mansion at Carnarvon, called after his name Plâs Pulesdon. Sir Roger having been commanded, in 1294, to levy a subsidy in certain parts of North Wales, towards defraying the expenses of the war with France, the inhabitants had recourse to arms, to resist this novel imposition, and put that officer to death. The insurgents, headed by Madoc, an illegitimate son of Prince Llewelyn, afterwards made a sudden attack upon Carnarvon, at that time crowded with Englishmen, who had assembled at the great fair held there; and having surprised the castle and the town, they massacred the unarmed and defenceless English, and, plundering the town, set it on fire; nor were they subdued until the king himself led an army into the Welsh territory. The young prince Edward, in his 16th year, received the homage of his Welsh subjects at Chester, being invested, as symbols of his authority, with a chaplet of gold round his head, and a silver sceptre in his hand. After the accession of this prince to the throne of England, Carnarvon was for a short time the retreat of Piers Gaveston, the imperious favourite of that monarch, who landed there on his return from Ireland, whither he had been banished. In 1402, the town was assaulted by the troops of Owain Glyndwr, but was valiantly and successfully defended for Henry IV., by Ievan ab Meredydd, and Meredydd ab Hwlkin Llwyd of Glynllivon, to whom, under the command of an English captain, the custody of the castle had been entrusted. So closely was the place besieged on this occasion, that it was found necessary to convey the corpse of Ievan, who died during the siege, by sea, round the peninsular part of the county, for interment at Penmorva.

During the parliamentary war, the castle and town, which were garrisoned for the king, were besieged and taken, in 1644, by Captain Swanley, who captured four hundred prisoners, and obtained a large quantity of arms, ammunition, and plunder. The royalists, however, recovered possession of the place, and Lord Byron was appointed governor; but in 1646 it was again besieged by the parliamentary forces, under Major-Gen. Mytton, to whom the garrison surrendered it on honourable terms. In 1648, Sir John Owen, with a party of royalists, besieged in this town General Mytton and Colonel Mason, who held it for the parliament; but Sir John withdrawing a part of his forces, to intercept Colonels Carter and Twisselton, who had been sent by the parliament to its relief, and were advancing towards Carnarvon, was defeated and taken prisoner near Aber, on the road to

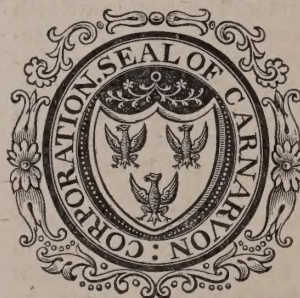


Aberconway; the siege was consequently raised, and soon after the whole of North Wales submitted to the parliament.

The town is delightfully situated at the mouth of the river Seiont, which here falls into the Menai strait, and within four miles of Aber Menai, where that strait unites with the sea in St. George's channel: it is surrounded with lofty and massive walls continued from the castle, which are defended by circular bastions at convenient intervals. On the embattled parapets was formerly a fine walk, carried round the whole circuit of the walls, in which were originally only two gates, both defended by two massive towers; the one on the east, looking towards the mountains, and communicating with the new town by means of a bridge thrown over the moat by which the walls are surrounded, and the other on the west, towards the Menai strait, communicating with the Anglesey ferry. Other entrances have been subsequently opened from the suburbs and the extensive ranges of new buildings which are situated without the walls. The plan of the town is regular: the streets, though narrow, intersect each other at right angles, and are well paved and lighted under the provisions of a local act of parliament; a gasometer is now nearly completed, for the purpose of lighting them and the public buildings, &c., with gas: the houses are in general neat and well built, and the inhabitants are supplied with water conveyed by pipes from the mountains. The salubrity of the air, the convenience of its situation for sea-bathing, and the beautiful scenery in the neighbourhood, have made this town the permanent residence of numerous respectable families, and the frequent resort of visitors, for whose accommodation a spacious and elegant hotel has been built, by the Marquis of Anglesey, within the walls, and close upon the shore of the Menai: attached to this establishment, which is replete with every accommodation, is a bath, supplied with sea water by an engine, and furnished with every requisite appendage. Several respectable lodging-houses have also been built for the reception of the increasing number of visitors, whom the advantages of its situation, and the many interesting and pleasing excursions which the vicinity affords, attract to this place during the summer season. The theatre, a small, but neat and well-arranged, building, is opened during the summer months; a billiard-room has been fitted up in one of the towers on the walls, and on the wall extending from the Eagle tower of the castle, along the shore of the Menai, is a broad terrace, forming a pleasant promenade, commanding, at high water, a fine view of the Isle of Anglesey and St. George's channel.

The port, which is a creek to that of Beaumaris, carries on an extensive coasting trade with Liverpool, Bristol, and Dublin: the principal exports are slates, of which about thirty thousand tons are annually shipped from this place, and copper-ore; and the principal imports are, timber from the American colonies, and coal and other commodities from the neighbouring coasts: the coal is deposited on wharfs for the supply of the town and the adjacent country. About twenty vessels are employed in the foreign trade, having an aggregate burden of one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven tons, and employing one hundred and ten men; and in the coasting trade, about one thousand one hundred vessels are engaged, of the aggregate burden of fifty-one thousand two hundred and twenty-six tons,

navigated by three thousand five hundred men. Great quantities of fish are taken off this part of the coast, for the supply of the town and neighbourhood, which affords employment to a considerable number of the inhabitants. The harbour has been greatly improved under the provisions of two successive acts of parliament, carried into operation by trustees empowered to levy certain rates and duties on the tonnage of all vessels entering the port; buoys have been laid down on the bar, to mark the entrance; and a breakwater has been constructed at Llanddwyn Point, seven miles to the north-west, forming a secure station for vessels: to point out these and to facilitate the entrance, two beacons have been erected on the high land at Llanddwyn. A station also has been established here for pilots commissioned by the corporation of the Trinity House, with comfortable residences provided for them by the trustees under the act for the improvement of the port, who also pay them an annual stipend for the care and management of a life-boat, which was presented to this port by Admiral Crawley. A patent slip is now being constructed in the harbour, to facilitate the repairing of vessels, and extensive and commodious quays and wharfs have been made, under the provisions of the local acts before noticed. A rail-road has been formed from the town to the slate quarries in the vale of Nantlle, extending for nine miles into the parishes of Llanllyvni and Llanddwrog; and the slates and copper-ore are conveyed in waggons, and deposited in wharfs built on the banks of the river Seiont. The custom-house is a small building of no architectural pretensions, situated outside the town walls, on the terrace extending from the quay to their northern extremity. The market is on Saturday, and is well supplied with provisions of all kinds, particularly with butcher's meat, fish, and vegetables. The fairs, principally for cattle, are on March 12th, May 16th, August 12th, September 20th, and December 5th. A new market-house and shambles were built in 1831, at the expense of the corporation, and the old shambles have been converted into a corn market.



Corporate Seal.

This town, the first in the principality that received a royal charter, was, as before observed, constituted a free borough by Edward I., almost immediately after his conquest of Wales: the burgesses were allowed to have a prison for misdemeanants, independently of the sheriff of the county, and were permitted to form a mercantile guild, and invested with divers privileges. If any villein, or bondman, lived within the precincts of the town for a year and a day, either possessing lands or paying scot and lot, he could not be reclaimed by his lord, but became enfranchised, and entitled to all the immunities of the borough: the burgesses were exempted, in every part of the kingdom, from the payment of talliage, lastage, passage, murage, pontage, and every other local imposition and tax: Jews were not permitted to reside in the borough; nor could the burgesses be convicted of any crime committed between the rivers Conway and Dovey, which district included nearly the whole of the counties of Carnarvon



and Merioneth, except by a jury of their own townsmen. By the charter the government is vested in a mayor, who is always the constable of the castle (that office being at present held by the Most Noble the Marquis of Anglesey), two bailiffs, a recorder, and steward, and an indefinite number of burgesses, assisted by a town-clerk, two stewards, two serjeants at mace, and other officers. The constable of the castle holds his office by patent, and the bailiffs are chosen annually from among the burgesses, on the 29th of September; and, with the mayor or constable of the castle, are justices of the peace within the borough. Carnarvon, with the contributory boroughs of Aberconway, Criccieth, Nevin, and Pwllheli, to which Bangor has recently been added, returns one member to parliament: the elective franchise was granted in the 37th of Henry VIII., and the right of election was formerly in the burgesses at large, but is now, by the late act for amending the representation of the people, vested in the resident burgesses only, if duly registered agreeably to the provisions of the act, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner, or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the number of voters under the ancient municipal regulations of the borough, at the time of passing the act, was four hundred and eighty; and the number of houses of the yearly value of ten pounds and upwards, situated within its limits, which comprise from two-thirds to three-fourths of the parish of Llanbeblig, and were not altered by the late boundary act, is about three hundred and eighty: the bailiffs of Carnarvon, at which place the election is always held, are the returning officers. The freedom is acquired by residence within the borough, and by gift of the burgesses. The corporation formerly held courts for the trial of all offenders not accused of capital crimes, but have discontinued to exercise that privilege for many years, and the bailiffs usually commit prisoners to the county gaol, for trial at the general quarter sessions. Courts leet and baron were formerly held, but the only court now held is one for the recovery of debts under forty shillings, at which the recorder presides, and of which the jurisdiction is co-extensive with the borough. The guildhall is composed of two of the ancient towers upon the wall, which have been fitted up and accommodated to that purpose. The assizes and sessions for the county, and the election of a knight of the shire, are held at Carnarvon, as the county town. The county hall is an appropriate building, but not distinguished by any architectural features of importance; and the county prison, to which purpose one of the towers has been converted, and the house of correction, are not entitled to particular notice, either as regards their arrangements or structure. The chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, and situated within the walls, appears to have been originally erected for the use of the garrison only: it has been elegantly fitted up as a chapel of ease to the parish church, which is about half a mile distant. A gallery was erected in it, in 1829, with funds belonging to the National school, and the rents of the seats are appropriated to the support of that institution; and one hundred and fifty free sittings have been added by means of a grant of £100 from the Incorporated Society for building and enlarging churches and cha-

pels. There are places of worship within the parish for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The National schools for boys and girls were erected in 1820, at an expense of £350, raised by subscription, and a grant of £100 from the parent society: in these schools two hundred boys and two hundred and twenty girls are gratuitously instructed, under a master and a mistress, partly by the produce of the pews in the gallery of the chapel, and partly by subscription. Certain lands and tenements in the parish of Llanrŷg were bequeathed by John Morris, for apprenticing poor children of the borough; and the interest of several donations and charitable bequests, amounting in the aggregate to £200, is annually distributed among the poor.

The Roman *Segontium* occupied a quadrangular area of about seven acres, on the summit of an eminence gradually sloping on every side, and was defended with strong walls of masonry, of which, on the south side, there are extensive portions, now in an almost perfect state. There are also vestiges of walls in several places, and within the area are the remains of a building of tiles, plastered over with a smooth and very hard cement, which appears to have been a hypocaust. A golden coin, inscribed T. DIVI. AVG. FIL. AVGVSTVS, was found within the area of the station, which is intersected by the road from Carnarvon to the parish church of Llanbeblig; and in digging the foundations of Cevn Hendré, on part of the site, in 1827, several Roman coins and valuable relics were discovered. Among the latter was found a very thin piece of gold, four inches long and one inch broad, inscribed with mystic characters, principally Greek, which, from their form, appear to be of the second century, and by the import of the names and epithets, of which some are Hebrew, shew it to be a Basilidian talisman. The Basilidian heresy, according to Irenæus, prevailed in Gaul immediately after the Apostolic age, and the discovery of this curious and valuable relic, which is now in the possession of the Rev. T. Trevor, of Cevn Hendré, by whom it was found, proves how rapidly those doctrines spread through the remotest provinces of the Roman empire. Between *Segontium* and the present town of Carnarvon, on the steep bank of the river Seiont, was an ancient Roman fortress, one of the out-posts belonging to that station, the walls of which, from eleven to twelve feet in height, and six feet in thickness, enclosed a quadrangular area, seventy-four yards in length and sixty-four in breadth: at one of the angles was a heap of stones, probably the ruins of a tower, or circular bastion, the foundation of which was discovered by digging, in which were found the horns of deer, and skeletons of smaller animals. On removing the earth, there appeared to have been a similar bastion at each of the angles of the fort, which seems to have been intended to protect the landing from this part of the river at high water. On the opposite side of the Seiont are vestiges of similar fortifications, other out-posts connected with the principal station, of which the strong post called Dinas Dinlle, on the summit of a circular artificial mount on the shore of the Menai strait, and on the verge of an extensive marsh to the south-west of the present town, was the principal. On very slender and conflicting historical testimony, resting chiefly on the authority of Matthew of



Westminster, and on the discovery of a stone inscribed with the letters s. v. c., which was found in a vault among the ruins of *Segontium*, this place is supposed to have been at one time the residence of the Emperor Constantine, whose father Constantius is stated in the *Flores Historiarum* to have been interred here. The remains of a chapel, founded during the continuance of the Roman empire in Britain, by Helena, mother of Constantine, are said to have been visible little more than a century ago; and a well in the vicinity, which was formerly in repute for the efficacy of its water, still bears the name of that princess.

The remains of the once important castle of Carnarvon occupy a spacious quadrangular area on the west side of the town: the external walls are very extensive, and in many parts almost entire; they are from eight to ten feet in thickness, and within them runs a corridor, forming a communication with every part of the castle, and opening into the numerous towers which at intervals rise from the battlements of the walls to a very considerable height: of this corridor, a portion, nearly seventy yards in length, is still entire, and is lighted by narrow apertures, through which arrows might be discharged with security against an assailing enemy. Of the towers, thirteen in number, and from the battlements of which rise slender embattled turrets, some are pentagonal, some hexagonal, and others octagonal: two are loftier than the rest, of which one, called the Eagle Tower, from the sculptured devices with which it is ornamented, and in particular from that of an eagle finely sculptured in stone by a Roman artist, and brought from the ancient *Segontium*, is singularly beautiful: it is pentagonal, and is surmounted by three slender octagonal embattled turrets. The principal entrance is on the north side, through a handsome gateway, under a massive tower, the front of which is decorated with a statue of the founder, with his hand upon his sword, which is half drawn, or probably half returned into the scabbard: the gateway was defended by four portcullises, the grooves of which are remaining, and also the ponderous hinges on which the gates were hung. The smaller entrance, called the Queen's Gate, and through which Queen Eleanor is said to have entered the castle immediately after its erection, is on the south-east, and considerably above the level of the ground on the outside: it is defended by two portcullises, and was probably at that time to be approached only by the drawbridge over the moat; this entrance leads into the Eagle Tower, in a small apartment in which Edward II. was born. In the area, which was anciently divided into an outer and an inner ward, the buildings are in a more dilapidated state than might be expected from the external appearance of the castle: many of them are almost indiscriminate heaps of ruins, and in several of the towers the rooms are merely skeletons of what they were originally. The state apartments appear to have been extensive and commodious, and were lighted by ranges of windows of elegant design, enriched with tracery; and, from the numerous remains of ornamental detail of beautiful character, appear to have been as well adapted to the purposes of a magnificent palace, as the other parts of the building were to those of an impregnable fortress. The staircase of the Eagle Tower is the only one remaining entire; and from the summit an extensive

prospect is obtained over the neighbouring parts of Carnarvonshire and the Isle of Anglesey. The prevailing character of the castle, especially in the state apartments, is the decorated style of English architecture; and in the construction of the towers, and those parts of the building which were intended for defence, a happy combination of elegance with security, and of ornament with strength, appears to have been pre-eminently regarded throughout this stupendous and beautiful structure, which, even in its present state of ruin and decay, retains an air of majestic grandeur, and, from its commanding situation, forms a most striking object, towering proudly above the rocks which line the coast, and forming a prominent and interesting feature in the scenery of the surrounding district. Carnarvon gives the title of earl to the family of Herbert.

CARNARVONSHIRE, a maritime county of NORTH WALES, bounded on the east by Denbighshire; on the south by the north-westernmost part of Merionethshire, and by that portion of St. George's channel called Cardigan bay; on the west by that portion of St. George's channel included in the right angle formed by the promontory of Llyn and the southern shore of Anglesey, and commonly called Carnarvon bay; on the north-west by the long, narrow, and rocky strait of the Menai, which separates it from Anglesey; and on the north by the broad expanse of the Irish sea. It extends from  $52^{\circ} 45'$  to  $53^{\circ} 18'$  (N. Lat.), and from  $3^{\circ} 58'$  to  $5^{\circ} 12'$  (W. Lon.); and comprises an area, according to Evans' Map of North Wales, of three hundred and nineteen thousand five hundred and twenty statute acres, or nearly five hundred square miles. The population, in 1831, was 65,753.

The patriotic exploits of the ancient British inhabitants of this county, to whom, during the successive attacks which they experienced from the Romans, Saxons, Normans, and English, its mountain fastnesses frequently afforded refuge, and the events of importance in the Welsh annals of which it has been the scene, have rendered its early history peculiarly interesting. It derives its name from the ancient province of *Arvon*, in which it was almost wholly included, and which was so called from its situation opposite to *Môn*, or *Mona*, the Isle of Anglesey, that name signifying "adjacent to Mona:" its principal town, from having been a fortified station of the Romans, obtained the British appellation of *Caer yn Arvon*, of which the present name of the town of Carnarvon is a contraction. On the conquest of Wales by Edward I., this name was also appropriated to the shire, which was then created, and which comprises the whole of the ancient province of *Arvon* (excepting only the comot of Ardudwy, which is in that of Merioneth), with the addition of the comot of Creuddyn, taken from the province of *Perveddwlad*. The ancient British inhabitants were the *Ordovices*, who occupied the whole of North Wales. After the Roman conquest of South Britain, which was first extended into this part of it by Suetonius Paulinus, soon after the year 58, it was included in the district called *Venedotia*, forming part of the great province of *Britannia Secunda*. Under the Roman dominion, the territory forming the present county of Carnarvon contained the station *Segontium*, which was situated close to the town of Carnarvon, and that of *Conovium*, at Caerhên, or Caerhun, near Aberconway; besides being traversed by two considerable roads,



# CARNARVONSHIRE



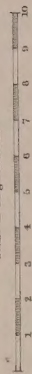
CARNARVON  
BAY

DENBIGHSHIRE

FLINTSHIRE

CARDIGAN  
BAY

Scale of English Miles.



4° West Longitude

Engraved by J.S. C. Walker.

DRAWN & ENGRAVED FOR LEWIS' TOPOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY.

Drawn by R. C. Gibson.







*viz.*, the *Via Occidentalis*, which entered it from the station *Heriri Mons* at Tommen y Mŵr, in the parish of Festiniog, in Merionethshire, and proceeded directly to *Segontium*; and a branch of the northern Watling-street, which entered it from the north-western parts of Denbighshire, and passed by *Conovium* also to *Segontium*. The latter place (called by the Welsh *Caer Segont*), and Deganwy, on the eastern bank of the Conway, at its mouth, were for a long period the residences of the princes of North Wales, affording greater safety for their families than any other places in their dominions, during the almost perpetual warfare in which they were engaged. Caswallon, the first prince of North Wales of whom we find any authentic account, had his seat of government at Aberfraw, in Anglesey; but his son and successor, Maelgwyn, usually resided at Deganwy in this county; and it was he who, in the year 552, endowed the see of Bangor with lands and franchises, and built the town of that name near the shores of the Menai. Maelgwyn was succeeded by his son Rhun, who carried on a long and sanguinary war against the Saxons of Northumbria, and, on his return into Wales, bestowed great and peculiar privileges on the men of Arvon, as a recompense for having detained them so long from their families on that northern expedition: these are called in the Welsh chronicles *Breinniau gwyr Arvon*. Deganwy, having been destroyed by lightning in the year 809, thenceforward ceased to be a royal residence. About the year 819, Egbert King of the West Saxons invaded North Wales, desolating the whole country, as far as the mountains of Snowdon, and then proceeded to attack the island of Mona, afterwards called Anglesey. Carnarvonshire was subsequently, in 853, entered by the hostile forces of the Mercian King Burhred, who advanced through it into Anglesey. In the division of Wales into three principalities, by Rhodri Mawr, or Roderic the Great, sovereign of all Wales, one of which he left to each of his three sons, the territory now forming this county was included in that of Gwynedd, or North Wales, the seat of the government of which he had fixed at Aberfraw, and was inherited by his eldest son Anarawd, who also succeeded to the title of *Brenhin Cymru Oll*, or "King of all Wales." At this period the Snowdonian range of mountains, in this county, guarded by two rivers, the Conway on the north, and that which discharges itself through the Traeth Mawr on the south, and extending completely from the northern extremity of the bay of Cardigan to the bay of Beaumaris, formed a natural barrier over which the Welsh usually retreated when pressed by the English forces, and the principal defiles of which were defended by strong fortifications. Thus the passage of the Conway was guarded by the castle of Deganwy, and the pass of Bwlch y Ddauvaen by that of Caerhên; a fort was constructed at Aber, Dôlwyddelan castle and a watch-tower in the valley of Nant-Francon, and Dôlbardarn castle in that of Nant-Peris; while the passage over the Traeth Mawr, or great sands, was defended on one side by the strong castle of Harlech, in Merionethshire, and on the other by that of Criccieth, with a watch-tower at Kestel Gyvarch, and a fort at Dôlbenmaen; the disposition of the whole displaying in that rude age considerable military skill.

About the middle of the tenth century, the sons of Hywel Dda, princes of South Wales, in their invasion

of North Wales, then governed by two princes named Ievav and Iago, laid waste the whole country as far as the Conway, on the banks of which river, at Llanrwst, they were opposed by Ievav and Iago, who completely defeated them, and pursued them into their own dominions. About the year 1055, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, the Saxon leader Harold invaded North Wales, by command of that monarch, to inflict punishment for the ravages committed by the Welsh on the border, and advanced to the mountains of Snowdon without opposition; but soon after, having entered into terms of peace with Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, and his ally, Algar Earl of Chester, he returned into England without proceeding further. Edward, however, soon received fresh provocation from the Welsh, in the conquest of whose country he determined to employ the whole force of his kingdom, and entrusted the execution of this important enterprise to Harold. This leader, having first made a partial invasion of North Wales, and retired, fitted out a fleet at Bristol, with which he sailed round the Welsh coast, while his brother Tostig penetrated with a strong body of horse through the northern part of the principality, the Welsh fleeing to their accustomed retreat, the mountains of Snowdon. Harold, on receiving intelligence of the advance of his brother, landed, and joined him with his infantry; and with these united forces he made himself master of all the more level tracts. Sensible that, in a mountainous region, broken by rivers, defiles, and forests, his soldiers ought to feel as little encumbrance from their arms as possible, he provided his infantry with targets made of hides, and other lighter kinds of armour; and, leaving his cavalry on the plains, under the command of his brother (excepting only a few horse, which, supported by small parties of heavy-armed infantry, he ordered to follow as a body of reserve), he himself advanced at the head of his troops into the mountains, and, having driven the Welsh with great slaughter out of their inmost recesses, at length compelled them to sue for peace; thus subduing those who had never before yielded to the Saxon arms. In the year 1073, Gruffydd ab Cynan, son of Iago ab Edwal, a competitor for the sovereignty of North Wales, who had made a descent in the Isle of Anglesey with a body of Irish troops, crossed the Menai strait into this county. Trahaern, the reigning prince, on this unexpected invasion, collected as many troops as he could, and marched to attack his rival, whom he encountered on Bron yr Erw, just beyond the south-eastern border of the county, near Harlech, in Merionethshire, when the latter was defeated and compelled to recross the Menai in haste. This territory shared with the rest of the northern parts of the principality in the dreadful ravages committed upon them by Hugh Earl of Chester, about the year 1079: this powerful Norman, in order to preserve the conquests which he had made in North Wales, erected different castles, among which was that situated near Bangor. In 1096, at the secret instigation of Owain ab Edwyn, lord of Englefield, and other chieftains of North Wales, a formidable army of English invaded this country, under the command of the Earls of Chester and Shrewsbury; and Gruffydd, the reigning prince, unable in time to collect a force sufficient to oppose them, retired to the mountains. The two earls, meeting with no opposition, continued their march through Carnarvonshire to the shores of the



Menai, and crossed that strait into Anglesey, into which Gruffydd had further retreated: this county soon after, however, witnessed their retreat; but the Earl of Chester, in the course of the expedition, rebuilt the castle of Deganwy, the ancient seat of the Welsh princes. In 1115, Gruffydd ab Cynan, Prince of North Wales, having agreed to deliver up to Henry I. of England Gruffydd, the son of Rhys ab Tewdwr, Prince of South Wales, who had taken refuge in his court at Aberfraw, the latter, obtaining intelligence of his design, suddenly withdrew; but Gruffydd ab Cynan, discovering the place of his retreat, sent out a body of horsemen to take him prisoner and conduct him back: fortunately for the young prince, he had just time to take sanctuary in the church of Aberdaron, a privileged place at the southern extremity of the county, from which the prince of North Wales commanded him to be taken out by force; but the clergy, obstinate in defence of their immunities, so effectually resisted the efforts of his soldiers, that they were unable to effect his orders; and in the night the partisans of the young prince secretly carried him into South Wales, where he subsequently experienced a series of romantic adventures.

In 1210, the Earl of Chester made an inroad into North Wales, and rebuilt the castle of Deganwy, at the mouth of the Conway, which, a little before, had been destroyed by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, the reigning prince of North Wales, who, in return, invaded the earl's territories, and desolated a great part of them. This inroad greatly irritated the English monarch, John, who, in revenge for it, invaded North Wales with a powerful army. Llewelyn, thinking it prudent to retire before the storm, ordered the inhabitants of the most exposed districts to remove with their goods and cattle to the mountains of Snowdon. The English army advanced along the sea-coast to the castle of Deganwy, lying opposite to these mountains on the other side of the river Conway, where it remained for some time. But Llewelyn so infested the roads with light parties, as, by cutting off their supplies of provisions from England, to reduce John and his forces to the greatest distress: the soldiers, whenever they stirred from their camp, were exposed to massacre; the Welsh, from their knowledge of the country, and their being posted on the heights, having the advantage in almost every skirmish. From this situation, after considerable loss, the king thought it prudent to retreat into England; but, recruiting his forces, he repeated his invasion a few months after, and, crossing the Conway into this county, encamped on the banks of that river. From that position he sent a detachment of his army, with proper guides, to burn the town of Bangor, which they effected, and seized Rotpert, bishop of the diocese, before the high altar. After this, Llewelyn entered into negotiations for peace, through the medium of Joan, his wife, who was John's illegitimate daughter, but obtained it only on hard conditions. Davydd, son of Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, taking advantage of the infirmities of his father's old age, seized on a great part of the territories belonging to his brother Gruffydd, leaving him in possession only of the cantrêv of Lleyn, forming the southernmost part of the county; and, to allay the ferment produced by the consequent division of interests, the Bishop of Bangor proposed a conference between the two princes. Gruffydd, in consequence of this mediation, began his journey

from Lleyn, in company with that prelate, to meet his brother; but the latter caused him to be seized on the road, and confined in the castle of Criccieth, on the shore of Cardigan bay, in this county, a circumstance which gave rise to a long and bloody civil war. On the invasion of North Wales by Henry III., in 1245, Davydd, the reigning prince, being unable to oppose him in the open country, retired to the mountains of Snowdon, leaving the march of the English monarch unimpeded as far as the æstuary of the Conway, where Henry halted, not venturing to pass that river and enter the mountain defiles, while the native forces were hovering about him in detached parties. Here he employed himself in rebuilding the castle of Deganwy: but the Welsh did not remain inactive spectators of a work of so hostile a nature, and which, if suffered to be completed, was likely to give a deadly blow to their independence. During the ten weeks that Henry was occupied in erecting this fortress, his army, which lay encamped in the open field, endured numberless hardships, from being but thinly clad and ill-sheltered during the cold weather, which set in towards the close of the summer; from a frequent scarcity of provisions, receiving only a precarious supply from Chester and Ireland; and from being greatly harassed, and their numbers reduced, by the incessant attempts which the Welsh made to cut off their straggling parties, and, in the night, to storm their camp; but after one of these conflicts, in which the English had the advantage, the latter brought in triumph to their camp the heads of nearly one hundred Welshmen. While in this perilous condition, a vessel laden with provisions for their supply arrived from Ireland, but, owing to the mariners' want of caution, was stranded, on the ebb of the tide, on the shore westward from the mouth of the Conway, towards the mountains. The Welsh hastened to take possession of the prize, but received a check from its commander, Sir Walter Bisset, who with great spirit and ability defended the vessel until a reinforcement of Welshmen, who were the English sovereign's vassals in the Marches, had succeeded in crossing the river Conway to his assistance. Having repulsed the assailants, the English party pursued them with great slaughter up into the mountains, a distance of six miles; and, on their return, flushed with success, pillaged of its books and plate the abbey of Aberconway, and set fire to its offices. With a rage bordering on phrenzy, the native forces rushed down the mountains to preserve this venerable pile, the object of their deepest reverence, and which had lately become the mausoleum of their princes. Finding the English overloaded with plunder, they the more easily slew great numbers of them, wounded others, and made many prisoners, while the remainder, plunging into the river to escape the fury of their assailants, perished in the water: several gentlemen of rank, and about one hundred others of the English, fell by the sword. The prisoners were at first only put into confinement; but the Welsh, being informed that their enemies had lately put to death some chieftains of their nation, subsequently hanged them all, and then, with barbarous rage, cut off their heads, and, tearing their dead bodies in pieces, threw the mutilated limbs into the Conway: many of these prisoners were Welshmen, under the



command of the lords of Powys, who had joined the enemies of their country. The vessel, which was still aground, was again attacked with great violence, and as bravely defended until midnight, when, on the flowing of the tide, the Welsh were obliged to retire, and, during the night, the party commanded by Sir Walter Bisset, leaving the ship, escaped to the English camp. In the morning, it being then low water, the Welsh returned to the vessel, and, finding it deserted, carried away nearly the whole of the cargo, much of which consisted of wine, and, having fired the ship, effected their retreat: the only part saved by the English was seven tuns of wine, which they obtained by drawing them out of a part of the vessel not consumed by the fire. Henry, having at length completed the important fortress of Deganwy, in spite of all the efforts of the Welsh to prevent him, placed in it a numerous garrison, well supplied with provisions and all kinds of military stores, and then withdrew into England, with the harassed remains of his army, at the end of October.

The territories of the Welsh prince were now reduced to the present counties of Carnarvon and Merioneth, with the barren parts of the adjoining districts, and, sinking under the weight of his misfortunes, Davydd died at his usual residence at Aber, on the sea-coast near Bangor, and was buried in the abbey of Aberconway. During the more prosperous course which the affairs of the Welsh took, in the first years of the reign of his successor, Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, the latter, in 1257, laid siege to the newly-erected castle of Deganwy, on the possession of which he well knew the fate of his country in a great measure depended. Alarmed for the safety of this important fortress, Henry hastened to its relief; and, on the advance of the English army, Llewelyn raised the siege and retired across the Conway to the Snowdonian mountains, taking care to break down the bridges, obstruct the roads, plough up the meadows, render the fords impassable, and remove the women and children, with all the cattle and provisions, out of the adjacent country. He did not venture to advance further than on the former occasion, but was enabled to maintain his position at Deganwy until Michaelmas, by the aid of a fleet belonging to the Cinque-Ports, which supplied his army with provisions. The winter, however, coming on, and having suffered severely from a furious attack made by the Welsh from the mountains, Henry was at last compelled to abandon the field to Llewelyn, and, with the remnant of his army, was obliged to make a precipitate and inglorious retreat to Chester. Some time after, Llewelyn succeeded in capturing the important fortress of Deganwy, which he immediately destroyed; but, in 1263, he was once more compelled to take refuge in the mountains of Snowdon, by the advance of an English army under Prince Edward, who, however, was called from the campaign by other important affairs. On his invasion of Wales, in 1277, after his accession to the English crown, by the title of Edward I., he advanced to Aberconway, and Llewelyn again sought refuge in the mountains of Snowdon, where the vigilance of the English monarch prevented him from receiving supplies of provisions from Anglesey and other places, whence he had formerly been accustomed to obtain them; and the Welsh prince was at length compelled by famine to implore the

mercy of the English king, with whom he concluded a peace on the most humiliating conditions, one of which was, that all the barons in Wales should hold their territories immediately of the king of England, excepting only the five barons in Snowdonia, who should acknowledge Llewelyn as their lord during his life, but after his death should likewise hold their estates of the king; and another, that the cantrêv of Rhôs, in which stood the castle of Deganwy, with four others, should be given up to the English sovereign.

On the second invasion of Wales by Edward I., during the ineffectual negotiations which were carried on between the king and the prince of North Wales, the latter was remaining at his palace at Aber, between Bangor and Aberconway, while the Welsh army was most probably stationed on the heights above Penmaen-Mawr, where was the strongest fortification possessed by the Welsh in the Snowdonian mountains. Edward, about the first of November, advanced to Aberconway, near which town he stationed his army in advantageous situations, his horse being encamped on the plains at the foot of the mountains, while the infantry were posted on the sides of the hills, under cover of the woods. Being unable to bring the enemy to action, Edward despatched a fleet and a strong body of forces, which secured for him the Isle of Anglesey; and, with a view of gaining possession of the mountains in the rear of the Welsh army, or of opening a communication with the other part of the English army, he constructed a bridge of boats over the narrowest part of the Menai strait, from a point called Moel y don, between Bangor and Carnarvon: the boats were fastened to each other by a chain, and a platform of boards was formed over them, broad enough for sixty men to march abreast. To counteract this design, the Welsh threw up intrenchments at some distance on the Carnarvonshire side of the Menai, to check the advance of the enemy from this quarter, and to secure the passes into their mountains. Before the bridge was entirely finished, a party of English, attended by the Gascon lords, who, with a body of Spanish troops, were then in the service of Edward, despising the Welsh for the easy conquest which they had allowed them to make of Anglesey, imprudently passed over the Menai at low water in considerable force, to reconnoitre the enemy's works, or to display their own valour. Richard ab Walwyn, who commanded the Welsh forces on this side, knowing that the tide would soon flow, and cut off the retreat of the English to their unfinished bridge, remained quiet within his intrenchments, and offered no hindrance to their passage over, or to their advance into the country: but as soon as the water had risen so high as to prevent any communication with the island of Anglesey, the Welsh rushed down from the mountains in great multitudes, attacked their enemies with loud cries, and pursued them with great slaughter into the waves, in which many were drowned, encumbered with the weight of their armour. In this action fifteen knights, thirty-two esquires, and one thousand common soldiers, were either slain or perished in the waters of the Menai: Lord Latimer, who commanded the English, had the good fortune to recover the bridge by the swiftness of his horse. The situation of Edward became daily more critical: besides the loss he



had sustained, the winter was approaching, his two armies were unable to communicate with each other by land, and the design of a diversion was become impracticable; while the Welsh were strongly intrenched on the mountains, and possessed abundance of provisions: so that the English monarch at length deemed it prudent to retreat to Rhuddlan, in the county of Flint. But the unfortunate and premature death of Llewelyn, immediately after, in South Wales, completely obscured the brightening prospects of the Welsh, whose forces in the mountains of Snowdon the English monarch proceeded to press more closely, himself on the side of Aberconway, while his troops in Anglesey made good their passage across the Menai, and penetrated into the country on the side of Carnarvon. Davydd, Llewelyn's brother, who now regarded himself as the rightful prince of North Wales, not choosing to risk a general engagement, at first contented himself with maintaining possession of all the strong holds of the mountains, but soon afterwards renewed active hostilities, though unsuccessfully. A fortress near the village of Llanberis, in this county, the ruins of which now bear the name of Castell Dôlbadarn, strong both by nature and art, standing near a morass, the only approach through which was by a single causeway, and to attain the vicinity of which it was necessary to pass through narrow and rugged defiles, had been provided by Davydd with a strong garrison; but so sunk in spirit were the Welsh, that this castle was surrendered to the English king, after being closely invested for some time, and every other fortress in the district was immediately given up. The Welsh fled in dismay on every side; and the passes of the mountains being left wholly unguarded, Edward, stationing his mounted forces at the foot of the hills, and leaving in each defile a body of troops to intercept all who should attempt to escape, penetrated in person, with the remainder of his army, into the inmost recesses of the Snowdonian mountains, setting fire to the houses and slaying great numbers of the Welsh, who were discovered in the most retired solitudes, or intercepted in fleeing thither. Having subdued the whole of the mountainous districts, Edward collected his scattered forces, and proceeded to the easy subjugation of the more level tracts, slaughtering more than three thousand of their inhabitants.

The country being thus finally subdued, as a check to any future risings among the natives, Edward erected the two vast and magnificent castles of Aberconway and Carnarvon, supplying each with suitable garrisons; and in the latter was soon after born the first prince of Wales of English blood, afterwards Edward II. Edward I. also erected Carnarvon into a town corporate, with great privileges; and, having settled the affairs of his newly acquired territories, he gave orders that a tournament should be held at Nevin, on the western coast of the promontory of Llyn, which was attended by a great number of English and foreign knights. On the 2nd of January, 1285, Edward issued a writ from Bristol, where he was then staying, by which the inhabitants of Carnarvon and Aberconway, in common with those of some other towns, were declared to be forever free from the payment of the tax called talliage. But having engaged in a war against the French monarch, he, in 1294, made an experiment of taxation on his new subjects, the Welsh, which proved the im-

mediate cause of three insurrections in different parts of the principality, nearly at the same time, which were not apparently directed by any principle of co-operation. Carnarvonshire was the principal scene of one of these revolts, which was headed by Madoc, an illegitimate son of the late gallant Llewelyn, and who himself assumed the title of Prince. The insurgents, seizing on Sir Roger de Pulesdon (a man of great power in this quarter, who stood high in Edward's favour, had been commissioned by him to exact a fourteenth of the people's moveables, and then resided at a mansion in the town of Carnarvon, called after his name *Plâs Pulesdon*), caused him to be hanged, and afterwards cut off his head, which fate was shared by all his associates in the collection of this odious tax. About the middle of July, Madoc proceeded against Carnarvon, at that time crowded with English, assembled there at a great fair, and, taking possession of that place, slaughtered them all in cold blood, plundered and fired the town, and took the castle: the strongest fortress in Snowdon also fell into the hands of Madoc, who soon after gained full possession of Anglesey. A revolt so daring and so widely spread determined Edward to suspend his intended expedition to the Continent, and to recall the forces that were ready to embark. Advancing to the Conway, he crossed that river with a part of his troops, to Aberconway, and, retiring into the castle, waited for the remainder of his army to follow; having lost, in the passage, many waggons and other carriages laden with provisions, which were intercepted by the Welsh, who descended in great multitudes from the mountains, and invested the castle on the land side. A sudden rise of the waters of the Conway likewise prevented Edward's troops from passing the river, or affording him any assistance, thus rendering his situation very perilous. The Conway, however, as suddenly subsiding as it had risen, his forces were enabled to cross to his assistance, and the Welsh, abandoning the siege, retired to the mountains of Snowdon, leaving the English king to spend his Christmas at Aberconway without molestation. While the English forces were lying here, the Earl of Warwick, receiving intelligence that a large body of the enemy was encamped in a valley enclosed on each side by a wood, at no very great distance, determined to attack them unawares. For this service he selected a squadron of horse, with a detachment of cross-bowmen and archers, and with this force, marching silently in the night, he suddenly surrounded the Welsh, who, although little expecting such an assault, fixed their spears in the ground, and, presenting a formidable front, maintained for some time their position, and kept off the English horse. Unable to make any impression, Warwick placed a cross-bowman, or archer, alternately with the horsemen, in the ranks of the latter; and these, fighting at a distance, slew great numbers with their arrows: then charging the remaining body with his horse, the Welsh phalanx was broken, and soon routed with great slaughter. After this action, Edward, finding no enemy to resist him, advanced to the shore of the Menai, which he crossed into Anglesey. Then, after laying the Carnarvonshire territory more open, by cutting roads through the woods, and severely punishing some of the persons concerned in the murder of Roger de Pulesdon, he returned with his army into



England, without having reduced to obedience the insurgent Madoc, who, however, was soon after taken prisoner, while engaged in a predatory incursion on the English border.

In 1402, Carnarvon was besieged by an army of insurgents, under the celebrated Welsh leader, Owain Glyndwr, but was bravely defended for the English king, Henry IV., by Ievan ab Meredydd, to whom, with Meredydd ab Hulkyn Llwyd of Glynllivon, under the command of an English captain, the custody of the castle had been entrusted: and in the same year the cathedral of Bangor was pillaged and laid in ruins by these revolvers. Dôlbadarn castle, near Llanberis, was occasionally in the power of each party during this protracted warfare, and the possession of it was often warmly contested as the master key to the mountains of Snowdon. On the breaking out of the civil war of the seventeenth century, Aberconway castle was garrisoned for the king by Dr. John Williams, Archbishop of York; while on the other hand Carnarvon was seized on behalf of the parliament, in 1644, by Captain Swanley, who took in it four hundred prisoners and a considerable store of arms and ammunition. In May 1645, Prince Rupert superseded the Archbishop of York in the command of North Wales, under circumstances injurious and offensive to that prelate, who, thereupon, having received an offer of protection from General Mytton, joined the party to which he had before been opposed, and assisted Mytton in the reduction of Aberconway, which town was taken by storm on the 15th of August, 1646; and the castle surrendered on the 10th of November following. In this year also the town of Carnarvon was besieged by the parliament's troops under Generals Mytton and Laugharne, to whom it was surrendered on honourable conditions by the governor, Lord Byron. In 1648, General Mytton was in turn besieged here by a small force under that zealous royalist, Sir John Owen, who, however, receiving intelligence that Colonels Carter and Twisselton, with a superior force, were marching to its relief, raised the siege and advanced to meet them. The encounter took place on a piece of ground called Talar hîr, in the vicinity of Aber-Gwynnregyn, near the foot of the mountain of Penmaen-Mawr; and, in the furious battle which ensued, Sir John was defeated and made prisoner, after which the whole of North Wales submitted to the authority of the parliament.

This county is in the diocese of Bangor (excepting only the parishes of Eglwys Rhôs, Llangwstenyn, and Llŷsuaen, which are in that of St. Asaph), and in the province of Canterbury: it is partly included in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, but chiefly in that of Bangor, which contains the deaneries of Arlêchwedd, Arvon, and Lleyn, and is wholly comprised within its limits; while the parishes in the former constitute the deanery of Evionydd: the parishes included in the diocese of St. Asaph are in the archdeaconry of St. Asaph, and deanery of Rhôs: the total number of parishes is sixty-six, of which twenty-four are rectories, twelve vicarages, and the rest perpetual curacies. For purposes of civil government it is divided into the ten hundreds of Commitmaen, Creuddyn, Dinllaen, Evionydd, Gaflogion, Isgorvai, Llêchwedd Isâv, Llêchwedd Uchâv, Nantconway, and Uchgorvai. It contains the city and newly created borough of Bangor; the borough, market, and

sea-port towns of Carnarvon, Aberconway, or Conway, and Pwllheli; the borough and market towns of Crûgcaeth, commonly called Criccieth, and Nevin; and the market town of Trêmadoc. One knight is returned to parliament for the shire, and one representative for Carnarvon and the rest of the boroughs collectively: both the county member and the member for the boroughs are elected at Carnarvon: the polling-places for county elections are Carnarvon, Aberconway, Capel-Curig, and Pwllheli. This county is in the North Wales circuit: the assizes and quarter sessions are held at Carnarvon, where stands the county gaol and house of correction: there are thirty-one acting magistrates. The parochial rates raised in the county for the year ending March 25th, 1830, amounted to £23,440, and the expenditure to £23,005, of which £19,608 was applied to the relief of the poor.

The aspect of the county is for the most part wild and mountainous, and its scenery throughout remarkably various and striking. The principal of the mountains constitute the Snowdonian range (so called from its central and loftiest summit, Snowdon), whose elevated peaks, from their height and shape, form characteristic features in the scenery of the surrounding districts to a great distance. This range, the loftiest and most remarkable in the principality, commences in a tremendous precipice overhanging the sea, a few miles to the west of Aberconway, called Penmaen-Mawr, and thence extends south-westward in the same direction as the other great mountain ridges of Wales; includes the mountain called Carnedd Llewelyn, the Peak of Snowdon, and a long tract of mountains to the south of Llanllyvni; and terminates in the lofty and triple-peaked Reivel (in Welsh called Yr Eivl, in allusion to its furcated outline), whose base is washed by the waves of Carnarvon bay, to the south-west of Clynog. The length of this mountainous range, following the zigzag direction of its summits, is forty-six miles; but the distance between its extreme points, in a straight line, is only twenty-five miles. Upon this chain, Yr Wyddva, commonly called the Peak of Snowdon, is the highest summit, and the most elevated point in South Britain, rising to the height of three thousand five hundred and seventy-one feet above the level of the sea. The second in height is Carnedd Llewelyn, which attains an elevation of three thousand four hundred and sixty-nine feet above the same level. Carnedd Daydd rises to the height of three thousand four hundred and twenty-seven feet; while the two extremities of the range are of far less elevation, Penmaen-Mawr being only one thousand five hundred and forty feet high, but remarkable as forming its abrupt termination; and the Yr Eivl mountain, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six feet high. Other more remarkable mountains, connected with this chain, are Trevaen, Moel Ogwen, Moel Siabod, the two Glyders, the two Llyders, Moel Llyvni, Moel Mynydd y Nant; Gerwyn Gôch, one thousand seven hundred and twenty-three feet high; Bwlch-Mawr, one thousand six hundred and seventy-three feet high; and Rhiw, one thousand and thirteen feet high; over all of which tower the three pre-eminent summits of Snowdon, called Yr Wyddva, or "the conspicuous summit," Crib y distyll, or "the dripping peak," and Crib Gôch, or "the red summit." This mountain, called by the English in modern times *Snowdon*, on account of its summit being frequently covered with



snow for a long period, when the plains beneath were entirely free from it, was anciently called by the Welsh *Craigiau'r Eryri*, by some translated to signify "the snow-clad rocks," while others consider the latter part of the name to be derived from *eryr*, an eagle, and the whole to signify "the eagle rocks," from the number of those birds that here fixed their alpine abode. To a spectator looking from the summit of Yr Wyddva it has the appearance of being propped by five immense rocks, as buttresses: these are Crib y distyll and Crib Gôch, between Llanberis and Capel-Curig; Lliwedd, towards Nan Gwynan; Clawdd Côch, towards Bethgelart; and Llêchog, the mountain that forms the southern side of the vale of Llanberis, towards Dôlbadarn. These nearly impassable heights for centuries formed an almost unassailable refuge for the overpowered but unsubdued Britons, when obliged to retreat before the Roman, Saxon, or English forces. Many of the mountains extend in length from north to south, while others take a line from east to west, and nearly all range in one of these directions. The precipitous declivities of the summits of the Snowdonian chain for the most part face towards the Menai strait; but the declivities in every other direction vary with the inclinations of the strata. The vegetation of these elevated regions, in the multifarious variety of plants of which it is composed, presents a rich field for the botanist: it peculiarly abounds with that species of herbaceous plants called by Linnæus *etherea*, as being found only towards the summits of mountains; and numerous other genera display their beauties in these elevated wilds, of which many are rarely found in any other situation. Amidst these mountains are very deep hollows, and narrow dells and valleys called *cwms*, through which the numerous streams that issue from the various lakes above rush with impetuous violence to a lower level, forming the most romantic cataracts, and then pursue a calmer and more meandering course to the ocean.

The lakes, though generally small, are upwards of fifty in number, and many of them abound with fish of different species, of which some are peculiar to alpine waters, and others are of extraordinary conformation. Those most distinguished for their extent, or the beauty of their surrounding scenery, are the following: *viz.*, the two that nearly fill the narrow valley of Llanberis, called Llŷnau Llanberis, the upper of which (about a mile long, and half a mile broad), though the smaller in extent, is the finer piece of water, and its depth is in some places no less than one hundred and forty yards; the other is about a mile and a half long, but so narrow as to have the appearance of a river rather than a lake: Llŷn Cawellyn, forming a fine expanse of water at the foot of Mynydd-Mawr, a vast precipice which recedes in a semilunar form from the shores of the lake, which is more than a mile and a half long, and nearly three-quarters of a mile broad; Llŷnau Nanlle, two fine sheets of water adjacent to each other, and situated in the same part of the county as the last-mentioned; and Llŷn Ogwen, Llŷn Idwal, &c. &c. Westward from the mountains, and between them and the Menai, lies an extensive plain, almost a perfect level, but not low: it is thickly strewn with large rounded fragments of rock, of the same kind as the rocks of the moun-

tains. Indeed, over nearly all the lands adjacent to the mountains are scattered immense masses of stone, the removal of which, a process that can only be effected with the aid of gunpowder, is an essential step towards the improvement of the estates which they encumber. The scenery on the rocky shores of the Menai is particularly bold and pleasing. The Vale of the Conway, on the eastern border of the county, and to the east of the Snowdonian chain, abounds with interesting prospects: it is watered by a river whose natural beauties and historic interest have often made it a theme for poetry, and presents all the diversity of prospect afforded by a well-wooded and highly cultivated country, strikingly contrasting with the bare and rugged aspect of the cloud-capped mountains which rise in frowning grandeur to the west of it, down the declivities of which, through innumerable chasms, fissures, and gullies, rush the superfluous waters of the elevated mountain lakes, to swell the more pacific stream of the Conway. The scenery in this part of the county is most varied in the vicinity of Pont Dôlgarrog and Pont Porth Llwyd, which are simply alpine bridges thrown across the streams which respectively issue out of Llŷn Cowlyd and Llŷn Geirionydd. This vale, though stretching parallel with the Vale of Clwyd, from south-east to north-west, is inferior to it in extent and fertility, having the sloping argillaceous hills of Denbighshire only on the east, while on the west it receives deposits of soil only from the hard, steep, primitive rocks of Carnarvonshire. The peninsula on the eastern side of the mouth of the Conway forms the hundred of Creuddyn, and terminates in the promontory of Great Orme's Head, or Llandudno Rocks. The cliffs forming this extremity are of limestone, very lofty, and almost perpendicular: during the summer months they are frequented by countless flocks of various sea-birds of passage, such as peregrine falcons, cormorants, razor-bills, guillemots, oyster-catchers, stormy petrels, divers, terns, curlews, gulls, and puffin-auks, or coultarnebs.

The promontory of Llleyn (so called from the ancient *cantrêv* which formerly comprised the greater part of it, while that of Evionydd contained the rest), forming the southernmost part of Carnarvonshire, and beyond the south-western extremity of which is situated Bardsey Island, is almost the only continental part of North Wales which bears any remarkable similarity to the Isle of Anglesey, which similarity, in this instance, extends to the various particulars of surface, soil, climate, course of tillage, agricultural implements, live stock, &c. Its surface, though varied, is no where mountainous; nor does it contain any of those deep glens which form so striking a feature in the scenery of most other parts of the county. It consists chiefly of what in England would be denominated upland pasture, here and there intersected by narrow marshy valleys, and interspersed with conical hills, isolated or in small groups. The fences, as in most other enclosed districts of Carnarvonshire, are formed of stone walls or earthen mounds: the small valleys are watered, as Mr. Penant observes, "by a thousand little rills;" and the coast consists of a rocky boundary, the regularity of which is broken by several small creeks, affording safe shelter during storms to boats and inferior vessels employed in fishing. The small and once distinguished



island of Bardsey is separated from the termination of this promontory, which is composed of the vast piles of rock forming the bold headland called Braich y Pwll, the *Canganorum Promontorium* of the Roman geographer, by the "Race of Bardsey," a strait about a mile broad, through which is a rapid current. From this natural circumstance it originally received the British name of *Ynys Enlli*; but the Saxons afterwards called it *Bardsey*, probably from its having formed a place of refuge for the British bards. It is about two miles long and one broad, and comprises about three hundred and seventy acres of land, of which nearly one-third is a mountainous ridge, affording food only for a few sheep and rabbits. On the south-east and south-west it is much exposed to violent blasts from the ocean, but on the north and north-east it is sheltered by the above-mentioned elevation, which on its sea front presents high, perpendicular, and rocky cliffs, resorted to by numerous flocks of the various kinds of sea-fowl above mentioned, the eggs of which are taken from their nests on the face of the cliff by some of the adventurous islanders, who descend from the summit by means of ropes carefully secured at the top. The innermost creek of the northern part of Cardigan bay forms extensive sands, called the Traeth-Mawr, which formerly were overflowed by the tides, and through which the small river Glâslyn pours its waters into the ocean. The late W. A. Madocks, Esq., of Tan yr Allt, in the immediate vicinity, having, about the commencement of the present century, succeeded in securing an extent of nearly two thousand acres of rich land, called Penmorva Marsh, on the western side of the Traeth Mawr, was induced to attempt the more arduous task of reclaiming the whole, by extending an embankment from side to side across its mouth. This gentleman, in the year 1808, obtained an act of parliament vesting in him and his heirs, or assigns, the whole of these sands, from Pont Aber Glâslyn, at their head, to the point at Gêst, at their lower extremity; and he shortly afterwards proceeded to execute the bold design which he had formed, in spite of great and unforeseen difficulties. He thus secured from the flow of the tides a tract of about two thousand seven hundred acres, which was before subject to periodical overflow, besides the great extent of land adjoining, which will in consequence be drained or secured from the injuries of floods, to which they were before liable; and of this land, so drained and secured, Mr. Madocks was to have two thousand acres in fee, and one-fifth of the rent of fifteen hundred more, or one-fifth of the land, the remainder to go to the freeholders who claim right of common upon the adjoining marshes. On a part of the tract first secured stands the little modern town of Trêmadoc. The northern shore of the county, from the mouth of the Conway westward, borders on Beaumaris bay, a fine expanse of sea, which is so completely sheltered on one side by the promontory of Creuddyn, terminated by Great Orme's Head, as above described, and on the other by the easternmost extremity of Anglesey and the little island of Priestholme, that it forms a fine roadstead for ships navigating the Irish sea, and one in which they may ride in safety during the most violent tempests. The greater part of the bay is left dry on the reflux of the tide, for several miles adjoining the shore, forming a tract called the Lavan Sands, which are supposed to have

once constituted a habitable hundred belonging to the territory of Arvon, and are said to have received their ancient name of Wylovain, or "the place of weeping," from the shrieks and lamentations of the inhabitants on its being suddenly overwhelmed by the sea in the sixth century. Lavan is supposed to be an abbreviation of Traeth Trelaven, or "the fermenting sand," from the advancing tide boiling up through the quicksands; nor is the tradition of the inundation of this tract unsupported by natural circumstances, one of the most remarkable of which is, that trunks of oak trees, nearly entire, have been discovered in it at low water, lying in an extensive tract of hard loam, far within the present high water mark.

The climate, owing to the maritime situation of the county, and the great variety of elevation in its surface, has many peculiarities. In some years the winter's snow remains on the higher summits of the Snowdonian chain until the month of June, though in the more immediate vicinity of the sea, and more especially in the great promontory of Lley, it seldom continues long upon the ground, even in the depth of winter. The rains among the mountains are frequent, generally sudden, and often very heavy, swelling the otherwise insignificant streams which descend from them into powerful torrents. Grain, on the lighter soils and in the lower vales, ripens early in August; and it is remarkable that this county, so great a portion of which is occupied by the loftiest and most rugged mountains of South Britain, should also contain the ground which of all others in North Wales is the earliest in its seasons, *viz.*, *Talar hŷr*, a piece of sandy soil with some gravel, on a substratum of sea-beach pebbles, at the foot of the mountain of Penmaen-Mawr. But corn sown in elevated situations approaching the mountains, although it may for some time give promise of a good crop, frequently never ripens, or, if at all, only very late in the season; in which latter case the sudden gusts of wind and tornadoes, so frequently bursting from the dells and hollows of the mountains at this season, sometimes beat off the ears, and leave little but the bare straw. The climate of the promontory of Lley is the driest and warmest of any district in the county, and consequently the most favourable to the success of agriculture. All attempts to introduce the profitable culture of fruit trees have hitherto proved unsuccessful; the spring, even in the vales, owing to the contiguity of the mountains, being seldom mild enough to preserve the blossoms from the destructive effects of frost, while the wetness and coldness of the summer, from the same causes, should the trees escape the first danger, vitiate the flavour of the most delicious fruits. The westerly winds prevail three-fourths of the year, and are experienced in their utmost fury about the equinoxes. The inhabitants are remarkable for their longevity, numerous gravestones in the different churchyards being inscribed with ages far exceeding eighty years: this circumstance is ascribed to the frugality of their fare, and the bracing effects of a cold, sharp, oxygenated atmosphere.

The soils are extremely various. The best are the strong loams, excellently adapted for the culture of wheat and for permanent pasture, which are found on the banks of the Conway near Marl, and thence upwards towards Maenan and Trêvriw, as also on the



shores of the Menai near Llanvair is Gaer, &c. The soil of Bardsey Island is also chiefly argillaceous, and of considerable fertility, producing excellent wheat and barley, and having a small quantity of good grass land; and the whole of the hundred of Creuddyn, lying on the eastern side of the mouth of the Conway, is occupied by strong cohesive loams, which are among the best wheat soils in North Wales, and perhaps not inferior to any in Britain. Next to these rank the dry, free, and rather stony soils, adapted for the general purposes of tillage, which occupy the middle parts of the larger vales, the lower parts of the smaller valleys, and the interior of the promontory of Lleyn. The greater part of the promontory of Lleyn has also a still lighter soil, consisting of various admixtures of sandy loam, rounded pebbles, shivery gravel, peat, &c., peculiarly adapted for the culture of barley, peas, turnips, &c.; as have also the valleys of the other parts of the county in their upper levels, and the slopes of vales having a southerly aspect. The substratum of the soils in the vicinity of the Menai consists of limestone, and hence the soil towards and amidst the mountains is of two kinds; first, where the ground is dry, it consists of a reddish loam, much intermixed with pebbles and stony fragments, which, when well manured, is very productive in corn, or almost any other agricultural crop; but, ascending higher, this surface soil becomes gradually shallower, and less promising for culture: the soil of the great levels lying between the Snowdonian chain and the Menai is alluvial, consisting of gravel and sand, or shingle. The other soils are peaty, and are widely spread over many of the meadows and heathy wastes and commons, which, being generally wet and boggy, produce in wet summers nothing of value either as pasturage or for hay: this peat is found even on the summit of Carnedd Llewelyn, but is of the greatest depth in the flats and hollows favourable to its production, and of less depth upon moderate slopes, where the substrata will not readily admit the filtration of water. In this latter situation it is generally covered with a coarse matted herbage, characterizing what is provincially called *Rhōsydd*, the surface of which, when the elevation is not too great, is sometimes pared and burned for a crop of rye, and then laid down again with grass seeds. Most of the *cwm*s, or narrow valleys among the hills and mountains, have also a peaty soil, producing an abundance of the kind of hay here called *gwair y rhōsydd*, which is composed of a few kinds of alpine grasses, thickly intermingled with various species of rushes, and frequently besprinkled with a few varieties of sedges: the hay produced in the bottoms and lower meadows is particularly fine and soft, consisting chiefly of bent and fescue grasses. *Till*, a hungry light mould tinged by the orange oxyde of iron, is occasionally found on the uplands having a slaty substratum; and a ferny soil, or hazel loam, occurs in various upland situations among the soils above described. The most extensive tract of entirely sandy soils is that of the Traeth Mawr, already mentioned, on the south-eastern confines of the county.

Of the whole extent of Carnarvonshire, little more than seven thousand acres are actually under tillage, and these are almost wholly in the hundred of Creuddyn, the Vale of the Conway, the promontory of Lleyn, and

the vicinity of the Menai. Wheat is grown on the stronger soils above described, upon which oats are seldom sown, and a dry spring makes them quite unfit for barley. On the lighter soils oats and barley are chiefly cultivated, frequently in very impoverishing rotations, in which the same grain is sometimes sown for two or three years successively, and with the last crop are always sown grass seeds: oats are the principal crop on the poorer lands. The average return of wheat in the hundred of Creuddyn, near Aberconway, is nine or ten times the quantity of the seed sown; that of barley, on warm soils, somewhat more; but of oats in the uplands, not more than from three to five times the quantity. In Lleyn the naked scythe is the only instrument used to cut all kinds of corn; in other parts of the county the reaping-hook is most commonly used to cut wheat, though the scythe is used to cut the barley and oats. Rye is sometimes grown by some of the small farmers on patches of the wastes, which they pare and burn for the purpose, and afterwards throw open again. Peas and beans are seldom cultivated as agricultural crops; but potatoes are grown to a considerable extent in different parts of the county, and Carnarvonshire ranks next to Anglesey in the neatness of its potatoe culture: the inhabitants of the Vale of the Conway and the vicinity of Carnarvon formerly imported this useful root from Lancashire, but at present they grow more than is required for their own consumption, and the surplus is exported for the partial supply of Liverpool, where the Welsh potatoes obtain a preference in the market, on account of their superior flavour. Turnips are frequently cultivated on the soils best adapted for the purpose: a few small patches of hemp are seen scattered in different places. Artificial grasses are a common agricultural crop: the most ordinary kind is the common red clover, with which other grasses are frequently intermingled, such as white clover, trefoil, and rye-grass. Rather more than one-half of the surface of the whole county, besides the amount of land under tillage, is enclosed, and constitutes meadows and pastures of very various quality: the rest, forming its waste lands, is also for the most part depastured during the summer. Indeed the farmers are chiefly herdsmen, who pay their rents out of the profits of their butter, wool, and lambs, their stock consisting of small cows and numerous herds of diminutive sheep. During the summer months these are taken to pasture on the hills and mountains; and such has been the opinion entertained of the extent of pasturage on the mountains of this county, that, according to an old proverb, "As Mona could supply corn for all the inhabitants of Wales, so could the Eryri mountains afford sufficient pasture for all its herds, if gathered together." The purpose to which the grass lands are more peculiarly applied is the rearing of great numbers of cattle and sheep, which are sold lean to the graziers of districts having richer meadows, to be fattened for places where there is a greater consumption of animal food. The land-owners of this county introduced into it, about the commencement of the present century, professed improvers of land, who advertised an offer of their services in draining, irrigating, &c.; and much land has since been brought under irrigation in some of the valleys. As fattening cattle forms no part of the rural economy of Carnarvonshire, and as the whole stock of the farm, both cattle and sheep, during the



spring and summer, feed on the open commons and the *cow-lights* on the sides of the mountains, the enclosed meadows are regularly *hained up* and reserved for crops of hay. These, where the land is occasionally manured, are tolerably good; but in numerous instances the crops are scanty, and the hay of a mean quality. Owing to the general coldness of the atmosphere among the mountains and in their vicinity, the hay harvest is usually late, and the frequency of the rains, that fall from the clouds attracted by their elevated summits, renders it highly precarious, the hay being often spoiled before it can be got in. Even should the weather continue dry, liability to damage arises from another quarter: whirlwinds or tornadoes are not unusual, the approach of which is first indicated by a distant rumbling noise, which becoming louder and louder, they are perceived advancing up the narrow valleys and hollow ravines, whirling in a circular direction, and carrying in their vortices the light and loose objects which lie within their influence. It is also necessary to secure the hay with great care in the stacks, which are thatched, first, by spreading thinly over them straw, coarse hay, or rushes, which covering is fastened down, not, as in most parts of England, with hazel rods pegged down by spars or double splinters, but with hay-ropes stretched horizontally at small distances from each other, and the intervals crossed by similar bands, the whole having the appearance of net-work, and exhibiting a peculiar degree of neatness. The extraordinary manures employed in this county are various: the following are the principal, *viz.*, shell-sand, which is found on different parts of the coast, and is carried many miles inland in carts and waggons, and coastwise in sloops; sea-weed, which is collected on the coast in large quantities after storms, more particularly on the shores of Bardsey Island, and is most commonly spread on the fields to be immediately ploughed in, though sometimes made into various composts; and lime, in the vicinity of the limestone rocks, hereafter described: Carnarvonshire has also some marl on the coast of the Menai. The old Welsh plough is still the most common implement of the kind used in the county; but the Lummas and Scotch ploughs, of a lighter construction, have been introduced in a few instances.

Most of the farmers, by the aid of the mountain and other commonable pastures, are enabled to keep a greater quantity of cattle and sheep, during the summer half of the year, than the produce of the farm will maintain through the winter; consequently, on the approach of the latter season, they sell off a considerable portion of stock, in order that they may have sufficient winter food for the remainder. The promontory of Llyn and Evionydd, having the same kind of undulating surface, though not altogether so good a soil, as Anglesey, has likewise a breed of cattle similar in most respects to those of that island, and annually supplies, for the consumption of England, about one thousand five hundred yearlings, and four thousand five hundred cattle of two years old and upwards. The cattle of the rest of Carnarvonshire, with the exception of a few select stocks, seem to be diminutives of the above breeds of Anglesey, Llyn, and Evionydd, and have little to recommend them except that they are extremely hardy and may be reared with little expense. These, though not in high esteem with the graziers or carcass

butchers, exhibit a pleasing symmetry of form, being compact, short-legged, and deep-bodied: their colour is chiefly black, and the cows are in considerable esteem for the dairy. For the improvement of this breed, various importations of the best kinds of cattle from England have been made at different times. The sheep are of the ancient diminutive alpine breed, which also occupies the mountainous tracts of the other counties of North Wales, but is here found in its purest state, unchanged by any foreign mixture. In proportion to their size, they have long legs and slender bodies, with handsome necks and faces, some of them in symmetry resembling the Spanish Merino breed. Like these also they are migratory, though not to so boundless a degree; ranging the mountains during the summer months, and at the approach of winter descending to the lowland pastures. Their faces and legs are generally white, and some of them are horned: the smaller sort weigh from seven to nine lb. per quarter, and bear a fleece weighing from three-quarters of a pound to a pound and a half; the larger weigh from nine to twelve lb. per quarter, and yield from a pound and a half to two pounds and a half of wool. This wool is generally coarse and of a short staple, though in many instances that of the neck and shoulders possesses a considerable degree of fineness, and is chiefly used in the flannel manufacture of North Wales, for which it is peculiarly adapted. From their mode of existence, these sheep are of a very different character from those of an enclosed country. Roaming wherever inclination leads them, confined by no fences, and frequently unattended by a shepherd, they are in the first instance obliged to use their own exertions against the attacks of their formidable enemies, the foxes, so numerous among the mountains of this county, as also for their defence from the ravens and large birds of prey. Instead of assembling in large flocks, they form parties, generally consisting of ten or twelve, of which number, if one perceives any thing advancing towards the little flock, he turns and faces the object, which he permits to approach within about a hundred yards, when, if its appearance be hostile and it continues to advance, he warns the party by a shrill whistling noise, which he continues until they have all taken the alarm, when the whole scamper off to the more inaccessible parts of the mountains: the instinctive powers of the shepherds' dogs employed in collecting these flocks are no less remarkable. Some few minor crosses have been introduced among the sheep in the more enclosed districts. Formerly numerous goats were bred amongst the mountains of this county, many of which were so far domesticated as to be regularly milked; but their numbers have long been rapidly diminishing, and they are now no longer considered as forming part of the farmers' stock, their value having been greatly lessened, on account of their destructiveness to young plantations, and on the general disuse of the bushy wigs which were usually made from the hair of these shaggy animals, which was distinguished for its length and fineness: the few now remaining in Carnarvonshire are principally confined to the mountain of Moel Siabod, where they run entirely wild. The native breed of hogs much resembles that of several districts in Ireland: they are thin-bodied, tall, and ill-shaped, with long heads and large ears: but more valuable kinds have been introduced from England, chiefly



the Berkshire breed, which is now become very common. Three thousand hogs are annually sent to the English markets from the promontory of Llein and Evionydd; and great numbers are sold in the autumn from other parts of the county. The horses are of mixed breeds: the best bred in the county are those of the promontory of Llein. Tender furze, bruised with mallets armed with iron, or ground in mills erected for the purpose, was formerly a common article of fodder for the horses, but is now seldom given. Little corn being raised, few domestic fowls are kept, the county being supplied with poultry from Anglesey, as it is also for the most part with rabbits from the extensive warrens between Llanveirian and Llanvaelog, in that island, although there are considerable numbers in some places near the sea-coast, where the sandiness of the soil favours their burrowing, more especially on Morva Dinlle, near Carnarvon. Of such animals, being *fera naturæ*, as formerly inhabited the grand Snowdonian chain of mountains, the principal were the wolves, deer, goats, and foxes: the wolves were exterminated several ages ago, and the deer, which, in Leland's time, appear to have prevented the growth of corn, were extirpated about the year 1626. Numerous foxes still find shelter in the holes and clefts of the rocks and crags so abundant in this district, and, by their nocturnal depredations on the poultry, lambs, and sheep, are a great annoyance to the farmers. Among the rare and curious birds, the golden eagle is known to have bred, though seldom, among the Snowdonian mountains, those which are seen there being generally occasional visitors in quest of prey. The ring, or rock, ouzel, though in most places a migratory bird, here takes up its constant abode. Seals are native on the coast of Carnarvonshire, and are seen most frequently between Llein and the shores of Anglesey: many are found about Carreg y Moelrhon, to the west of Bardsey Island, *moelrhon* being the Welsh name for a seal.

This county, owing to the general unfavourableness of its climate and aspect, is not distinguished for its horticultural productions, and great numbers of the cottages are entirely without gardens. One circumstance, however, is worthy of notice, *viz.*, that sea-kale grows wild on its coasts, being found in the greatest abundance from the mountain of Penmaen-Mawr westward to Bangor, and thence along the whole western coast to Nevyn and Aberdaron: it has, in various instances, been transplanted into gardens, where it is found to be an excellent substitute for asparagus, which it also precedes in the spring. In Leland's time the sides of the Snowdonian mountains were covered with timber, but at present they are almost entirely bare, excepting the woods above Gwydir, on the eastern side of them, which add greatly to the picturesque beauty of the Vale of Llanrwst; and those of Mr. Thomas Assheton Smith, in a very high situation at Talmignedd, near Bethgelart; to which may be added those belonging to the latter gentleman at Vaenol, near Bangor, occupying about two hundred acres, and the plantations on the Pant Glâs estate, on the south-eastern side of the county. Very extensive plantations were also made in this county, towards the close of the last century, by the late Lord Penrhyn; but, with the exception of a few comparatively recent plantations, near gentlemen's seats, the whole promontory of Llein and Evionydd

is destitute of wood: the principal of these plantations are in the vicinities of Llanystyndwy, Gwynvryn, and Plâs Hên. The hundred of Creuddyn, forming the north-easternmost division of the county, from the rest of which it is separated by the river Conway, is well wooded in the vicinities of Marl, Bôdyscallen, and Gloddæth. The trees are of various kinds, consisting of oak, ash, beech, &c., with several species of fir. The whole of the extensive region formed by the Snowdonian mountains was, on the conquest of Wales by Edward I., studiously depopulated by the policy of that monarch, who well knew the asylum it might afford to any of the native malcontents, and who, therefore, converted the chief part of it into a royal forest. In consequence of this, much of the mountainous part of the county still belongs to the crown; and numerous warrants, issued at different periods, for killing and appropriating the deer are yet extant. One of these, signed by Henry Sidney, in 1561, arbitrarily extended the boundaries of the forest of Snowdon into Anglesey and Merionethshire, with the view of gratifying Queen Elizabeth's favourite, the Earl of Leicester, who had been appointed chief ranger; although, in the reign of Henry VIII., it had been ascertained to be wholly included within the county of Carnarvon. Presuming on this authority, the Earl of Leicester, as ranger, proceeded to tyrannise over the three counties, which he pretended were included in his commission, with the most rapacious injustice and insufferable insolence. It having been suggested to him that by constructive evidence nearly the whole of the surrounding freehold property might be brought within the boundaries of the forest, commissioners were appointed, and juries impanelled, to enquire into the numerous encroachments made on the royal property, but the integrity of both caused them to come to a decision contrary to the ranger's wishes. After this disappointment, a special commission was appointed, in 1578, composed of persons immediately dependent on the earl; and a jury, equally subservient to his views, was subpoenaed to attend at Beaumaris, and directed to survey the Malltraeth marsh, in Anglesey, after which they delivered their verdict, declaring that they found that tract to lie within the verge of Snowdon forest, notwithstanding its being in the county of Anglesey, and separated from the county in which that forest was situated by an arm of the sea. This decision was chiefly obtained from the jury by the instruction of the commissioners, who told them that in the Exchequer of Carnarvon they had found a document, stating that a stag had been roused in the forest of Snowdon, in Carnarvonshire, which, being pursued to the banks of the Menai, swam over that strait, and was killed at Malltraeth, "*infra forestam nostram de Snowdon.*" Sir Richard Bulkeley, who had been one of the former commissioners, conscious of the rectitude of their resistance, and relying on the justice of the cause he had espoused, personally laid before the queen, on behalf of the landholders of the three counties, a representation of the unparalleled oppressions inflicted upon the Welsh by the power exercised under the commission; and at length prevailed upon Her Majesty to recall the commission grant, which was done by public proclamation at Westminster, in the year 1579. This remonstrance, however, caused Leicester to pursue Sir Richard with an inveterate animosity.



sity, which ceased only with the life of the former. Although numerous large and small freeholds escaped the grasp of despotism on the subjugation of the principality by Edward I.; and the transfer of property has, in few instances, received any disturbance from the crown for many years, yet several of the estates in Carnarvonshire are at the present day held by regal grant, and most of its vast extent of waste lands are still the property of the king, are enumerated among the sources of his ordinary revenue, and are subject to inquisition from the Exchequer. This county, as before described, the promontory of Llyn excepted, seems for the most part to be one vast assemblage of huge rocky mountains, some of which, including Snowdon itself, are common, while others, by grants from the Welsh princes, are claimed as private property up to their very summits. No less than one hundred thousand acres of land are not only unfit for cultivation, but are wholly incapable of receiving it, consisting of rugged mountains and moors, deep rocky dells, and horrid chasms. There are few farms that do not possess a common right on some of these wastes, and that attached to those in the vicinity of the mountains is almost unlimited; but the rocks, of which the mountains are composed, not being decomposable by the action of the atmosphere, their sterility is very great, the hollows and slopes upon peat, or clay, being the chief spots which produce any herbage for the support of the hardy race of sheep and cattle which are depastured in these alpine tracts during the summer. Several of the more improveable wastes, such as Rhôs Hîrwaen, in Llyn, consisting of about three thousand acres; Penmorva marsh, on the south-eastern border of the county, comprising about two thousand seven hundred acres; Morva Dinlle, a sandy marsh with some clay, extending from Dinas Dinlle, an ancient British encampment, to the entrance of the Menai, near Carnarvon, and containing two thousand five hundred and sixty acres; and the wastes in the parishes of Llandeiniolen and Llanrûg, have been enclosed in pursuance of acts of parliament obtained since the commencement of the present century. The common fuel is peat, an abundance of which is obtained in the morassy parts of the wastes and commons, and stored up for winter use: much of this valuable material contains a large portion of bituminous matter, which renders it a tolerable substitute for coal, an article of very limited consumption in this county, being only procured at a great price from the collieries of Lancashire and Flintshire: almost every farm has its appropriated turbary, and such as have no right of common buy peat by the load. The Carnarvonshire Agricultural Society, instituted in the year 1807, and consisting of the principal landed proprietors, has exercised considerable influence in the improvement of its husbandry, &c.

The geological features of Carnarvonshire are peculiarly varied and interesting, though they have received but little illustration; and its mineral productions are of great importance, consisting for the most part of copper and lead ores, slates, limestone, and other kinds of stone used for building. The mountains are in general of the primitive siliceous kind, steep, and rugged. The highest peaks of the Snowdonian chain are composed of porphyritic rocks, belonging to the trap formation, passing into nearly compact, or schistose, horn-

blende: these, on the western side, form numerous basaltic columns on a bed of hornstone, or chert; and large coarse crystals, cubic pyrites, and various mineral bodies are frequently found in the fissures: these columns are perpendicular, and more or less regularly pentagonal: their length is various; their diameter about four feet, with transverse joints from six to eight feet asunder, and considerable depositions of thin laminated quartz in the joints. Near the summit of Snowdon, however, there is reason to believe that schistose rocks belonging to the grey *wacké* formation are also to be found, enclosing impressions of shells. The rocks composing the higher parts of the chain are also said to include granite and the *granitel* of Kirwan, schistose hornblende, and schistose mica; and contiguous to these, on each side, are vast beds of clay-slate, forming secondary mountains, which constitute the first parapet of the Snowdonian chain, and accompanying which are also found beds of chert, quartz, burr-stone, serpentine, and an endless variety of combinations of other mineral substances of less bulk: the promontory of Llyn is formed almost entirely of clay-slate, but the hills on the north-eastern coast, to the west of the river Conway, are composed in a great measure of chert; and several of the mountains, the bases of which consist of argillaceous schistus, have their middle parts covered with blocks of chert, and their summits surmounted by masses of a granitic character. The argillaceous schistus supports a range of mountain limestone strata on the shores of the Menai: and the substrata of the hundred of Creuddyn consist for the most part of the same kind of limestone, and are part of the formation which also occupies portions of the counties of Denbigh and Flint, and terminates westward in the cliffs overhanging the sea near Llandudno, commonly called Great Orme's Head, which forms the eastern boundary of the bay of Beaumaris. Of ores, the mountains appear to contain more copper than lead. The primitive rocks in mass contain no metals, but copper is found in several of the hornstone stratified mountains, of which those at Llanberis and Pont Aberglâslyn are examples: in these mines the ore is for the most part sulphate of copper, and yields from eight to ten per cent. of pure metal. Oxydated carbonate of copper, with some specimens covered with lancet-pointed crystals of an amethystine colour, is obtained at Derwen dëg, to the south-west of Aberconway; and sulphate both of copper and lead is found at Havôd y Llan, near Dinas Emrys. A copper mine is also worked with spirit in the limestone strata of the hundred of Creuddyn, near Great Orme's Head, in the parish of Llandudno, and produces some beautiful specimens of malachite, or mammelated green carbonate of copper, of which all the ore there raised consists. But the copper mine at present most extensively worked in this county is one near Lliniau Dinlle, in the parish of Bethgelart, where upwards of two hundred men are employed, and the ore obtained in it is sent down the rail-road to Carnarvon, to be there shipped for Bristol, Swansea, &c. At Bwlch-haiarn, near Gwydir, on the road from Llanrwst to Capel-Curig, are very extensive lead mines, the veins of ore crossing each other, from north to south and from east to west: the matrix is of quartz and calcareous spar, though the surrounding rocks consist of slate, bituminous shale, and trap, or whinstone: the ores chiefly lie about twelve feet



beneath the surface: calamine is found in conjunction with the lead, and the whole is intermingled with ferruginous ochre and a small quantity of copper pyrites. Ores of copper and calamine are also raised at Capel Curig; and the latter metal from both these places is shipped off at Trêvriw, on the Conway, for the foundries at Bristol. Other veins of lead-ore are worked at Penrhyn dû, adjoining St. Tudwal's islands, near the southern extremity of the county, and at Gêst, near Penmorva, on its south-eastern frontier.

Great quantities of the argillaceous schistus, so abundant in this county, are converted into slates for roofing houses and other purposes, and form its most important article of commerce. These slates are raised between Aberconway and Bwlch y Dderwen, at Trêvriw, in the Llanberis and Llanllyvni hills, on both sides of the promontory of Lleyn, and in the parish of Llandeiniolen; but the principal works of this kind are the following, *viz.*, those of Braich y Cavn, near Dôlawen, on the road between Capel-Curig and Llandegai, which, about the year 1780, produced only one thousand tons annually, and gave employment to sixty men; but, coming into the possession of the late Lord Penrhyn, that nobleman, in 1782, opened a vast quarry, which has ever since been worked, and now annually produces upwards of forty thousand tons of slates, which are conveyed by means of an iron railway to Port Penrhyn, which was formed by his lordship for the convenience of the vessels engaged in this trade, and at which they are shipped in large quantities to Ireland, America, the West Indies, &c., and also to London, Bristol, and Liverpool: and the Cîlgwyn quarries, in the parish of Llanllyvni, and those of Llanberis, from which conjointly are obtained about double the quantity produced at Dôlawen: the produce of these is for the most part shipped at Carnarvon, for Ireland and different parts of Britain, though many from the Llanberis quarries are taken on board in a small creek of the Menai, opposite to Moel y don ferry. The Carnarvonshire slates are exceedingly smooth and of a fine grain, generally of a beautiful blue colour, and may be separated into laminae as thin as wafers; which properties render them the best for roofing, and for manufacturing into writing slates: they consist of forty-eight parts of silex, twenty-six of argil, eight of magnesia, four of calx, and fourteen of iron. Of the three great quarries above mentioned, that of Cîlgwyn produces slates of the coarsest quality, which are also of a deep red colour; those of Dôlawen are exceedingly smooth and of a brilliant blue, or slate grey; while those of Llanberis are of an intermediate quality, and generally of a reddish purple hue. The slates of a deep blue colour are the best adapted of any in Europe for writing slates; and those obtained from the Dôlawen quarries are planed and framed of various sizes, in a manufactory established by the late Lord Penrhyn, near Bangor, to the number of about ten thousand dozen annually: these are not only distributed over all parts of the United Kingdom, but considerable quantities are also exported, without frames, to different parts of the continent: ink-stands and other fancy articles are also manufactured here of the same material. The slates raised in the quarries are divided by the manufacturers into the following classes: *viz.*, *duchesses*, measuring twenty-four inches by twelve; *coun-*

*tesses*, twenty by ten; *ladies*, sixteen by eight; *doubles*, twelve by six; *ton* slates, large and of various sizes; and *patents*, with square heads; which are sold by the thousand, except the last two, which are sold by the ton: in some of the quarries are also other classes, called respectively *singles*, *rags*, and *kiln-ribs*. Besides the above-named articles, the slate is also converted into tombstones, dados and plinths for stables and passages, chimney-pieces, hearth-stones, sink-stones, dairy tables, sideboards, panels for doors, shutters, &c., fences, and washball stands, and is used to form cases for the outside of buildings, as a defence against the weather; and in such situations, by being painted and sanded, is made to bear the appearance of stone. A quarry of burr, for millstones, has been opened since the commencement of the present century, near Aberconway, in a vein running from east to west along the hill called Mynydd y Drêw. Near Cwm Idwal is a large quarry of the novaculite of Kirwan (of the second and third varieties of that species), where great quantities of scythe-hones are cut, and sent to London, Dublin, &c.: hones are also obtained from a rock on the eastern side of the valley of Nant Francon. Steatite, or soap-rock, is found in different places, especially at Craig y Sebon, and on the hill to the north of Penmorva. Serpentine abounds in the vicinity of Capel-Curig. Ochre is dug out of a mine near the Dôlawen slate quarries, and is then separated from the sand with which it is intermixed by grinding and successive filtrations, being finally collected in a sediment, which is dried by the sun and air in summer, and upon kilns during the winter: the general colour of this earth is yellow, but in the same manufactory, and also for the use of painters, others of various hues are ground, with which, in their raw state, the Snowdonian shepherds mark their sheep. Large siliceous crystals, commonly called rock diamonds, are frequently found in the fissures of the rocks among the mountains, whence they are washed down by the violent torrents caused by the heavy rains frequently experienced in these alpine tracts, and, being collected by the poor inhabitants, are presented by them for sale to travellers and tourists, as extraordinary and valuable productions. Some curious specimens of cubic pyrites and crystallized tin have been discovered at different times.

The manufactures and commerce of Carnarvonshire are various, but of minor importance. Besides supplying themselves with wearing apparel, the inhabitants annually send a few pieces of blue cloth into Merionethshire, and some of a peculiar drab-coloured cloth, called *brethyn sir Von*, into Anglesey, to be sold at the Llanerchymedd fairs: these cloths are generally seven-eighths of a yard wide. The flannels manufactured here are coarse. The employment of the mountaineers, both in summer and winter, besides tending their herds, and the labours of the dairy, consists in carding and spinning the wool produced by their flocks, of which they make cloth for their own wear, and for sale at the neighbouring fairs and markets, more particularly at those of Carnarvon and Llanrwst. They also make great quantities of striped linsey-woolsey, of different patterns, which they call *stuff*, and which is used for the women's gowns. But those who have more wool than the family can manufacture sell it at the neighbouring fairs, of which that of Llanrwst is the principal mart for this article, and is attended by the English buyers:



the price obtained for the wool at this fair is usually the standard for the year. A considerable quantity of coarse linen yarn is spun and woven by the inhabitants of the mountainous districts, both for their own use and for sale, but chiefly for the latter. The spinners and weavers have a measure peculiar to themselves, commonly called the Welsh yard, which is forty inches long, and by which all their milled cloth, flannels, linseys, and linen are measured when sold. The knitting of woollen stockings and socks is carried on most extensively in the south-eastern extremity of the county, in the neighbourhood of Llanrwst and Penmachno, which is included in the great manufacturing district for those articles, of which the town of Bala in Merionethshire is the centre. Formerly all the wool that was not home-spun and custom-wove, after being sold, was exported to be manufactured in different parts of the kingdom; but since the commencement of the present century, various establishments have been formed on some of the numerous small streams for carrying on different branches of the woollen manufacture. Thus, in the parishes of Llanrûg, Llanwnda, &c., are slubbing and carding engines, with jennies and billies for luffing and spinning, which prepare the worsted yarn, and in some instances manufacture it into cloth. At Trêmadoc, on the south-eastern confines of the county, is a large manufactory for weaving druggets and coarse army cloth, of like modern establishment. In the parish of Llanrûg is a paper-mill, and another at Porth llwyd, on the Conway, below Llanrwst; and to this list of manufactures may likewise be added the important one of slates, above described. The commerce of the county, until of late years, was almost wholly confined to the port of Carnarvon, which, like all the others within its limits, is under the control of the custom-house at Beaumaris in Anglesey; but a great trade in the article of slates, which was formerly engrossed by Carnarvon, is now carried on from Porth Penrhÿn, as above stated, and has greatly increased, since the removal of the coast duties, in all the ports near the quarries. Although its commerce is comparatively so unimportant, yet the harbours of this county are numerous. In the promontory of Llleyn are several small creeks, affording safe retreats from storms to boats and small craft engaged on the coast during the fishing season: among these are Porth Towyn, Porth Colman, Porth Gwylan, Porth Ysgadan, and Aberdaron, the last of which is a village chiefly inhabited by fishermen, and the place whence the passage is usually made to Bardsey Island, on the south-eastern side of which is a small well-sheltered harbour for vessels of from twenty to forty tons' burden. The small bay between Porth Towyn and Ceiriad Road is vulgarly called by mariners "Hell's Mouth," from the danger, in rough weather, of being driven into it and wrecked, in attempting to gain St. Tudwal's Road, near Pwllheli, which as a haven is deemed inferior to none in Britain, being not only commodious, but extensive enough to receive the largest fleet, well defended on one side by the promontory of Llleyn, and on the other by two islets, called St. Tudwal's Islands. Pwllheli, having a harbour capable of admitting vessels of sixty tons' burden, forms the grand dépôt for articles imported for the supply of the south-western part of the county. The small harbour of Nevin, or Porth-din-Llleyn, was improved early in the

present century by subscription. Carnarvon has a very commodious harbour, though impeded by a bar; but the tide rises so high here, that, with proper attention, ships of almost any size may pass and repass in safety: this port carries on a very considerable coasting trade with London, Bristol, Liverpool, and Ireland, and is by far the most important in North Wales. Porth Penrhÿn, formerly called Abercegin, close to the town of Bangor, being naturally only a small inlet, was converted, by the late Lord Penrhÿn, into a commodious harbour, capable of admitting vessels of three hundred tons' burden, for more conveniently exporting the slates from his quarries, about six miles distant. Aberconway, situated on the left bank, and within a short distance of the mouth of the river Conway, has a dry harbour, frequented by a few coasting vessels. The chief exports through the medium of these ports, more particularly of those of Carnarvon and Porth Penrhÿn, are slates for roofing; writing slates; ores of copper; ground chert, &c., for the English potteries; and ochre. The principal exports by land are cattle, sheep, hogs, and raw wool. The imports, besides those of groceries, and other ordinary articles of retail trading, consist chiefly of grain and coal. The principal fishery is on that part of the coast between Pwllheli and Bardsey Island, where the bays and creeks are frequented in the season by vast shoals of herrings, some of which, when taken, are salted on shore, and the rest chiefly sold to Irish vessels of small burden, which come hither for the purpose of purchasing them: great numbers of dories are caught here, as also are smelts near Pwllheli; and a small kind of lobster is frequently found burrowing in the sands on the shore.

The rivers, owing to the peninsular situation of the county, for the most part run only a short course, from the mountains immediately to the sea; but the waters of some of them are very copious. The Conway, which is the principal, forms an exception, taking a longer course through a spacious and delightful valley, extending parallel with the Vale of Clwyd, in Denbighshire, between which county and that of Carnarvon it forms the line of division during the greater part of its course. Issuing from Llÿn Conway, near the point of junction of the three counties of Carnarvon, Denbigh, and Merioneth, it first takes a southerly, afterwards a north-easterly, and lastly a northerly, course, at first precipitating its waters in successive falls, until, emerging from under the high wooded cliffs of Gwydir, it rushes into the beautiful vale of Nantconway, and, flowing under the elegant bridge of Llanrwst, meanders in beautiful curves to the town of Aberconway, where it swells into a noble tide river, and soon after mingles its waters with those of the Irish sea, in the eastern part of Beaumaris bay, after a course of about twenty miles, in which it is joined by almost as many smaller streams, of which the principal are, the Machno, the Ceirio, and the Llugwy, all from Carnarvonshire. The Conway meets the tide and becomes navigable at Trêvriw, about two miles below the town of Llanrwst, and at its mouth is about a mile broad, and capable of admitting vessels of great burden. Although the boundary between Carnarvonshire and Denbighshire, during the earlier part of its course, yet a small portion of the former county, below Llanrwst, is situated on its eastern banks; and from the vicinity of the village of Llansaintfraid, in the latter,



the remainder of its course is wholly in the former, in which it separates the hundred of Creuddyn from the rest of the county. In the lower reaches of this river, the silt brought up and deposited by the tides has raised its bed above the level of the vale on each side, a circumstance which greatly tends to the injury of the adjacent meadows. A ledge of rocks, called the Arrow, crossing the Conway, about a furlong above Tâl y cayn ferry, forming a great obstacle to its navigation, and over which, at low water, there was a fall of no less than three feet, has been partially removed. The Seiont, a small and rapid river, has its source in a lake on the eastern side of Snowdon, whence, suddenly turning towards the north-west, it flows through the two beautiful lakes of Llanberis, from the lower of which it proceeds westward, at first under the name Rythel; but afterwards, assuming that of Seiont, it passes the site of the ancient *Segontium* to the town of Carnarvon, where it discharges its waters into the Menai, its small æstuary forming a safe and commodious harbour: the lakes and the channel between them are navigated by boats, which convey slates, &c., to the lowest extremity of the lower lake, whence they are forwarded by carts to Carnarvon. The Gwyrvai, a stream much resembling the Seiont in size and character, takes a course nearly parallel with it a few miles further southward, and falls into the Menai, near the south-western entrance of that strait. The Ogwen, a small river from Llŷn Ogwen, is equally rapid in its current, and, running north-westward, falls into the Menai, about two miles north-east of Bangor. The promontory of Llyn is watered only by inconsiderable streams; and the Gwynedd, or Glâs-lyn river, is the only one on the southern side of the county worthy of especial notice: it has its source in one of the wildest parts of the Snowdonian mountains, and, after forming the lake of Llŷn Gwynedd, it pursues a southerly course by the village of Bethgelart, below which it rushes through a vast chasm in the mountains, which here separates the counties of Carnarvon and Merioneth, the boundary between which it forms in the rest of its course, flowing through the now secured and enclosed sands of the Traeth Mawr, which once formed its great æstuary, and pouring its waters into the northernmost part of Cardigan bay, a few miles north-eastward of the borough of Criccieth. Carnarvonshire has no artificial inland navigation, but possesses three railroads, one for the conveyance of slates from the quarries near Dôlawen to the vessels at Port Penrhŷn, the length of which is six miles; one for the conveyance of slates from Llanberis to Porth Dinorrrweg, a distance of six miles; and the third, for the conveyance of copper-ore and slates to Carnarvon, extending from Lliniau Dinlle to Carnarvon, a distance of nine miles.

The roads, which were formerly among the worst in the principality, have undergone great improvements, notwithstanding the difficulties experienced in the execution of such undertakings in so mountainous a country. Amongst the instances most worthy of notice may be mentioned the construction, in the year 1770, of a good road over the vast precipice of Penmaen-Mawr, lying in the old road to Ireland by way of Chester and Holyhead, and in which the government afforded considerable assistance; and the formation, by the late Lord Penrhyn, of an excellent road from Capel-Curig, through Nant Francon and the romantic interior

of the Snowdon mountains, to Dôlawen and Bangor, and which now forms part of the nearer route of the Irish mails; that of a new road from Carnarvon to Clynog, Pwllheli, and Nevin; that of one under the direction of the late Mr. Madocks of Tan yr Allt, from Aberglâslyn bridge through Trêmadoc to Nevin; and that of another from Llanrwst and Capel-Curig, over Bwlch yr Eisteddva, or Gorphwysva, and through Nant Peris, on the western side of the lakes, to Carnarvon: besides these may also be mentioned the construction of the magnificent suspension bridge over the Menai, near Bangor, and that over the broad channel of the river Conway, at Aberconway. The road from Carnarvon to the Aberglâslyn bridge, which forms the entrance into Merionethshire, running a distance of upwards of twelve miles through the romantic wilds of Snowdon, was reconstructed by subscription, about the commencement of the present century; and the communication with Merionethshire is now excellent, by means of a good road across the Traeth Mawr to Tan y Bwlch. Carnarvonshire, as has been already noticed, abounds throughout with excellent materials for the making and repairing of roads. Its numerous streams, when swelled by the frequent and sudden rains that fall in the mountains, require the roads to be carried over them by bridges of a greater length than would be requisite in a champaign country; which increase of size is obtained sometimes by extending the span of a single arch, and at others by continuing the structure in the manner of an arcade. Thus diversified in their shapes, and in most instances erected, not at right angles across the stream, but obliquely, they form very ornamental objects in the picturesque scenery of the district. The mail-coach road from London to Holyhead, by way of Chester, enters the northern part of this county, from Abergel in Denbighshire, and passes through Aberconway, and over the Penmaen-Mawr mountain to Llandegai and Bangor, from which latter place it is carried over the Menai strait by the chain bridge recently erected. That from London to Holyhead, by way of Shrewsbury, which is shorter than the former by fourteen miles, enters from Pentre-Voelas in Denbighshire, and becomes identified with the new line above mentioned, passing by Capel-Curig to the village of Llandegai, near Bangor, where it forms a junction with the road by Chester: the branch from this at Capel-Curig to Carnarvon has been noticed above. Another road from London reaches this county, by way of Welshpool and Harlech, entering it from the latter town, in Merionethshire, at Pont Aberglâslyn, whence the main line is continued to Carnarvon, and over the Abermenai ferry into Anglesey; while a branch extends into the promontory of Llyn, communicating with the towns of Criccieth, Pwllheli, and Nevin.

The remains of antiquity are numerous, various, and interesting. Some are of the class usually considered Druidical; such as the circle of upright stones, eighty feet in diameter, with a kistvaen in the centre, situated in the parish of Dwygyfylchi; the small Druidical circle, of which some of the stones are deranged and others fallen, situated above Penmorva; the larger circle on Bwlch Craigwen, which is almost entire, and is composed of thirty-eight upright stones; the three cromlechs near Ystum Cegid; the uncommonly large cromlech, in a field near the sea-shore, about half a mile



from Clynnog, about thirty yards from which stands a single rude pillar of stone; and the large cromlech situated near the old mansion of Cevn Amwlch, called by the common people *Coeten Arthur*. The remains of the Roman stations *Segontium* and *Conovium* (described under the heads of Carnarvon and Caerhên), with those of a few detached outposts, and of the connecting roads between them, are yet visible. Part of a Roman road is seen extending from the ancient *Segontium* to the strong post of *Dinas Dinlle*, which latter comprises the summit of a large mount, apparently artificial, on the sea-shore, and on the verge of an extensive level, formerly a marsh: it is of a circular form, four hundred feet in diameter, and surrounded by a vast rampart of earth, within which are included vestiges of buildings of an oblong form, constructed of loose stones, and a tumulus formed of the same materials: here have been found Roman coins; and on a stream, called *Y Foriad*, that runs at a little distance, are two fords, still called respectively by the mixed British and Roman names of *Rhŷd pedestre* and *Rhŷd equestre*, "the passage for the infantry," and "the passage for the cavalry." In connexion with this great centre of observation and action were several other forts, lying diagonally across the country, some towards the north, and others towards the south. The most considerable are, *Dinas Dinorweg*, in the parish of Llandeiniolen, which is still entire, and consists of an extensive area, including the remains of a circular stone building, supposed to have been a *prætorium*, surrounded by two ramparts of loose stones, within which are two valla formed of earth, and two very deep fosses; *Yr hên Gastell*, or "the old Castle," near the brook *Carrog*, in the parish of Llanwnda, which is a small intrenchment with a single rampart, about fifty paces long; *Dinas Gorvan*, near Pont Newydd, in the same parish, the only vestige of which is its name; and *Craig y Ddinas*, on the river *Llyvni*, a mile and a half distant, and about a mile south-west of the road leading from Carnarvon to *Pwllheli*, a quarter of a mile from the seat called *Lleiar*, which is a circular encampment, about a hundred paces in diameter, and the ramparts of which, defended by a treble ditch, are very strong, and composed of uncemented stones: the entrance is towards the north, very narrow, and forty paces in length. Further on, towards the extremity of this southern diagonal line, at the foot of *Llanelhaiarn* mountain, is a small fort on the summit of a high rock, called *Caer*, a Roman post of observation: smaller intrenched camps are seen on the western side of the county. *Porth-din-Lleyn*, near *Nevin*, is thought, from vestiges of strong intrenchments in the vicinity, to have been a harbour made use of by the Romans; and in the parish of *Llaniestyn*, a little further southward, various Roman urns have been found. The *Via Occidentalis* entered this county from Merionethshire, between *Pont Aberglâslyn* and *Bethgelart*: some inconsiderable traces of it are yet visible in its progress to the ancient *Segontium*; and it gives name to a farm over which it passes, called *Ystrad*, or "the Street." The other Roman road above mentioned, as entering this county from Denbighshire, from the station *Conovium*, ascended the hill by *Bwlch y Ddeuvaen*, and thence passed towards the coast, where it ran nearly parallel with the *Menai* to *Segontium*. *Carnarvonshire* contains several intrenched camps, the construction of which proves them to be of British origin.

On the mountainous ridge of the *Reivel*, forming the southernmost of the more distinguished summits of the *Snowdonian* chain, is one of the grandest and most artfully constructed British posts in the kingdom, called *Tre'r Caeri*, or the town of fortresses. The only accessible side seems to have been defended by three walls, the first of which is now imperfect, the second nearly entire, and the third ranges unequally round the highest verge of the hill: these walls appear to have been regularly faced, are very lofty, and exhibit from below a grand and extensive front. The enclosed area is of an irregular shape, and nearly in the centre of it is a quadrangular space, fenced with stones, and surrounded by two rows of cells, while numerous others are scattered over the surface. These remains of habitations are of various forms,—circular, oblong, and square; some fifteen and others thirty feet in diameter, with long entrance passages faced with stone. From many eminences in the vicinity being similarly fortified, namely *Carn Madryn*, *Bôduan*, *Moel Benwrech*, *Castell Gwgan*, *Moel Garn Guwch*, and *Pen y Gaer*, it has been supposed that this part of the county formed one of the principal retreats of the Britons, when hard pressed by their invaders. Near the village of *Aberdaron*, at the southern extremity of the county, is a small circular encampment, about fifty yards in diameter, which is defended by a double ditch and rampart; and on an isolated hill, at the foot of the lower lake of *Llanberis*, there is an agger of loose stones, once a British fortification, called *Caer Cwm y Glô*; besides which, on the left side of the valley of *Nant Gwynant*, near the village of *Bethgelart*, on the top of a precipitous rock, called *Dinas Emrys*, or the "fortified city of *Ambrosius*," is a considerable area, the approach to which is defended by two large ramparts: this comprises the ruins of an ancient stone edifice, about ten yards in length, the walls of which, built without cement, are very thick and strong. The *bwlch*, or hollow, which forms the entrance from the mountains into the plain called *Nant Gwrtheyrn*, or "Vortigern's Valley," near the town of *Nevin*, is crossed by a vast artificial rampart of loose stones, once forming the defence of this important pass.

The religious houses, at the period of the Reformation, were as follows: at *Bangor* was a house of *Friars* preachers; in *Bardsey Island*, a very ancient abbey, founded before the year 516; at *Bethgelart*, a priory of *Augustine* canons; at *Clynnog-Vawr*, a collegiate church; and at *Maenan*, near *Llanrwst*, a *Cistercian* abbey. Foundations of the walls of the college of *Clynnog* are yet visible; and there are also some small remains of the abbey of *Bardsey Island*. The most remarkable specimens of ecclesiastical architecture exist in the cathedral church of *Bangor*; in the collegiate church of *Clynnog*, situated on the sea-coast to the south of *Carnarvon*, which is the most magnificent religious edifice in *North Wales*, and near which are the remains of a smaller and more ancient structure; and in the parish church of *Llandegai*. The churches are more numerous in the promontory of *Lleyn* than in any other part of the county; and, from old inscriptions in them and in their cemeteries, many of them appear to have been founded soon after the introduction of Christianity into Britain. There are extensive and magnificent ruins of the castles of *Carnarvon*



and Aberconway, erected by Edward I., those of the latter being scarcely equalled in grandeur by any in the island. There are also very curious ruins of the castle of Criccieth; some small remains of the celebrated fortress of Deganwy, in the detached hundred of Creuddyn, forming the northernmost division of the county; picturesque ruins of Dôlbadarn castle, near the village of Llanberis; also of an ancient, strong, and extensive castle on the summit of a hill called Braich y Ddinas, rising out of the Penmaen mountain, which overlooks the bay of Beaumaris; and of a small ancient fortress on a lofty rock at the head of Llŷn Cawellyn. The foundations of the castle of Bangor are yet traceable; and at Dôlbenmaen, near Criccieth, is an ancient circular tower, supposed to be of British construction. The town of Carnarvon is yet surrounded by its ancient wall, which is of great height and thickness, and flanked at short intervals by numerous semicircular bastion towers; and the walls and the four principal gateways of Aberconway are still standing, and in tolerable preservation. The ancient mansions most worthy of notice are, Gloddaeth, the seat of E. Mostyn Lloyd Mostyn, Esq.; Gwydir, that of Lord Wyloughby de Eresby; and the episcopal palace at Bangor. Llŷs Dinorweg, in the parish of Llandeiniolen, is said to have been a palace of the last native sovereign of Wales, Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, who had also a residence at Aber, in this county. The seats of more modern date most worthy of enumeration are, the elegant mansion of the Rev. H. Colton, and that of R. Heywood, Esq., at Bangor; Bôdegroes, the residence of W. Glynne Griffith, Esq.; Brynodôl, that of John Griffith, Esq.; Coed Helen, that of Rice Thomas, Esq.; Glynllivon Park, that of Lord Newborough; Gwŷnvrŷn, that of O. I. Ellis Nanney, Esq.; Llanbeblig vicarage; Nanhoron, the seat of Richard Lloyd Edwards, Esq.; Penrhŷn Castle, that of I. H. D. Pennant, Esq., lately erected on the site of a very ancient mansion; Tan yr Allt, that of William Alexander Madocks, Esq.; and Vaenol House, near Bangor, that of Thomas Assheton Smith, Esq. The farm-houses and offices are in some instances well arranged; but they are mostly of a very inferior description. The houses of the peasantry are in general extremely mean and rude. In some parts, particularly in the promontory of Llŷn, their walls are built of what in some English counties is called *cobb*, that is, an argillaceous earth having straw or rushes mixed with it, placed in layers between boards, until the whole is ready for the roof, which is made beforehand, and composed of thatch, either of straw, fern, or heath. Many of these huts, which have hardly ever more than two rooms, are without chimneys, the smoke escaping by a hole at one end of the building. In the more mountainous parts the cottages are constructed of loose stones, such as are found in abundance round the bases of the mountains, which are piled upon each other, and the interstices stuffed close with moss, to keep out the wind and driving rain. The houses of the small farmers, however, have these openings filled with mortar, and in some few instances are plastered and whitewashed. In the more frequented parts of the county, between Aberconway and Carnarvon, and in the vicinities of the slate quarries, the cottages, as well as the houses of a superior class, are chiefly built of unhewn stone. The roofing is generally formed of the fine blue slate of the district,

which, when the walls are externally whitewashed or rough-cast, gives them a very cheerful appearance. In situations exposed to the westerly winds, the walls of dwelling-houses in this part of the county are not unusually guarded by a casing of slates, each successive course of which partly overlies the one below; the object being to prevent the sea air from penetrating the walls and rendering them damp inside. When a front of this kind is neatly executed with dark-coloured mortar in the interstices, it has a pretty appearance; but, otherwise, its aspect is very displeasing. The fires in the rural habitations are usually made by piling ignited peat on the stone hearth; for, though grates have long been in use in some houses, yet many families have a notion that a fire raised above the level of the floor is far less calculated for the purposes of warmth than one kindled on the hearth.

The mode of living of the mountaineers is particularly simple: their bread, called in Welsh *bara ceirch*, is of oats; and their principal beverages are whey or butter-milk, with a few bottles of *cwrw*, or ale, preserved as a cordial in case of illness. This plain and humble fare, together with their invigorating climate and active employments, renders them a hardy and long-lived race: whenever medicines are deemed necessary, the herbs growing in the neighbourhood furnish the supply, which is commonly administered by the advice of some matron of reputed skill. Oaten cakes are not only eaten in the mountainous districts, but also constitute the household bread of all the other parts of the county, except only in genteel families, in some of the towns, and in the inns on the post roads: they are unleavened, and baked on *iron* plates suspended over the fire, called *bake-stones*. One daily meal throughout the year consists of a very wholesome vegetable mucilage, called *llymrŷ* (in English *flummery*), which is made by adding as much warm water to finely-ground oatmeal as it can well absorb, to which some sour butter-milk, leaven, or other ferment, is added, and in three or four days' time more warm water is put in, to make it thin enough to be strained through a hair-sieve and boiled, after which it is ready for use: the slight fermentation it undergoes, during its infusion, gives it a pleasant acidity, which contrasts well with the sweetness of the milk with which it is generally eaten. Servants hired by the year generally commence their term of service on the 1st of May. The surface of the county, with regard to its fences, wears a singular aspect to a stranger arriving from a well-cultivated country. Much land not deemed waste has for ages been devoid of fences, and where these are found, they are generally such rude barriers as to admit the trespass, not only of sheep, but of cattle and horses, to the great annoyance and loss of the farmer. Few quickset or coppice hedges are any where to be seen, the enclosures being ordinarily made by walls, three feet, and in some places not more than two feet, high, constructed of loose stones collected from the land so enclosed, or from the neighbouring commons: these are piled loosely and promiscuously, except that frequently smaller pieces are laid upon a huge block, evidently lying in its natural situation and position; and the curvature of many of these fences appears to be owing to the accidental position of the several massy blocks discoverable in them. Parts of these unstable erections frequently fall, and open breaches for all kinds of errant



cattle; nor do they ever present any obstacle to the active sheep of the country, which of themselves descend from the mountains in large and numerous flocks on the approach of winter, spread in swarms over the lowland fields, and devour every kind of vegetable produce within their reach. Different gentlemen, however, in clearing their land of the immense blocks of stone which encumbered it, having blasted them with gunpowder, have employed them in the improvement of their fences, many of which are now compact and of a proper height. To the east of the church of Llandeiniolen is a spring, esteemed in the neighbourhood for its sanative properties, and called Fynnon Cegin Arthur, or "Arthur's kitchen water." The cataracts formed by the mountain streams are very numerous, but the most remarkable for their grandeur and beauty are the following:—*Rhaiadr Cwm Dyli*, which consists of two distinct waterfalls, formed by a rivulet issuing from the alpine pool in the mountains above, called Llŷn Llwydaw, and which, precipitating itself over two rocky ledges, breaks in foam and spray down their broken fronts; *Ceuant Mawr*, a tremendous fall, half a mile south of Dôlbardarn castle, which is more than sixty feet in height, and is formed by a torrent from Cwm Brwynog; *Rhaiadr Mawr*, in the romantic glen in which is situated the village of Aber Gwynegregyn, forming two successive falls, the upper of which is again broken into several parts by projecting ledges of rock, while the lower one precipitates itself in one broad sheet from a height of upwards of sixty feet; another *Rhaiadr Mawr*, formed by the stream issuing from Llŷn Geirionydd, and regarded by Mr. Bingley as the grandest and most picturesque waterfall in North Wales; and the fall on the stream that issues from Llŷn Cowlyd, in the vicinity of the last-mentioned. Down a rocky height called the Benglog, situated on one side of the valley of Nant Francon, rush the united waters of five lakes (giving rise to the river Ogwen) into a deep pool beneath, forming three successive cataracts of striking grandeur and beauty. And to this enumeration of natural curiosities may be added the little floating island on a small lake called *Llŷn y Dywarchen*, or "the lake of the sod," which lies to the right of the road leading from Carnarvon to Bethgelart.

**CARNGIWCH** (CARN-GIWG), a parish in the hundred of GAFLOGION, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N.) from Pwllheli, on the road from Carnarvon, containing 117 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated near the river Erch, takes its name from a lofty conical hill, called Moel Carn Giwch, on the summit of which is a vast heap of loose stones, generally thought to be a carnedd, but said by popular tradition to have been thrown down by a giantess, who carried them thither in her apron. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Edern, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Ciwg, or St. Beuno, and in which divine service is performed only every third Sunday, is a small neat edifice, rebuilt, with the exception of the east end, in 1828. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £48. 8.

**CARNO**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 11 miles (W. N. W.) from Newtown, containing 1010 inhabitants. In 948, a battle was fought here for

the sovereignty of North Wales, between Ievav and Iago; the sons of Edwal Voel, and those of Hywel Dda, late king of all Wales, which terminated in favour of the former. And in 1077, or, according to some, in 1082, an eminence called Mynydd Carn, from a large carnedd upon it, commemorative of some distinguished warrior of a still more remote period, was the scene of one of the most sanguinary battles ever fought in the principality, between Gruffydd ab Cynan, rightful sovereign of North Wales, aided by Rhys ab Tewdwr, Prince of South Wales, and Trahaern ab Caradoc, who then usurped the throne, in which the latter was defeated and slain, after a sharp and obstinate conflict, with the flower of his army, and Gruffydd succeeded to the throne, which he filled for fifty-seven years, and died in 1137: his biography is preserved in the Welsh Archaeology, from which he appears to have been distinguished by strong and decisive powers of mind. The scene of this battle is by some fixed at Carno in Brecknockshire, but the event may possibly be confounded with an engagement that took place there, in 728, between Rhodri Molwynog, and Ethelbald King of Mercia. The village is situated on the road from Newtown to Machynlleth: there is a turbary in the parish, where peat is obtained for the consumption of the adjoining district. The hills command fine views of the vale of Carno and the surrounding eminences. The living is a perpetual curacy, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is an unadorned stone edifice, rebuilt in 1807: it formerly belonged to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, who are said to have had a house near it. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £725. 11.

**CARON-UWCH-CLAWDD**, or **STRATA-FLORIDA**, a chapelry in the parish of TRÊGARON, partly in the hundred of ILAR, and partly in the upper division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (N. E.) from Trêgaron, containing 732 inhabitants. Near the source of the river Teivy, in the vicinity of this place, a sanguinary battle was fought, in 1042, between Gruffydd ab Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, and Hywel, Prince of South Wales, who, having been previously discomfited by Gruffydd, was pursued hither, and, in this second action, was slain, together with a great part of his army. This place is distinguished as the site of a celebrated abbey for Cistercian monks, founded here in 1164, by Rhys, son of Gruffydd, the reigning prince of South Wales, under the name of *Strata Florida*, or, as it is called by the Welsh, *Ystrad Flur*; and the endowment then given to it was confirmed by the sons of Rhys, in the presence of their army, in the church of Rhaiadr, and subsequently by Henry II. Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of Wales, desirous of determining, before his death, the succession to the sovereignty, convened a meeting of all the Welsh chieftains at Strata Florida, where they renewed their oaths of allegiance, and did homage to Davydd, his son, by the English princess, in preference to his elder brother Gruffydd. During the early wars between the English and the Welsh, this monastery frequently sustained considerable damage; and in the 23rd of Edward I.



it was accidentally destroyed by fire, with the exception of an old building, subsequently used as a barn, which is supposed to have formed part of the original structure, and is called Yr hên Vonachlog, or "the old Monastery." King Edward gave the abbot permission to rebuild it, and granted the sum of £78 towards defraying the expense. From this period it continued to flourish in the possession of ample endowments, including a large tract of adjacent country, besides lands at a distance; and was the place of interment of many of the Welsh sovereigns and nobility, of whom Prince Rhys, its founder, was buried here in 1196. It afforded an asylum for learned men during various succeeding ages, amongst whom was Gutyn Owain, an eminent Welsh poet, herald, and historian of the fifteenth century, who made this his principal residence, and here probably compiled some of his most elaborate works. Several of the public records of the principality were deposited in this abbey, in common with that of Aberconway; and amongst the rest was the Chronicle of Caradoc of Llancarvan, which was a collection of the successions and acts of the British princes after Cadwalladr, to the year 1156, by Caradoc, and afterwards continued in these monasteries until the year 1270, forming a complete registry of the most notable occurrences within the island, and particularly in connexion with the principality. There were several cells and hospitals, with chapels annexed to the latter, subordinate to the principal establishment here: the revenue of this monastery, at the time of the dissolution, was estimated at £122. 6. 8. After the dissolution, a mansion was erected here by John Stedman, Esq., which, together with the estate, has become the property of the Powell family, by marriage with an heiress of the Stedmans. In the vicinity of this place, near the summit of a chain of hills which separates the counties of Cardigan and Brecknock, and surrounded by a wild and dreary tract of moorland, there is a cluster of lakes, six in number, the principal of which is Llyn Teivy, where the river Teivy has its source.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of E. W. Powell, Esq. The chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small edifice of mean appearance. The buildings of the ancient monastery, which were of considerable extent and magnificence, occupied a somewhat romantic situation, being environed on three sides by a lofty chain of barren hills, and overlooking the vale of the Teivy. The only part remaining is an arched gateway, of curious Norman architecture, differing greatly from other specimens of that style, and of great beauty: various sculptured fragments of freestone, glazed tiles, painted glass, and other relics, indicating the past grandeur of these buildings, have been occasionally dug up; and two seals, one circular, about the size of a crown piece, and bearing the arms of the abbey, and the other elliptical, having a representation of the Madonna and child, were found several years ago in the adjacent grounds. The old cemetery was enclosed by a rude stone wall, and is reported to have comprised one hundred and twenty acres of ground, being the exact quantity of the abbey land now tithe-free, in which leaden coffins have been frequently dug up, and in which there were, according

to Leland, thirty-nine yew trees, though others say twenty-four, and under one of them, as tradition reports, Davydd ab Gwylym, the noted bard of this county, was interred. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £198. 12.

CARREGHOVA (CAREG-HWVA), a township in that part of the parish of LLANMYNECH which is in the hundred of CHIRK, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (S. S. W.) from Oswestry, containing 362 inhabitants. It is situated between the rivers Tanat and Vyrnwy, which unite here, and forms a detached portion of the county of Denbigh, lying between Shropshire and Montgomeryshire. It is considered rich in mineral strata, which were formerly worked by the Romans, of whom various remains, such as coins, a skeleton of a human figure, &c., have been discovered; but its greatest produce is a species of light-coloured marble, streaked with red and white veins, and easily convertible into lime of superior quality, which, by means of a canal, is distributed over a great part of Wales. A branch connecting the Montgomeryshire and Ellesmere canals commences here, and proceeds through the township, crossing the river Vyrnwy by an aqueduct, and both are likewise intersected by the road from Llanymynech to Welshpool. Of the castle which once stood here, on the banks of the Tanat, little remains, except some vestiges of the fosse on the east side. It was captured in 1162, by Owain Cyveiliog and Owain ab Madoc, two cousins, who retained possession of it about twenty-five years, when it was finally reduced by Cadwallon and Gwenwynwyn, sons of Owain Cyveiliog, after having slain Owain ab Madoc, their father's former colleague. At Gwern y vign, within half a mile of the castle, a battle took place in 1202. The ancient mansion of Carreghova Hall has long since disappeared, and has been succeeded by a modern farmhouse. There is a bequest of £1 per annum for eight poor maids, or widows, frequenting the church of Llanymynech, by an unknown benefactor, which is paid by the rector. Offa's Dyke passes near the eastern boundary of the township, which approaches close to the village of Llanymynech; and at its south-western border, overhanging the river Vyrnwy, below where it is joined by the Tanat, rises a triangular mound, surrounded by a deep fosse, called Clawdd Côch, or "the red dyke," which Sir Richard Colt Hoare supposes to be the ancient *Mediolanum*, and not Meivod, ten miles higher up the river, as some have imagined; and this site agrees better with the relative distances from *Bovium* and *Rutunium* in the Itinerary of Antoninus. This township separately supports its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £77. 2.

CASCOB, a parish partly within the liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, and partly in a detached portion of the hundred of WIGMORE, county of HEREFORD, 5 miles (W. N. W.) from Presteign. The population is partly returned with the hamlet of Litton, and High and St. David's-street wards, in the parish of Presteign, and that part of the parish which is not so returned contains 121 inhabitants. This parish, in Domesday-book called *Coscope*, contains three thousand two hundred and fifty acres of land, of which about eleven hundred and fifty are enclosed and in a state of cultivation. The soil is of various kinds, part being rich meadow and pasture land, part well



adapted for tillage, and a large portion of a very inferior description. A small stream, called Cascob brook, rises in the parish, in two different sources, one in the western part, and the other on the south-west side, the two branches uniting at a distance of about a mile from their respective springs, and forming first the boundary between the parishes of Cascob and Old Radnor, and subsequently that between the townships of Cascob and Litton with Cascob, and finally joining the river Lûg. The surface of the parish is various, part being composed of a narrow plain, bordered by sloping ascents, and part rising gradually to a considerable elevation, and constituting part of the Forest of Radnor. The township of Cascob consists of the manors of Ackwood and Cwm-ygerwyn, which were formerly a part of the Marches, and belonged to the crown, being specifically reserved to it in the charter granted to the borough of New Radnor. On the enclosure of waste lands in this township, pursuant to an act passed in the 53rd of George III., ten acres and three roods were assigned to the crown in Ackwood, and ninety acres and two roods at Cwm-ygerwyn, in lieu of manorial rights: both these allotments have since been alienated, the former to the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, for augmenting the benefice of Stow in Shropshire, and the latter to Richard Price, Esq. The manor of Litton and Cascob is parcel of that of Stapleton, and belongs to the Earl of Oxford: the mesne manor is the property of — Bodenham, Esq. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 0. 7½., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a small ancient structure, consisting of a nave, chancel, and a low tower, the last surmounted by a shed, containing two bells. On an elevated situation in the western part of this parish, bordering on that of New Radnor, there is a low mound of dark peat earth, called the Black Mixen; and near the junction of the two brooks, on the south-west side of the western portion of the parish, is the site of an ancient mansion, surrounded by a moat, enclosing a circular area more than one hundred feet in diameter: the present house called "The Moat" is built within the ancient moat, on the north-west side of the area: there is a slight embankment on the edge of this area, which is highest on the western side, probably constructed for defence. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £23. 10.

**CASTEL-DAUYRAN (CASTELL-DWY-RAN, or DYRAM)**, a chapelry in that part of the parish of KILLYMAENLLWYD which is in the lower division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 4½ miles (N.E.) from Narberth, containing 85 inhabitants. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, and in the patronage of the Crown. This place is supposed to have taken its name from a castle which anciently stood near the chapel, called *Castell Dwy Ran*, both of which were possessed, in equal portions, by two sisters: of the former there are no vestiges.

**CASTELLA (CASTELLAU)**, a hamlet in the parish of LLANTRISSENT, hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (N.) from Llantris-

sent, with which the population is returned. This hamlet contains some coal-works, part of the produce of which is shipped for Ireland. Here is a neat mansion, anciently the seat of the Trahearne family, now the property and residence of Major Smith, the grounds of which, being disposed with great taste, impart an air of cheerfulness and beauty to a scene naturally grand.

**CASTELLAN**, a chapelry in the parish of PENRITH, hundred of KILGERRAN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. by E.) from Cardigan, containing 127 inhabitants. It forms an extensive portion of the parish, and is situated at the northern foot of the Vrenni-Vawr mountain, the second in height in the county. The chapel is in ruins, but the incumbent of the parish receives a small annual payment of one guinea from Sir R. B. P. Philipps, Bart., of Pictou Castle.

**CASTLE-BIGH (CASTLE-BEITH)**, a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 10 miles (N. N. E.) from Haverfordwest, containing 284 inhabitants. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church is dedicated to St. Michael. On the border of this parish are the remains of a Roman encampment, through which runs the high road separating the parishes of Castle-Bigh and Ambleston, and which is minutely described in the account of the latter parish. There is also another encampment near the church, fortified with double ramparts, and occupying about four acres of ground. A house in the parish, called "Poll Tax Inn," received its name from having been the place where that tax was collected. The parochial rates are levied on the ploughlands. An average annual expenditure amounting to £52. 17. is applied to the support of the poor.

**CASTLE-CAER-EINION**, a parish partly within the liberties of the borough of WELSHPOOL, partly in the upper division of the hundred of CAWRSE, and partly in the hundred of MATHRAVAL, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 3½ miles (W. S. W.) from Welshpool, containing 783 inhabitants. This place is stated to derive its name from Einion Yrth, tenth son of Cunedda Wledig, King of Cambria, to whom, in the sixth century, it was given by that sovereign, on dividing the country among his twelve sons. On a conical hill, half a mile to the north-east of the village, was Einion's camp, probably called *Castell yn Nghaer Einion*, or, according to some, *Castell*, or *Caer*, Einion, where Madog ab Meredydd, Prince of Powys, built a castle, in the year 1151, which was burnt by Owain Cyveiliog, in 1166: some of the intrenchments are discernible, but there are no remains of the castle. About the year 1109, Madoc ab Ririd, a lawless chieftain of North Wales, being at enmity with his uncle Iorwerth, the petty sovereign of a surrounding territory, concealed himself among the rocks and woods, with a body of outlawed followers; and, having received intelligence that Iorwerth intended on a certain night to sleep at this place, surrounded it at midnight, aided by his ally, Llywarch ab Trahaern; but the prince and his attendants defending it with great valour, the assailants set it on fire. The inmates then endeavoured to escape, and some of them succeeded in fighting their way through the enemy, whilst others were slain in the



attempt, and the rest perished in the fire. Iorwerth himself made a vigorous effort to extricate himself from the weapons of his assailants, but was driven back, and fell a sacrifice to the flames: his brother Cadwgan, having succeeded to his territory, was killed in like manner by his ferocious nephew. The village is situated on the road from Berriew to Llanvair, and that from Welshpool to Llanvair runs through the parish. The high grounds, especially the summit of the Berwydd chain of hills, embrace picturesque views of the adjacent vales and hills. The Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., on his march against King Richard III., is said to have lodged one night at the mansion of Dôlarddin, in this parish: the old house has been almost wholly taken down, and its place supplied by a modern residence. That portion of the parish which is within the liberties of the borough of Welshpool consists of the townships of Gaer, Sylvaen, Trêv Helyg, and Trêvnant, and part of that of Castle-Caer-Einion. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £12. 17. 6., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Garmon, is a neat unadorned edifice of stone, rebuilt in 1810. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. A free school is endowed with property arising from a gift of £400 by Edward Thomas, Esq., for the instruction of children whose parents do not rent property of the value of £30 per annum: there are about forty children now in the school. Some minor bequests have been made for the benefit of the poor, the principal of which consists of a small plot of ground bequeathed by Hannah Lloyd, in 1692, the rental to be distributed in bread and clothing to those of Castle-Caer-Einion, Berriew, and Forden. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £435. 13.

**CASTLEMARTIN (CASTLE-MARTIN)**, a parish in the hundred of CASTLEMARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (W. S. W.) from Pembroke, containing 487 inhabitants. This extensive parish forms a kind of promontory on the sea coast, and is bounded on the north by Freshwater West, which runs into St. George's channel, on the east by the adjoining parish of Warren, and on the west and south by the Bristol channel. The rocks on this part of the coast consist of an irregular series of broken stratification, apparently thrown together by some violent convulsion, and presenting an uncommon grandeur of appearance. From March to August these rocks are the resort of that migratory bird called the *eligug*, which during that period deposits its solitary egg on the shelving projections of the cliffs; and, supporting it with its foot, which possesses a degree of warmth sufficient for the purpose of incubation, after having hatched its young, and enabled it to shift for itself, leaves the vacant place to be occupied by another of the swarm that covers the surface of the water, waiting for an opportunity to perform the same process. This bird cannot take wing from land: as soon, therefore, as the young is able to fly, the parent bird throws it into the water, from which it rises with remarkable strength of wing over that element. This parish is wholly enclosed, and the land is mostly fertile and in a good state of cultivation: the Cors, a tract of land

comprising about three hundred acres, was brought into cultivation by the late Mr. Mirehouse, of Brownslade, to whom, in 1810, the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, adjudged their gold medal for clearing waste moors. The same gentleman also surrounded his house at Brownslade with luxuriant plantations, which, from their exposure to the violence of the south-west winds, it was generally apprehended would wither in the shoot; but, under the judicious management of that eminent agriculturist, the trees have flourished in opposition to every impediment, and, though much neglected of late by the unavoidable absence of the present proprietor, who is one of the special pleaders to the city of London, during the greater part of the year, are highly ornamental to the neighbourhood. Besides Brownslade, the seat of John Mirehouse, Esq., Corston, the respectable residence of Abraham Leach, Esq., is in this parish. The whole of the district abounds with numerous military works and fortifications, thrown up during the frequent contests which took place between the Danish pirates who infested this part of the coast, which, from its exposed and defenceless situation, was much subject to their attacks, and the native Welsh, who resolutely repelled their aggressions: one of these may be seen on a farm in this parish, called Bully Bar. The parish abounds with limestone of excellent quality, in the centre of which is found clay, much used in the manufacture of fire bricks. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 17. 6., endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Earl Cawdor, who is also impropriator of the tithes. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is an ancient structure, and has undergone thorough repair within the last ten years. There was anciently a chapel at Flimston, which has long since gone to decay. A plot of ground, on which are some cottages inhabited by the poor of the parish, was given by an unknown benefactor; but there are no particulars of the donation on record. The castle of the family of Martin, descendants of Martin de Tours, and from which the parish and the hundred are supposed to derive their name, was in a state of ruin prior to the time of Leland, who says, "Towards this extrem part of Pembroke be the *vestigia* of Martin Castle." The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £350. 15.

**CASTLEWRIGHT**, a township in that part of the parish of MAINSTONE which is in the lower division of the hundred of MONTGOMERY, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{4}$  miles (S. E.) from Montgomery, containing 182 inhabitants. This township anciently formed part of the manor of Teitrêv, or the three townships, which had a chapel attached, the ruins of which were recently visible at Pentre, but the manor having been divided, this township was joined to the parish of Mainstone. The road from Bishop's Castle to Montgomery passes through this place. It is now one of the eighteen parishes and townships incorporated by acts of parliament passed in the 32nd and 36th of George III., for the support of their own poor in the house of industry at Forden, the average annual assessment for which amounts to £62. 9. on this township.



**CATHEDINE** (TŪR Y CAETH ADYN), a parish in the hundred of TALGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (E. S. E.) from Brecknock, containing 157 inhabitants. It is situated on the road from Crickhowel to Talgarth, and is contiguous to Llŷn Savaddan, or Llangorse Mere. The only gentleman's residence is Cathedine Hill House, belonging to the Rev. William Davies, and now occupied by a tenant. The name of this place signifies, according to Mr. Theophilus Jones, the "land of the wretched captive," it having been assigned by Bernard de Newmarch, on completing the conquest of this portion of the principality, towards the support of Gwrgan, son of Bleddyn, the deposed sovereign, whom at the same time he kept in confinement in Brecknock castle. In a low situation, commanded on almost every side by more elevated ground, anciently stood the splendid castle of Blaenllyvni, the head of the lordship of Welsh Talgarth, and the borough of that name. Its founder is unknown, and its history is involved in considerable obscurity. From its contiguity to the lake, it is thought by some writers to have been the castle called by ancient historians *Breccanmere*, which was the residence of Hwgan, sovereign prince of Brycheiniog, and was stormed, in 910, by the heroic Ethelfleda, Countess of Mercia, after she had defeated Hwgan himself on the confines of his dominions, and who carried away his wife and attendants captives into England; but there are many forcible objections against the correctness of this opinion. The castle was probably built by one of the lords marcher: it formed part of the possessions of William de Breos, and was forfeited to the crown, on the attainder of that nobleman, in the reign of John, who bestowed it upon his favourite, Peter Fitz-Herbert, from whom it was wrested by Giles de Breos, and on his death descended to his brother, Reginald de Breos, on whose reconciliation with his father-in-law, it was restored to Fitz-Herbert. On the death of the last-named nobleman, the king conferred it on Walronde de Teys, from whom it was taken by Peter de Montford, and afterwards passed into the noble families of de Spencer and Mortimer: on the death of Mortimer, the last Earl of March, it devolved on his brother-in-law, Richard Earl of Cambridge, who being implicated in the insurrection of Jack Cade, it again escheated to the crown, and was granted, in the reign of James I., to Sir David Williams, of Gwernyvot. Of this baronial mansion and its lordship Leland thus writes:—"The Honor of Blaen Lleueni standing in a Valley ys in the Walsche Talegarth, wher is yet the Shape of a veri fair Castel now dekeiying, and by was a Borow Town now also in Decay. Both longgid to the Earl of March. Though Blaine Lleueni be in the Walsch Talegarth, yet the Tenauntes kepe the English Tenor." The only remains of this once extensive structure consist of the fragments of an old wall; and of the ancient borough of Blaenllyvni, which was a borough by prescription, enjoying considerable privileges, there is not even a single vestige. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5.2.11., and in the patronage of the Rev. Richard Davies. The advowson, together with that of Llanelieu, belonged to the prior of Brecknock until the middle of the thirteenth century, when they were given in exchange to Peter Fitz-Herbert, lord of Blaenllyvni, for

those of Talgarth and Llangorse. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, consists of a nave and chancel with an ill-proportioned western tower, containing three bells; on the north side stands a building called the Old Chapel, now filled with rubbish. The average annual expenditure to support the poor amounts to £103.4.

**CAYO**, otherwise CYNWYL-GAIO, a parish in the higher division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (N.W. by N.) from Llandovery, intersected by the road from that town to Lampeter, and containing 1971 inhabitants. This place presents the appearance of having been formerly of much greater importance than it is at present: in some ancient writings it is called *Caer Gaiio*, a name evidently implying that it was defended either by a castle or some other military work. From the discovery of numerous relics of Roman antiquity, it was undoubtedly known to the Romans, and was probably occupied by them. According to tradition, a large town was erected here by the Romans, the houses of which, being chiefly of brick, obtained for it the name of *Y drŷn Gŵch yn Neheubarth*, or the "Red Town in South Wales." Roman bricks are still frequently dug up in the adjacent fields; and near the summit of an eminence are vestiges of a mill, called Melin Milwyr, or the "Soldier's Mill." The rivers Cothy and Twrch unite in this parish. The principal seats are, Dôlcothy, the property and residence of John Johnes, Esq., an elegant mansion finely situated on the banks of the river Cothy, from which it takes its name; and Briu Nant, the seat of George Lloyd, Esq., a neat mansion occupying a pleasant situation a little higher up in the vale. Fairs are held here on May 30th, August 21st, and October 6th. The living is a vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Llan-sawel annexed, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Cynwyl, is a spacious structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a square embattled tower; and, from its capacious dimensions, it has been conjectured that some monastic institution anciently existed here in connexion with it. There were anciently chapels of ease at Court y Cadno, in the north-eastern part of the parish, and at Pump Saint, of which there are no vestiges. There are two places of worship each for Baptists and Methodists, and one for Independents. A parochial school, in which from forty to fifty children are instructed gratuitously, and to the use of which a neat cottage in the churchyard is appropriated, is liberally supported by subscription. Morgan Price, in 1686, bequeathed a small rent-charge for the relief of the poor of this parish.

At a place called Pant y Polion stood two monumental stones, on one of which was the following inscription, communicated by Mr. Saunders, of Jesus' College, Oxford, to Bishop Gibson, and printed in the additions to Camden's *Britannia*:—*Servator fidei, patriæque semper amator, Hic Paulinus jacet, cultor pientissimus æqui.* This memorial is supposed to have been in honour of a warrior, who fell in a great battle which took place at Maes Llan Wrthwl, in this parish, between the Romans and the Britons, and was interred at this place. At Cwm Cothi there are some remains of ancient mines, now called Gogovau mines, supposed to have been worked by the Romans; and near them are vestiges of



a stupendous Roman aqueduct, conducting the water of the river Cothy to the excavations in the mountain, in order to wash away the dross, according to the Roman method of separating the ore. Among the antiquities found in this parish are also two beautiful *torques* of gold, ploughed up on the estate of John Johnes, Esq., of Dôlcothy, in whose cabinet they are preserved: to one was attached the figure of a serpent, curiously wrought, and to the other that of a dolphin. In the same cabinet there is a beautiful amethyst, with a fine intaglio of the goddess Diana, found among some loose gravel, which had been raised for repairing the road. In 1762, no less than three thousand medals of copper, intrinsically of small value, were discovered here, among which were some of Gallienus, Salonina, and of several of the thirty tyrants; and in the neighbourhood of the mines various relics of antiquity are frequently found. On the road to Llandewy Brevi are the remains of a Roman causeway, called Sarn Helen, according to some writers, in honour of Helena, mother of Constantine the Great, who is represented as a native of Wales; but others are of opinion that it is a contraction of Sarn y Llent, or Lleon, the road of the Legion by which it was constructed. There are several tumuli in the vicinity, especially near Pont Rhôd Remus, or the bridge of Remus' ford. Near the mines is a spring of remarkably cold water, issuing from a rock, and formerly held in great estimation for its efficacy in the cure of rheumatic complaints; and near Briu Nant and Dôlcothy are two mineral springs, which, according to Mr. Rasp, the mineralogist, contain a far greater proportion of sulphur than those either of Brecknockshire or Radnorshire. At Pump Saint there is a chalybeate spring, held in considerable repute in the neighbourhood. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £578. 12.

CEIDIO (RHÔD-GEIDIO), a parish in the hundred of MENAI, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, comprising part of the market and post town of Llanerchymedd, and containing 316 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Ceidio, an eminent British saint, who flourished in the sixth century, and was the founder of several churches in the principality. It is intersected by the small river Alaw, and is of inconsiderable extent, containing only a small portion of enclosed and cultivated land: the surface is undulating, rising in some parts into considerable eminences; the surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and the higher grounds afford some good prospects over the adjacent country. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llantrisant, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church is a small edifice, supposed to have been built about the year 630, and is situated in a dreary spot on the high grounds above the Alaw. There are some trifling charitable donations and bequests, the produce of which is distributed among the poor; and five poor men from this parish are entitled to participate in the benefits of the almshouses at Beaumaris, founded by David Hughes, in 1609. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £82. 19.

CEIDIO, a parish in the hundred of DINLLAEN, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (W.

N.W.) from Pwllheli, containing 135 inhabitants. The soil on the higher grounds is sandy, and the lower grounds are composed chiefly of turbaries. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £1400 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of T. P. Jones Parry, Esq. Previously to the above endowments, the minister's stipend was only £5 per annum, which small sum was the bequest of Owen Hughes, of Madryn, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Ceidio, and situated on an eminence, is a small neat building, kept in excellent repair. A singular custom of dispensing altogether with the appointment of churchwardens prevails in this parish. An average annual expenditure amounting to £82 is applied for the support of the poor.

CEIRCHIOG, a parish in the hundred of LLYVON, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S.E.) from Bôdedern, containing 168 inhabitants. The name of this parish is descriptive of the produce of the soil, which is well adapted to the culture of oats, of which great quantities are grown in the parish and in the adjacent district. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llanbeulan, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to the Holy Rood, is a small neat edifice, situated on an eminence in a large field on the south side of the road from London to Holyhead. A rent-charge of £2. 10. was bequeathed by Sergeant Wynn, for the benefit of the poor of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £74. 6.

CELLAN, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (E.N.E.) from Lampeter, containing 465 inhabitants. This parish is situated in a mountainous district, on the banks of the river Teivy. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 7. 8½., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is an ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel: it contains two *piscinæ*, and the font is supported on a square pillar, on which is carved the face of a male saint. There are places of worship for Independents and Presbyterians. This parish is remarkable for the number of intrenchments, kistvaens, carneddau, and monumental stones comprised within its limits. The Roman road leading from *Loventium*, now Llanio, to the station at Llanvair ar y brÿn, in Carmarthenshire, has been traced through it, from the banks of the Teivy to the mountains which form the line of boundary between that county and Cardiganshire. On a circular tumulus, surrounded by a moat, there is a stone, thirty-three feet in diameter, called *Llêch Cynon*, the burial-place of a person of that name, from whom a stream in the vicinity was called *Frud Cynon*. On the mountain to the north of this river are two kistvaens, called *Beddau*, signifying graves, and two others on the mountain to the south, one of which is called *Bedd y Vorwyn*, or the "Virgin's Grave:" they are all oblong, and consist each of four stones, placed in the centre of a small barrow, or sepulchre of earth and stones. Of the carneddau, the most conspicuous are two very large ones on a lofty mountain near the road leading from Llanvair to Llanycrwys: there is

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a small  
church or chapel  
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also another, called Tair Carnau, all of them consisting of heaps of large stones, and supposed to be the graves of warriors. On the confines of the parish there is another stone, called Carreg tair croes, not sepulchral, but a boundary mark. There are also two very large stones on the mountain to the south of the river Frwd, which are supposed to have been placed there in commemoration of some great victory: one, called Byrvaen, fifteen feet in length, and four in width and thickness, now lies prostrate on the ground; but the other, called Hîr vaen Gwyddog, sixteen feet in height, is still standing. On another tumulus, surrounded by a moat, lies a very large stone, sixteen feet in length, called Maen y Prenvol, or Maen Prenvol Gwallt Gwyn; and near it, on the same tumulus, stands another, about eight feet high. There are also three intrenchments in this parish; one on the top of a hill, beneath which flows the river Frwd, called Gaer Morrice; another on the farm called Glanfrwd, which is exactly oval; and the third, which is circular and of a large size, between that farm and the parish of Pencarreg. The Rev. Moses Williams, F.R.S., who distinguished himself, as a Welsh scholar and antiquary, by the share which he took in the publication of Dr. Wotton's edition of the laws of Hywel Dda, was a native of this place: he also compiled a catalogue of books in the Bodleian library at Oxford, and wrote his own biography, which is now deposited in manuscript in that library, and at his death bequeathed his books and manuscripts, which were of considerable value, to the Earl of Macclesfield. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £124.19.

**CELLYWYON (CELLIWION)**, a hamlet in the parish of LLANTRISSENT, hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, adjoining the town hamlet of Llantrissant. The population is returned with the parish. Coal is procured here, a part of which is exported to Ireland.

**CEMMES (CEMMAES)**, a township in the parish of LLANBADRIG, hundred of TAL Y BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (W. by N.) from Amlwch, containing 937 inhabitants. The parish church, which stands on a cliff near the sea, is situated in this township. Cemmaes creek forms a natural harbour, which at a small expense might be rendered much more convenient and useful: it affords a shipping-place for the exportation of the serpentine, or Mona marble, called by statuary "verd antique," which is quarried in the adjacent parish of Llanvechell, and for landing coal and other commodities of general consumption. This township formerly maintained its own poor; but it is now united for that purpose with the township of Clygyrog, these two constituting the parish, and being distinct for every other object.

**CEMMES (CEMMAES)**, a parish in the hundred of MACHYNLLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (N. E. by E.) from Machynlleth, containing 917 inhabitants. The name of this place signifies a circle, or amphitheatre for games. The village is pleasantly situated on the southern bank of the river Dovey, and on the road from Welshpool to Machynlleth and Aberystwith, which, from a short distance north of it, runs parallel with the river for the remainder of its course. From Moel Eiddan there is a fine view of the vale of Cemmaes and Mallwyd, through which winds the

Dovey, bounded by the extended bases and lofty summits of Cader Idris, Aran Mowddu, Plinlimmon, and other hills. About one-third of the parish consists of sheep-walks belonging to the adjoining landowners: peat for fuel is obtained within its limits. Fairs are held on May 1st, September 9th, and November 24th. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £7, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Tydecho, is in the early style of English architecture: the gallery is adorned with fine carvings of flowers, &c., in wood; in the churchyard there are four large yew trees. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. A Welsh circulating school is at present (1831) situated at this place, for an account of which See DAROWEN; and it is in contemplation to establish a National school. There is a Sunday school in connexion with the church, in which about sixty children are instructed. A small plot of ground was bequeathed to the poor by Derwas Griffith, in 1669; the sum of £40 by Bridget Mostyn, in 1730; and £20 by Grace Pryse, in 1784. Upon the summit of Moel Eiddan are the remains of a Roman encampment; and in a turbary near it, a brazen celt, and a circular ornamented brooch of brass, about three inches in diameter, were found, in 1824, which are now in the possession of the Rev. Isaac Bonsall, rector of Llanwrin. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £474. 14.

**CENOL (CANOL)**, a parcel in the parish of LLANVIHANGEL CWM-DŴ, hundred of CRICKHOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N.) from Crickhowel, containing 235 inhabitants. It forms the middle portion of the parish, as the name signifies, and is intersected by the small river Rhiangol, which is here crossed by a bridge: an ancient Roman road also formerly passed through it. There are a few agreeable residences scattered in different parts of this pleasing little vale. A certain portion of the tithes belongs to the Vicar of St. John's the Evangelist, in Brecknock, having been anciently granted to the prior and monks by Pycard, a Norman knight.

**CERREGCEINWEN (CERYG-CEINWEN)**, a parish in the hundred of MALLTRAETH, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S. W. by W.) from Llangevni, on the road to Holyhead, containing 374 inhabitants. The land in this parish is almost wholly enclosed, and in a good state of cultivation; and the soil, though in some parts a rocky moorland, is tolerably productive. Here is a mansion called Hênblâs, pleasantly situated in the centre of some flourishing plantations. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to that of Llangrystiolys, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Ceinwen, is a small but neat edifice, appropriately fitted up. The Rev. Dr. Lewis, a native of this parish, bequeathed £12 per annum for the education of two poor boys, natives of this parish, and also several sums of money, as exhibitions for a limited term, for such young men of this county as should go to either of the universities: he was a great benefactor to the poor of the parish, and a principal contributor to the fund for the support of widows of deceased clergymen. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £161. 9.



**CERRIG Y DRUIDION (CERYG Y DRUDION)**, a parish in the hundred of **ISALED**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 10 miles (W. N. W.) from **Corwen**, on the old **Holyhead** road, containing 1006 inhabitants. The name of this place signifies "the stones of the daring ones," and not "of the Druids," as some have interpreted it; and is in allusion to a vast heap of stones, which several persons now alive remember to have seen on the west side of the church, and minutely described in **Bishop Gibson's** additions to **Camden's Britannia**, in a communication by **Mr. Llwyd**, but now entirely dispersed: several of them have been used in constructing the stone fences of the adjacent fields; the largest has been removed to a considerable distance, and now serves as a gate-post, and the site has been broken up by the plough. Local tradition represents this collection of stones to have been the rude prison in which **Cynvrig Rwth**, a lawless chieftain, confined his captives: among them were some of a superior size, forming a *kistvaen*, or stone chest, but every vestige has been removed. The parish contains about twenty thousand acres, including a large tract of dreary mountain and moorland. The village, which is small, is situated on a gentle eminence, and was formerly a thoroughfare on the great **Irish** road, which, by a recent improvement in the route, has been diverted to a short distance from it, but still passes for several miles through the parish. The breeding of cattle and sheep, the digging of peat for fuel, the spinning of woollen yarn, and the knitting of stockings, form the principal occupations of the inhabitants. The neighbourhood abounds with good grazing land, a great portion of which is let by the proprietors to the **Anglesey** dealers, for the pasturage of cattle, on their way from that isle to the midland counties of **England**. A market was formerly held here on **Friday**, but it has fallen into disuse: fairs are held on **March 14th**, **April 27th**, **August 24th**, **October 20th**, and **December 7th**. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of **St. Asaph**, rated in the king's books at £10. 8. 1½., and in the patronage of the **Bishop of St. Asaph**. The church, dedicated to **St. Mary Magdalene**, is a spacious structure, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a lofty chantry chapel adjoining the south side. There are three places of worship for Calvinistic and two for Wesleyan Methodists, two for Independents, and one for Baptists. An almshouse for six aged men was founded in 1716, by **Robert Price, Esq.**, Chief Baron of the **Exchequer** in the reign of **William III.**, who endowed it with property now producing an income of about £55 per annum. There are several charitable bequests, amounting in the whole to £64. 17., the interest of which is distributed among the poor, principally in white bread, which is here considered as a luxury, the inhabitants generally subsisting on oat cake or barley bread. The above-named **Mr. Price**, whose memorable speech in the **House of Commons**, against the grant of the lordship of **Denbigh** and other places in **Wales** to the **Duke of Portland**, drew upon him the especial notice of his sovereign, was born at **Giler**, in this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £385. 3.

**CEULAN**, a joint township with **Maesmawr**, in the parish of **LLANVIHANGEL GENEU'R GLYN**, upper division of the hundred of **GENEU'R GLYN**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 8 miles (N. E.) from **Aberyst-**

with, containing, with **Maesmawr**, 607 inhabitants. It appears to derive its name from the rivers **Ceulan** and **Maesmor**, the former of which runs through the township, and joins the river **Lery** within a short distance, and the latter runs along the northern extremity of it: the road from **Aberystwith** to **Machynlleth** crosses at the point of junction of the **Ceulan** and the **Lery**, where the small but neat village of **Tâl y bont** is situated. At this place the partial views of the ocean, on one side, and on the other the stream tumbling over the rocky precipices, in picturesque cascades, overhung with a great variety of trees and shrubs, are peculiarly enlivening. An ancient seat, belonging to the family of **Price**, stands here between the right bank of the **Ceulan** and the high road, within the grounds of which are some fine full-grown fir trees. On a mountain in this neighbourhood, called **Pen Sarn Ddû**, is situated that ancient monument termed **Gwely Taliesin**, or **Taliesin's Bed**, a more particular description of which is given under the head of the parish. This township is separately assessed for the support of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £154. 3.

**CEVN**, a township in the parish of **KILKEN**, Northop division of the hundred of **COLESHILL**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**, 3½ miles (N. W. by W.) from **Mold**, containing 298 inhabitants. It occupies a lofty mountain, as the name implies, on the left bank of the river **Alyn**: the road from **Hawarden** to **Denbigh** passes along the northern side of it.

**CEVN**, a hamlet in the parish of **GELLYGAER**, hundred of **CAERPHILLY**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5 miles (S. S. E.) from **Merthyr-Tydvil**, containing 526 inhabitants. It is partly situated on the declivity of the lofty mountain from which the parish takes its name, and the **Bargoed Taf** passes through it. There are several neat residences in different parts of the township, some of which are ornamented with plantations, though other portions are bleak and barren.

**CEVN-LLÛS**, county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**.—See **KEVENLLEECE**.

**CEVNPAWL**, a joint township with **Gollon**, forming that part of the parish of **ABBEY CWM Hîr** which is in the hundred of **KEVENLLEECE**, county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**, 7 miles (E. by N.) from **Rhaiadr**, containing, exclusively of **Gollon**, 117 inhabitants. It is situated on the left bank of the **Clywedog** brook, which falls into the river **Ithon**, in a fertile, pleasant, and well-wooded valley, near the ruins of the abbey of **Cwm Hîr**. One of the most perfect *carneddau* in the county, consisting of about thirty or forty cart-loads of stones, thrown loosely together, with a hollow in the centre, is observable on a hill, a short distance south-west of this place. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £233. 18.

**CEVNPENNAR (CEVN-PENNAR)**, a hamlet in the parish of **ABERDARE**, within the limits of the borough of **MERTHYR-TYDVIL**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 2½ miles (E. S. E.) from **Aberdare**. The population is returned with the parish. This hamlet, which is well wooded, is situated on the western declivity of the **Twyn-Mawr** mountain. The **Aberdare** canal passes close to, and parallel with, the river **Cynon**, in the lower part of it.

**CHAPEL-ILTERNE**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**.—See **LLANILTERNE**.



**CHERITON**, a parish in the hundred of **SWANSEA**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 14 miles (W.) from Swansea, containing 242 inhabitants. This place, according to some, derived its name from the quantity of cherries abounding in the neighbourhood, and which formerly grew wild in the hedges. The village is agreeably situated near the confluence of the small river Burry with the Loughor, and is neat and of pleasing appearance. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 7. 3½, and in the patronage of the Crown. The church, dedicated to St. Catwg, is a small but venerable edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, between which rises a square embattled tower: the churchyard is bounded on one side by the Burry, which, falling into the Loughor, gives its name to that river from its influx to Loughor Ferry. There are some trifling remains of Boville, or Bove-hill castle, a small building, of which little more than the name is known. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £31. 16.

**CHERITON**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**.—See **STACKPOLE-ELIDOR**.

**CHIRK**, a parish in the hundred of **CHIRK**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 5 miles (N.) from Oswestry, on the road from London to Holyhead and Dublin, containing 1598 inhabitants. This parish is bounded on the north by the river Dee, and on the south by the Ceiriog, which unite on its eastern side. It lies at the foot of the Berwyn range of mountains, which skirt it on the west, and its surface is somewhat uneven, rising from the village to an eminence on which the castle is situated, on the western side, with the Berwyns beyond, and on the eastern to another elevation, from the brow of which there is a delightful prospect of the plain of Salop, on the one side, and on the other a nearer view of part of the Vale of Llangollen, including the celebrated Pont y Cyssyltau aqueduct, which conveys the Ellesmere canal over the valley of the Dee, with the meanderings of that river between its wood-fringed banks towards the grounds of Wynnstay: this hill also embraces a complete view of Chirk castle, towering on its elevated site, and the princely grounds that surround it, which, adorned with noble plantations, and interspersed with clumps of trees tastefully arranged along the side of the mountain, combine to present, with the picturesque village of the Cevn and the woody scenery of Newbridge and Nant y Bele, on the right, and the beautiful grounds of Brynkinalt and the village of Chirk on the left, and various intermediate objects of picturesque beauty, a home view highly diversified, cheerful, and rich. The village is pleasantly situated on the northern bank of the river Ceiriog, which, flowing through a small vale of great beauty, here separates the counties of Denbigh and Salop, and consequently Wales and England: it is exceedingly clean and neat, and contains some highly respectable houses and several substantial and well-built cottages, having been greatly improved within the last few years by Mrs. Myddelton Biddulph, who, on coming into possession of the Chirk castle estate, pulled down several dilapidated buildings, and erected others of modest and uniform appearance for her tenants, on more eligible sites. The Holyhead road, on both sides of the village, has been widened and altered within the last few years,

so as to avoid the inequalities and windings in its course. Chirk hill, which was previously very abrupt, has been partially levelled, and the road conducted more circuitously across the vale by means of an embankment. On the north side of the village also its course has been diverted, and embankments raised and excavations made along its line; but these improvements, though greatly conducive to the convenience of passengers, have probably lessened the picturesque character of the route. There is a valuable mine of coal in the parish, which is worked on an extensive scale at Black Park, by Mr. T. E. Ward, who holds it on lease from the owner of the Chirk castle estate, and employs here about three hundred workmen: the pits are two hundred and fourteen yards deep, and the annual sale exceeds fifty thousand tons: a rail-road has been formed from them to the Ellesmere canal, where there is a wharf for loading barges. At the Vron, in this parish, and on the banks of the canal, are extensive lime-works, belonging to this estate, affording employment to about one hundred persons. Pont y Blew forge, in the township of Halton, and on the river Ceiriog, was erected in 1710, for making charcoal iron, and was enlarged in 1795, when the manufacture of puddled iron was introduced: about twenty tons are now made weekly, and about twenty persons employed. The Ellesmere canal enters this parish from Shropshire, and is conveyed across the vale of Chirk and the river Ceiriog by means of an aqueduct two hundred and thirty-two yards long, consisting of ten arches, the piers of which are sixty-five feet high, and then immediately enters a tunnel, two hundred and twenty yards long. On emerging from this, it proceeds in its course through the parish, and then enters another tunnel, soon after which it is carried over the vale of the Dee by the stupendous aqueduct of Pont y Cyssyltau. Fairs are held at the village on February 10th, June 10th, August 12th, and November 12th, for the sale of live stock and pedlery; and a court leet for the manor takes place annually.

About one mile and a half to the west of the village is Chirk Castle, proudly situated on an eminence backed by the Berwyn mountains: it is a venerable quadrangular embattled structure, defended by a low massive tower at each corner, and another in the centre of the north front, where is the principal entrance, under an arched gateway guarded by a portcullis, into a square area of considerable dimensions, round which the various apartments are ranged: on the east side of this area extends a low embattled corridor, leading into the principal apartments, which have been greatly altered, modernized, and embellished by Mrs. Biddulph, within the last few years, but the old entrance to the hall is by a flight of steps on the north side of the area: the picture gallery, at the south end of which is the chapel, is one hundred feet in length, by twenty-two in width, and contains several good portraits and other paintings. The park is extensive, and is disposed with picturesque effect, the inequalities of its surface, and the declivity of the hill extending behind it and toward the north, having afforded a favourable scope for the arrangement of the trees and plantations; and a new road leading to the castle, in a winding direction through it, so as to embrace a view of much interesting scenery in the valley of the Ceiriog, and avoid a steep hill, has been formed of late, in lieu of that which formerly led from



the village. Near New Hall, which is described as an old seat of the Myddeltons, rebuilt many years ago as a farm-house, and surrounded by a moat, at the entrance into the park from Llangollen and Wrexham, stands a pair of iron gates of the richest and most delicate and exquisite workmanship, designed and executed by a common blacksmith, which anciently stood immediately in front of the castle. The summit of the castle embraces a very wide prospect of great beauty and magnificence, offering to the naked eye, on a clear day, as it is said, an uninterrupted view into seventeen different counties. The river Ceiriog runs on the west and south sides of the castle, through a deep and picturesque valley, remarkable in history as the scene of a sanguinary conflict, in 1165, between part of the forces of Henry II. and the Welsh, under their brave prince, Owain Gwynedd. Henry, with a view to the conquest of Wales, collected an army at Oswestry, whilst the Welsh prince mustered his forces at Corwen, and, being eager to decide the struggle, the English monarch hastened to meet the enemy, but was interrupted in this valley by almost impenetrable woods, which he commanded his men to cut down, in order to secure himself from ambush, posting the pikemen and flower of his army to protect those at work. Whilst thus engaged, the Welsh fell upon the English with the most indignant fury, and a violent and bloody battle ensued, which ended in the former retiring again to Corwen, and so reduced the strength of Henry, that, harassed by the activity of Owain, who cut off his supplies, he was compelled to fall back into the English territory, and relinquish his design. This decisive encounter, in which numbers of brave men were slain on both sides, is called the battle of Crogen, and the place where it was fought *Adwy'r Beddau*, "the pass of the graves." The exact period of the erection of Chirk Castle is uncertain. John Myddelton, Esq., in a communication to the Society of Antiquaries, in 1729, says,—"That it was begun 1011, and finished 1013: the repair of one of the wings, in Cromwell's time, cost £28,000. The front is two hundred and fifty feet long, the court one hundred and sixty-five by one hundred, and five round towers fifty feet in diameter. Adam's tower, eighty feet high, the wall near the dungeon nine feet deep, and the dungeon as deep as the walls of the castle are high." But, though the description applies to the present structure, the period is more probably that of the erection of a prior edifice, called *Castell Crogen*; since both Bishop Gibson, in his additions to Camden, and Mr. Pennant, ascribe it to Roger Mortimer, in the reign of Edward I. Mortimer, on the death of Gruffydd ab Madoc, lord of Dinas Brân, on which lordship the territory around *Castell Crogen*, called *Trêv y Waun*, was dependent, was appointed by Edward I. guardian of Llewelyn, one of Gruffydd's sons, the other, named Madoc, having been entrusted to John Earl Warren; these noblemen are stated, after having given orders for putting the youths to death, to have seized upon their possessions, Mortimer taking the lordships of Chirk and Nanheudwy, and Earl Warren those of Bromfield and Yale. John, the grandson of Roger, sold the lordship of Chirk to Richard Fitz-Alan, Earl of Arundel, whose descendants possessed it for three generations, when it was conveyed by marriage to Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, on whose disgrace and exile, in 1397, it was forfeited to the crown, and

soon after granted to William Beauchamp, lord of Abergavenny, who had married the other heiress of the Fitz-Alans; his granddaughter, sole heiress of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Worcester, having been married to Edward Neville, afterwards Lord Abergavenny, in the reign of Henry VI., it became the property of that family. It came afterwards to the Stanleys, and at length to the crown, and was conferred by Queen Elizabeth on her favourite, Dudley, Earl of Leicester, at whose death it passed to Lord St. John of Bletso, and was sold by his son, in 1595, to Sir Thomas Myddelton, Knt., who served the office of lord mayor of London, in 1614, and to whose descendants it has ever since belonged, having, on the decease of the late Richard Myddelton, Esq., who died unmarried in 1796, been divided among his three sisters and coheiresses, of whom the present Mrs. Myddelton Biddulph, after a protracted suit in Chancery, succeeded to that portion on which the castle and village are situated, which are now in the possession of her son, Robert M. Biddulph, Esq. During the civil war of the seventeenth century, Sir Thomas Myddelton, son of the purchaser of the estate, having espoused the cause of the parliament, orders were issued by Charles I. to Col. Robert Ellyce, to take possession of the castle, and apply the money and plate found in it to the payment of his regiment, and then deliver it up to Sir Thomas Hanmer, who was appointed governor. Its owner for some time exerted himself with great zeal for the parliament, but being disgusted at the events of the war, he revolted, and, in 1659, joined Sir George Booth, in attempting to restore the ancient constitution. Sir George, however, having been defeated by Gen. Lambert, Sir Thomas was obliged to seek refuge in his castle, which was besieged by Lambert, to whom, after a defence of two or three days, in which the western side and three of its towers were demolished, it was surrendered, the conqueror having, as it is said, plundered the estate to the amount of £80,000: the injury sustained by the castle in this siege was soon after repaired by Sir Thomas Myddelton, in the course of one year. The lordship of Chirk, otherwise "*Chirkland*," includes the parishes of Chirk, Llangollen, and Llan-santfraed-Glynn-Ceriog. On the eastern side of the parish is the mansion of Brÿnkinalt, the property and residence of Arthur Viscount Dungannon, to whom it has descended, in the female line, from the Trevors, whose great ancestor, Ednyved Gam, was a descendant of Tudor Trevor. It was built in 1619, from a design by Inigo Jones, but has been enlarged and embellished, in the later style of English architecture, by the present noble owner. It occupies a low retired situation on the western bank of the Ceiriog, and the grounds, though not very extensive, are well adorned with full-grown trees and thriving plantations, enriched with the meanderings of the river, and disposed with great taste and beauty, so as to form a charming sequestered retreat. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £6. 11. 5½., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a handsome edifice, with a square tower containing a ring of bells: it has recently been renovated and embellished, in the later style of English architecture, by subscription among the parishioners, and has re-



ceived an addition of one hundred and seventy-three sittings, of which one hundred and thirty-three are free, the Incorporated Society for building and enlarging churches and chapels having granted £100 for that purpose: it contains divers marble effigies of the Myddeltons of Chirk castle, mostly ill executed, with the exception of a bust of Sir Thomas Myddelton, the active parliamentary commander, represented with a peaked beard, long hair, and armed, near which is another of his lady, of the family of Napier of Luton. Here was interred Dr. Walter Balcanqual, a Scottish divine of some note, who represented his country at the famous synod of Dort, in 1618, and was successively raised to the deaneries of Rochester and Durham. Having, in consequence of his loyalty, rendered himself obnoxious to his countrymen, he was, in 1645, obliged to seek an asylum at Chirk castle, where he died on Christmas-day ensuing, and a small mural tablet was erected to his memory by Sir Thomas Myddelton, at whose request an elegant epitaph was composed for him by Dr. Pearson, then Bishop of Chester. A school for instructing poor children on the National plan was founded in the village by Mrs. Myddelton Biddulph, in 1824; the master, in addition to small weekly payments from the scholars, receives the interest of £20 left by Mrs. Mary Bennett, of £20 by an unknown benefactor, and of £5 by Major Chas. Myddelton. In 1698, Mrs. Catherine Trevor bequeathed an estate in the parish of Llantysillio, and another in the parish of Llanrhaiadr, to the churchwardens and overseers of "Cherque," the rental of which, amounting to £84 per annum, is annually on St. Thomas' day distributed among the poor, according to the will of the testatrix. Offa's Dyke, after crossing the river Ceriog, enters this parish and passes through Chirk Castle park, where it is plainly visible, and soon afterwards crosses the Dee. In a garden immediately on the right of the entrance into the village from Oswestry, on the verge of the vale, is an artificial mound of earth, opposite to which, on the other side of the road, there was another, which Mr. Pennant supposes to have been constructed by the Saxons, at the period of the formation of Offa's Dyke, as exploratory camps, and also to command the pass through the valley. Black Park is said to have been anciently an enclosed park, noted for its deer, but it has for ages been disparked, and there are now no vestiges of its appropriation to this purpose, except in the name. This is one of eleven parishes incorporated by act of parliament, passed in 1791, for the joint maintenance of their poor in the House of Industry at Oswestry: the average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £260. 16.

**CHRISTYONYDD (CRISTIONYDD)**, a township in the parish of RUABON, hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. W. by W.) from Ruabon, containing, with the township of Dynhylla Uchâv, 3566 inhabitants. It is situated in the western and more elevated portion of the parish, where there are some extensive and valuable mines of coal, in which the principal portion of the population is employed.

**CHURCHSTOKE**, a parish partly in the lower division of the hundred of CAWRSE, and partly in that of the hundred of MONTGOMERY, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, and comprising the township

of Brompton with Riston (which supports its poor separately from the rest of the parish), in the hundred of CHIRBURY, county of SALOP, ENGLAND, 4 miles (E. S. E.) from Montgomery, on the road from Welshpool, through Chirbury, to Bishop's Castle, and containing 1453 inhabitants. The village is situated near the confluence of the rivers Camlet and Ceibutrach, the former of which, after passing through the romantic dingle of Marrington, falls into the Severn near Forden. From the flatness of the ground above it, and the contracted channel of the Camlet, the adjacent meadows are subject to inundation, and during the winter have been frequently entirely covered with water. From some of the high grounds are fine views, extending over the vales of Churchstoke and Montgomery, with the surrounding hills, and comprehending a rich variety of pleasingly diversified scenery. Considerable quantities of lead-ore have been found in the parish, and on the Churchstoke hills are evident traces of mines, which are supposed to have been worked by the Romans. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Salop, and diocese of Hereford, endowed with a rent-charge of £20 per annum and £600 private benefaction, £1000 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Warden of Clun Hospital. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, and formerly dependent on the priory of Chirbury, is a plain neat edifice, with a square embattled tower surmounted by a spire: the body was taken down and rebuilt, at an expense of £2500, in 1815, previously to which the porch and other parts of the ancient structure exhibited indications of the damage it sustained from an attack during the parliamentary war, by the men of Montgomery castle, in order to seize a party of royalists, commanded by Sir John Watts, which had taken refuge in the church, and which, after an obstinate resistance, was obliged to surrender. A parochial and Sunday school, in which about eighty children are instructed, is supported partly by subscription, and partly by endowment arising from some small bequests. On the summit of a prominent rock, in the vale of Churchstoke, are the remains of Symond's Castle, an ancient fortification; and on Llanvawr hill, a craggy and precipitous eminence, are the remains of an ancient encampment, the origin of which has not been ascertained. On Churchstoke hill are vestiges of a Roman camp, and on the declivity called Todleth are the remains of old walls, and a piece of water called the Church pool, probably belonging to some religious house, near the site of which, according to an absurd popular tradition, the church was originally to have been erected. There are remains of British encampments on the Aldres farm, and at Galet y din, or Calton, in this parish, in which also is included a part of Corndon hill. Near Offa's Dyke, which passes through the parish, are several tumuli, one of which was opened within the last few years: the bottom, which was sunk about a foot below the level of the surrounding land, was paved, and the sides were formed with flag-stones, on one of which was an inscription, very much obliterated; within was only some black dust, among which was discovered a small coin, with a legend quite unintelligible. At a place on Offa's Dyke, called the Three Jacks, a coin of Agricola was found, about twelve years since. Churchstoke is one of those parishes incorporated for



the support of their poor in the house of industry at Forden: the average annual expenditure amounts to £481. 14., exclusively of Brompton with Riston, for which the average assessment is £82 annually.

**CILIAU-AËRON**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of LLAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 10½ miles (N. W.) from Lampeter, containing 344 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the river Aëron, by which it is bounded on the north-east, and from which it derives the adjunct to its name. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a small edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel. There is a place of worship for Presbyterians. A Sunday school, which is gratuitously superintended, affords the means of instruction to the poor children of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £62. 19.

**CILMACHALLT**, a township in the parish and upper division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES. The population is returned with the parish. The manufacture of flannel is carried on in this township, and affords employment to the greater portion of the inhabitants. It surrounds the town of Llanidloes on the north, east, and south, and a large portion is included within the limits of the new borough.

**CILMARGH (CÎL Y MARCH)**, a joint hamlet with Iscoed, in the parish of LLANDEVEYLOG, hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 5½ miles (S. by W.) from Carmarthen, containing, with Iscoed, 162 inhabitants. It is situated close to the left bank of the river Towy, near its mouth, and contains a few respectable residences, standing on the gentle elevations within view of that river.

**CILVAWR (CÎL-FAWR)**, a chapelry in the parish of MANER-DIVY, hundred of KÎLGERRAN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S. E.) from Cardigan. The population is returned with the parish. It is situated near the right bank of a small stream, which falls into the river Teivy at Castle Maelgwn. The tithes are the property of W. O. Brigstocke, Esq., of Blaenpant. The chapel has fallen into ruins.

**CLARACH**, a township in that part of the parish of LLANBADARN-VAWR which is in the upper division of the hundred of GENEU'R GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (N. E.) from Aberystwith, on the road from that town to Machynlleth, containing 290 inhabitants. The river Clarach, which gives name to the township, flows through a pleasing vale here, and falls into the bay of Cardigan, where the shore expands into a fine sandy beach, and the water is extremely shallow at ebb tide. From the northern part an extensive bank of sand, called Sarn Gynvelyn, stretches in a south-western direction for several miles into the bay of Cardigan, terminated by sunken rocks, and with only two fathoms of water on its surface at ebb tide. This township separately supports its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £68. 5.

**CLARBESTON**, a parish in the hundred of DUNGLEDDEY, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 6½ miles (N. W.) from Narberth, containing 218 inhabitants. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry

and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of W. H. Scourfield, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Martin. The rates in this parish are levied on the ploughlands, each of which contains one hundred statute acres. An average annual expenditure of £54. 14. is applied to the support of the poor.

**CLÂS (HIGHER)**, a hamlet in the parish and hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N.) from Swansea, containing 531 inhabitants. It is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor: the average annual expenditure is £215. 18.

**CLÂS (LOWER)**, a hamlet in the parish of LLANGYVELACH, partly within the new limits of the borough of SWANSEA, and partly in the hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (N.) from Swansea, containing 4251 inhabitants, the population having increased more than seventy-five per cent. since the census of 1821. Morriston, a considerable and thriving village, with a large population employed in the copper-works, is situated in this hamlet, but is described under its appropriate head. The Swansea canal, part of which, called Morris' canal, was constructed at the expense of the Duke of Beaufort, who receives the tolls, passes close to the village, between it and the Tawy, and hence pursues its course through the rest of the hamlet, both that river and the canal being crossed by bridges on the road leading to the town of Neath. The bridge over the Tawy, called Wych Tree Bridge, from a tree of that description which grew near its eastern end, is admired for its lightness and elegance: it consists of one arch, ninety feet in the span, with cylindrical holes in the abutments, and was executed by Mr. Edwards, the celebrated architect of Pont y Pridd. Clasemont, late the seat of Sir John Morris, situated within a short distance north-west of the village, has been recently taken down. There are, however, numerous other respectable residences scattered over the hamlet, which is in general well wooded, and presents many agreeable rides and walks, especially along the banks of the canal and the vale of the Tawy. Coal is found here in abundance. This hamlet is assessed separately for the maintenance of its poor: the average annual expenditure is £344. 4.

**CLÂS-GARMON**, a township in the parish of St. HARMON, hundred of RHAIDR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N.) from Rhaiadr, containing, with the township of Bwnneiaid, 428 inhabitants. It forms the north-western portion of the parish, which borders on Montgomeryshire. Two roads from Rhaiadr to Llanidloes pass through it, one along the left bank of the Wye, and the other, the more direct, after crossing the Mertyd brook, through the mountainous part of it. Clâs hill is an extensive and bleak elevation in this township, chiefly appropriated in depasturing sheep.

**CLAWDDMADOC (CLAWDD-MA-DOG)**, a hamlet in the parish of LLANWRTYD, hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 10½ miles (W. by N.) from Builth, containing 299 inhabitants. It occupies a romantic and highly picturesque situation in the upper division of the parish, and is environed on two sides by lofty mountains: the small stream of the Cammarch, which falls into the Irvon, has its source in the vicinity. Here is a free school, endowed with



about £12 per annum, in 1783, by Margaret Jones, who also devised about £15 per annum for clothing the poor. This hamlet is separately assessed for the support of its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £72. 5.

**CLEAR'S, ST. (ST. CLARE'S)**, a parish in the higher division of the hundred of **DERLLŷs**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, on the road from Carmarthen to Haverfordwest, 9 miles (W. by S.) from Carmarthen, containing 1083 inhabitants. This place, which is of considerable antiquity, is supposed to have derived its name from a pious lady, named Clara, who founded a church here in the fifth or sixth century, and, after being canonized, became its tutelary saint. Some, however, are of opinion that it owes its name to the assembly of the Welsh bards, which used to be held here, called in the Welsh language *Clair*, pointing out, in support of this hypothesis, a lofty tumulus as the place of meeting. Soon after the Norman invasion of this portion of the principality, a castle was erected here by some of the conquerors, the ruins of which are noticed by Leland, who wrote in the time of Henry VIII., but have since entirely disappeared. It is frequently mentioned in the Welsh annals, and was taken and partially demolished by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, in the year 1215: it afterwards shared the fate of nearly all the Welsh fortresses, until the struggle between the natives and the Norman settlers was decided by the conquest of Wales by Edward I. A small Cluniac priory, for a prior and two monks, was founded here before 1291, as a cell to the monastery of St. Martin de Campis at Paris, which was dissolved with the other Alien priories, in the reign of Henry V., and its possessions were given by Henry VI. to the Warden and Fellows of All Souls' College, Oxford, to whom, together with two-thirds of the tithes of the parish, they still belong.

The town is situated at the confluence of the Guinnyng with the Tâf, which discharge their united waters into the bay of Carmarthen, at the small town of Laugharne, a few miles to the south, and consists of one straggling street, nearly a mile in length, neither lighted nor paved, but well supplied with water, and containing many good dwelling-houses: several respectable shops are at present in progress of erection; the old houses are undergoing renovation, and other improvements are being made. The surrounding district is highly productive of corn and butter, which are here shipped for Bristol, Cardiff, Bridg-water, Southampton, and other ports; this trade at present affording constant employment to two vessels of fifty-five tons' burden each: there are also eight small craft, each of about twenty-five tons' burden, engaged in the coal, culm, and limestone trades between this place and Milford Haven; and there is a limited export trade in cheese and bark. During the year 1830, four thousand five hundred quarters of grain, and about one hundred tons of butter, were shipped from this small port, which is a creek within the limits of the port of Llanelly. A new quay, one hundred and fifty yards in extent, has recently been completed, which will afford increased facility for loading and unloading. St. Clear's is commonly reputed a market town; but it has no market for the sale of provisions, &c.; Tuesdays and Fridays being here called the market-days, in consequence of the opening of the

merchants' stores on those days, for the reception of the staple commodities of the vicinity. It was formerly a borough of some note, and had its courts of session, and its gaol, the latter of which was standing about fifty years ago. A portreeve, recorder, two common attorneys, and a cryer of the court, are regularly appointed, but no court is held, except that of petty session by the county magistrates, once a month. The freedom is acquired by birth for all the children of burgesses, and is also obtained by election.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 17. 1., endowed with £200 private benefaction, £200 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of J. Lewes Philipps, Esq. The church, which is situated on the bank of the Guinnyng, is an edifice of considerable antiquity. There are two places of worship for Independents, and one each for Wesleyan Methodists and Unitarians. A school, in which about sixty children of both sexes are instructed, is supported by subscription; and there is a donation of £8 per annum to a schoolmaster, for educating a limited number of children, by Lady Mary Osburne, of Pencoed, in this parish, who also gave, by deed in 1719, lands now producing £15 per annum, for distribution among the poor. The tumulus mentioned as being considered the place of meeting of the bards is now called Banc y Bailey, and is stated also to have been the site of the castle; but it appears to be too small to have been occupied by the whole of that edifice, and is probably only the mount on which the keep stood. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £268. 16.

**CLICIEDIG**, a joint township with Prion, in the parish of **LLANRHAIDR IN KINMERCH**, hundred of **ISALED**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**. The population is included in the return for the parish. It is divided into Clievedig Isâv and Clievedig Uchâv.

**CLITTERWOOD**, a township in the parish of **BUTTINGTON**, within the jurisdiction of the borough of **WELSHPOOL**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 3 miles (E. N. E.) from Welshpool, containing 260 inhabitants. This is one of eighteen parishes and townships incorporated for the maintenance of their poor in the house of industry at Forden: the average annual expenditure for this township is £70. 11.

**CLOCAENOG**, a parish in the hundred of **RUTHIN**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. W.) from Ruthin, comprising the Lower and Upper divisions, and containing 461 inhabitants, of which number, 128 are in the Lower, and 333 in the Upper, division. This parish is situated in a mountainous district, and the village is almost surrounded by unproductive and widely extended heaths: in the vicinity are some excellent quarries of stone, among which is that peculiar kind used for hones. The living is a rectory, in the jurisdiction of the consistory court of the Bishop of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £12, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Trillo, is a small neat edifice, with a fine east window. A parochial school has been erected by Lord Bagot, and is principally supported by his lordship and the rector of the parish: about sixty children receive gratuitous instruction in it. There are several benefactions in land for charitable purposes, the rental



of which, amounting to £52. 12. per annum, is distributed among the poor. In the township of Maesttyddin is a large tumulus, on the summit of which was an upright stone, upon which was inscribed, in Saxon characters, *Aemilini Tavisac*: the stone has been removed from its original situation, and is now in Pool Park. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure of £435. 13.

**CLOIGIN**, a lordship, or extra-parochial district, locally in the parish of Llandeveylog, hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S. S. E.) from Carmarthen. The population is returned with Llandeveylog. The road from Carmarthen to Pont ar Dulas, and that to Llanelly, pass through this place. An ancient chapel stood here about forty years since, in which only marriages were solemnized; but it has been entirely pulled down, and the materials removed for private use, the foundations alone remaining. A spring of clear water, called Pistyll Gwynn, was formerly much resorted to for healing sore eyes, but it has fallen into neglect.

**CLUYACH**, a hamlet in the parish of YSTRADDYVODOG, hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (N.) from Llantrissant. The population is returned with Ystraddyvodog-Horne. The name signifies a sheltered glade, which is descriptive of the situation of this township among the mountains by which it is surrounded.

**CLYDEY (CLYDAI)**, a parish in the hundred of KILGERRAN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. W.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, containing 1385 inhabitants. This parish constitutes the endowment of a prebend in the cathedral church of St. David's, which is rated in the king's books at £12, and in the gift of the Bishop. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6, endowed with £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Clydai, is a plain substantial structure, with a massive square tower. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. Fairs are held at Hênveddau, in this parish, on May 13th, September 17th, and October 30th. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £290. 8.

**CLYGYROG (CLEGYROG)**, a township in the parish of LLANBADRIG, hundred of TÂL Y BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (W. S. W.) from Amlwch, containing 427 inhabitants. This township, the name of which signifies rocky, or stony, as descriptive of the general character of the district, and that of Cemmes constitute the whole of the parish, and were formerly assessed separately for the support of their poor, but are now united for that object, though distinct for every other purpose.

**CLYNE (GLYN)**, a hamlet in the parish of LAN-TWIT juxta NEATH, hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (N. E. by E.) from Neath, containing 129 inhabitants. It is separately assessed for the support of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £76. 10.

**CLYNNOG (CELYNNOG)**, a parish in the hundred of UCHGORVAI, Arvon division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 10 miles (S. S. W.) from Car-

narvon, on the road from that town to Pwllheli, containing 1731 inhabitants. This extensive parish is situated on the shore of St. George's channel: the village stands on a plain, at the base of Gyrn Gôch mountain, and is distinguished as having been the residence of St. Beuno, who built a church here, near his cell, which was afterwards made collegiate, and, at the time of the Lincoln Taxation, in the year 1291, had an establishment consisting of five portionists, or prebendaries, which continued until the general dissolution, and was endowed with extensive possessions, assigned by divers native princes and wealthy individuals, among which was the township of Clynnog, which is held freely under it at the present time. St. Beuno is also said to have founded a monastery here, which, however, more probably owed its origin, in 616, to Gwethaint, or Gwyddaint, one of his disciples: it was situated at a place called Monachdŷ Gwyn, about two miles south-eastward from the church, and, having fallen into decay, after its first inmates were dispersed, was restored for the reception of Carmelites, or White friars, and called Monachdŷ Clynnog Bâch, to distinguish it from Clynnog-Vawr, the township given as part of the endowment of the church. This society was probably of no long duration, but it is not known at what period it was suppressed, nor has any thing further been ascertained regarding the history of the establishment. According to tradition, the original church, founded by Beuno, was destroyed by fire in 976; and a book concerning it, called *Tiboeth*, written by St. Twrog, and mentioned so late as the reign of Henry VIII., is said to have been preserved. The mountains Gyrn Gôch and Gyrn ddû here form the extremity of a long ridge, stretching obliquely from Snowdon, and terminating at a short distance from the sea. Copper-ore and manganese exist among the mountains in various parts of the parish, but no spirited efforts have yet been made for working the mines. Fairs are held on May 6th and November 6th. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £6, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor: the rectory, which is rated at £24, is a sinecure, annexed to the headship of Jesus' College, Oxford, the principal of which receives two-thirds of the great tithes. The church, dedicated to St. Beuno, is a large cruciform edifice, built in the time of Henry VII., in the later style of English architecture, and consisting of a nave, chancel, and north and south transepts, with a lofty square tower at the west end. On the south side, and communicating with the church by a narrow passage, is a large building, called Eglwys Beuno, in which the remains of the founder were interred: it is now used as a school-room, in which about fifty children are gratuitously instructed by subscription. St. Beuno, who was uncle to St. Winifred, whom he took under his protection, and is fabled to have re-united her head to her body, on its being struck off by Cradocus, son of King Alen, on which, through his intercession, the virgin was restored to life, had his shrine at this place, which was held in great veneration, even until within the last seventy years, for the miracles reputed to have been performed at it: a plain altar-tomb, the monument of the saint, stood in the middle of the building, called Eglwys Beuno, or St. Beuno's chapel,



which it was customary for the superstitious to cover with rushes, and place thereon sick children, or other diseased persons, after subjecting them to ablution in a neighbouring holy well, convinced that, after passing a whole night on his tomb, the patient would be restored to health by the miraculous interposition of the saint. In the east window of the church are some fragments of stained glass, and the date MDLXXXIV; and there are some interesting monuments of the families of Glynne and Twisselton, among which is a neat monument to the memory of Colonel Twisselton, an active officer during the parliamentary war, who defeated and made prisoner Sir John Owen, near Llandegai, in 1648. Both the church and chapel of St. Beuno are in a state of considerable dilapidation, from the loss of the funds with which they were formerly kept in repair. Until towards the close of the last century a custom prevailed of offering, in aid of the repairs of the church, or for the relief of the poor, calves and lambs born with the *Nód Beuno*, or mark of St. Beuno, a certain natural mark in the ear, which were brought to the church on Trinity Sunday, the festival of the saint, and delivered to the churchwardens, who, having sold them, put the money into a large chest, called *Cyf St. Beuno*, made of one piece of oak, and secured by three locks, still preserved in the church, which, in allusion to its strength, gave rise to a local phrase applicable to any difficult undertaking that was intended. There are four places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists and one for Baptists within the limits of the parish. Several small charitable donations have been made by different benefactors, the interest of which is divided among the poor annually at Christmas. In a field at Bâchwen is a very large cromlech, and near it an upright stone, about nine feet high. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £499. 15.

CLYRO (CLAERWY), a parish in the hundred of PAINSCASTLE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (N.W.) from Hay, containing 933 inhabitants. This parish, which is nearly four miles in breadth, extends for about seven miles along the banks of the river Wye, which separates it from the county of Brecknock, and borders also upon the county of Hereford, from which it is separated only by a narrow brook: the road from Brecknock, by way of Glâsbury bridge, to Kington in Herefordshire passes through the village. Some vestiges of an ancient castle are discernible, the history of which is altogether unknown; and a monastery was founded here, at a very early period, of which there are at present no remains, the only memorial of it being retained in the name of some lands, which probably belonged to it, and which, from that circumstance, were called "Tir y Myneich." There are several neat villas within the parish, two of which are the property of Thomas Baskerville Mynors Baskerville, Esq., and one, called Cabalva, the seat of William Davies, Esq. This parish constitutes the endowment of a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, rated in the king's books at £7. 6. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Bettws-Clyro annexed, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is an ancient edifice, consisting of a nave

and chancel, with a tower, which, having been partly demolished, is covered with a shelving roof: the font is of considerable size, and there is a large piscina at the entrance, which formerly contained the holy water. The chancel was rebuilt in 1823, as appears by an inscription on a tablet over the door, by the Venerable Archdeacon Beynon, prebendary of Brecknock: it contains two neat marble tablets, one to the memory of the Rev. Edward Edwards, prebendary of Llanvaes, and vicar of Clyro, and the other to that of Sophia, only daughter of William Davies, Esq., of Cabalva: in the church also there is an elegant mural monument of white marble, ornamented with a female figure in relief, bending over an urn, to the memory of Elizabeth Williams, of Bronith Cottage. The chapel of Bettws-Clyro is about two miles distant from the parish church. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists near the village. A parochial school, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, is held in a room built by the voluntary contributions of the inhabitants, and is partly supported by an annual donation of £15, paid out of the poor's rate. Mrs. Gwynne, about the year 1773, bequeathed £600, the interest of which was to be applied in paying a schoolmaster to teach poor children of this parish, and also for clothing and apprenticing them; but this charity is not now available to the purposes intended by the benevolent donor. Here is a mineral spring, the water of which is regarded as efficacious in the cure of diseases of the eye. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £378. 6.

CNWCLAS, a borough partly in the parish of BEGUILDY, but chiefly in that of HEYOR, of which latter it constitutes a division, in the hundred of KNIGHTON, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.W. by W.) from Knighton. The population is returned with the respective parishes. This place is pleasantly situated near the right bank of the Teme, which here separates Radnorshire from Shropshire, and had formerly a castle, originally built by Ralph Mortimer, about the year 1242, on the summit of a conical artificial mound. The village consists of about a dozen cottages, situated not very close to each other: the manor belongs to the crown. There is a considerable extent of pasture land in the vicinity, especially near the river Teme, the cattle fed on which are principally taken to the market at Knighton, and to Bishop's Castle in Shropshire. The borough is under the superintendence of a bailiff and burgesses, the latter of whom are made by a presentation of a jury of burgesses, selected by the steward of the manor. Jointly with Kevenleece, Knighton, Rhaiadr, and (by the late act for amending the representation of the people) Presteign, it contributes, with Radnor, to return a representative to parliament: the right of voting was formerly vested in the burgesses at large, many of whom are resident within seven miles of the borough, but is now, by the late act, vested in the resident burgesses only, if duly qualified according to the provisions of the act, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs; the number of tenements valued at ten pounds a year and upwards, within the limits of the borough, which



were not altered by the late boundary act, is seventeen. The court-house, where the burgesses are created, is situated in that part of the borough which is in the parish of Beguildy. The Rev. Vavasour Powell, who distinguished himself in the civil and religious disputes of the seventeenth century, more particularly in connexion with the Welsh non-conformists, was a native of this borough.

COED-ANNA (COEDANAU), a parish partly in the hundred of TWRCELYN, and partly in that of TAL Y BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (S.E.) from Llanerchymedd, on the road from Beaumaris, containing 262 inhabitants. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llanelian, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Blenwydd, is a small ancient structure, erected about the year 630; divine service is performed in it every alternate Sunday. William Thomas, in 1772, bequeathed £10, and Margaret Owen, in 1784, gave by deed £20, towards the endowment of a school for teaching poor children. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £102. 1.

COEDCANLAIS (COEDCANLASS), a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S.E. by S.) from Haverfordwest, containing 169 inhabitants. This small parish is situated on the eastern bank of Milford Haven, from which there is a ferry to Llangwm, on the opposite shore, and is five miles distant from Pembroke, across the ferry at Lawrenny. The substratum of the soil is a fine limestone rock, which is quarried to a considerable extent. The living is a donative, annexed to the vicarage of Martletwy: the stipend of the minister is not more than £2. 2. per annum, which is paid by Sir John Owen, Bart. The church is a small picturesque building of great antiquity, repaired a few years ago, at the expense of Sir John Owen. Divine service is only occasionally performed in it, but burials generally, the remaining ecclesiastical rites being celebrated at Martletwy. Here are the ruins of an ancient mansion, which bore the same name as the parish, and belonged to the family of Percival. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £9. 15.

COED-EULO, a township in the parish of HAWARDEN, hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 1¼ mile (W. by N.) from Hawarden, containing, with Eulo, 1328 inhabitants. This place is remarkable in history as the scene of a signal defeat sustained by a chosen body of English troops, despatched by Henry II., in 1157, whilst advancing with a formidable army to the conquest of Wales, from his encampment on Saltney marsh, with a view to effect a general engagement with Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, who had posted his forces at Basingwerk. This detachment, having been unexpectedly attacked, whilst passing through a deep and narrow defile here, by a strong body of Welsh troops, lying in ambush, and headed by Davydd and Cynan, sons of Owain, was seized with a panic, which, added to the difficulties of the situation, rendered them unable to resist the impetuosity of their assailants, who mercilessly slaughtered the majority of them, and the few that escaped retreated in discomfiture to the main body of the army. Potteries for the manufacture of coarse earthenware, and kilns for making

fire-bricks and tiles of superior quality, a considerable quantity of which is shipped to various ports on the Welsh coast and to Ireland, have for some years been carried on here to a great extent, and afford employment to a great proportion of the inhabitants: the clay is found on Buckley mountain, and, when manufactured into bricks, is calculated in a superior manner to resist intense heat. At Buckley, in this township, a handsome chapel, with a tower at the west end, in the later English style, was erected in 1822, towards defraying the expense of which the Incorporated Society for the erection and enlargement of churches and chapels granted £4000: it is a chapel of ease to the rectory of Hawarden. Here are also two large schools for the education of children of both sexes, with a house for a resident clergyman, as master, which were built in 1819, at an expense of £1200, being part of a sum of £2000 raised by subscription for that purpose; they are conducted on the National plan. Situated in a woody glen, at the distance of about a quarter of a mile to the north of the road leading from Chester to Holyhead, are the picturesque remains of Eulo castle, which was an appendage to that of Mold, but of unknown origin, and of which a more detailed account is given in the article on HAWARDEN.

COED-FRANK, a hamlet in the parish of CADOXTON, hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 2½ miles (S.W. by W.) from Neath, containing 825 inhabitants. The name signifies a forest, which in former ages was much infested by wolves; and tradition reports that, after a desperate battle fought in this neighbourhood, great numbers of those animals came down and devoured many of the slain. This hamlet commences at the mouth of the river Neath, and extends in a north-eastern direction until it meets that of Dyfryn-Clydach. A branch of the Neath canal passes through it, nearly parallel with the river, and joins the Briton-Ferry canal, which connects the rivers Neath and Tawy below Swansea; and by means of a ferry across the former, near the termination of the canal, a distance of seven or eight miles from Swansea to the eastern part of the county is avoided. The Crown Copper-works, belonging to a company at Birmingham, and affording employment to about one hundred persons, are situated here. This hamlet separately supports its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £199. 11.

COEDGLASEN (COED-GLEISION), a township in the parish of NANTMEL, hundred of RHAIADR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 5½ miles (E. by S.) from Rhaiadr, containing 216 inhabitants. It is situated on the western bank of the Clywedog brook, and on the south-eastern declivity of Camlo hill. The name signifies the green wood, and was formerly characteristic of the township, which was well covered with timber.

COEDYCUMMER (COED Y CYMMER), a hamlet in the parish of VAINOR, hundred of PENCELLY, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 1¼ mile (N. by W.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 1540 inhabitants. This large village, which is situated on the borders of Brecknockshire and Glamorganshire, is of recent origin, having risen in consequence of the establishment of the iron-works in the vicinity, in which many of the inhabitants are employed. The houses are built along the sides of the road leading to Brecknock, and are



scattered over part of an adjoining common, which extends between two branches of the river Tâf.

COGAN, a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. W. by S.) from Cardiff, containing 22 inhabitants. This parish contains only about seven hundred acres of land, enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The living, with those of Llandough and Leckwith, forms a consolidated rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £8.8.4., and in the patronage of the Marquis of Bute. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is at present disused: in the chancel are some ancient monuments, among which are several of the family of Herbert, of Cogan Pill, an ancient mansion now converted into a farm-house. The poor children of this parish have the privilege of attending the school at Llandough. An average annual expenditure of £39. 15. is applied for the support of the poor.

COLLVRYN, a township in that part of the parish of LLANSANTFRAID YN MECHAN which is in the upper division of the hundred of DEXTHUR, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, containing 164 inhabitants. It is situated on the south side of the river Vyrnwy.

COLVA, a parochial chapelry in the hundred and county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (E. by N.) from Builth, containing 233 inhabitants. This place, which is situated on the river Edwy, and on the road leading from Kington to Builth, appears to have been formerly only a hamlet, or chapelry, within the parish of Glâscomb, in the church of which the inhabitants had pews appropriated to their use: it is still, together with Rulen, partially dependent upon that parish, as the inhabitants of both contribute to the repairs of the church of Glâscomb; but in all civil matters they are independent parishes. Colva, in the king's books, is described as a chapel to Glâscomb, of the certified value of £10: the great tithes of the whole are an impropriation belonging to the Bishop of St. David's, and the vicar of Glâscomb receives the small tithes of each, holding both Colva and Rulen by the same presentation, institution, and induction, as Glâscomb. The chapel of Colva, like the church of Glâscomb, is dedicated to St. David. The chapelry contains nine hundred acres of enclosed, and one thousand acres of unenclosed, land: it is chiefly of a hilly character, and the soil is not very productive. The greater part is the property of the crown, but there is a small manor belonging to the owner of Harpton Court. A farm called Ty'n y Waun, in the parish of Llandeglay, in this county, was purchased with the amount of benefactions made by Evan and Ann Griffiths, in 1721, and is now let for £18 per annum, which is equally divided among the poor of Colva, Llandeglay, and Llanvihangel Nant Melan. The late Mr. James Chambers, of this place, also bequeathed £60, since laid out in mortgage on a tenement in the parish of Kington, in Herefordshire, producing £3 per annum, which is distributed in bread among the poor of Colva, at Easter and Christmas. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £213. 4.

COLWINSTONE, or TRÊ GOLWEN, a parish in the hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (W. by N.) from Cowbridge, containing 338 inhabitants. This parish contains some lead-ore, but the mines are not worked. A large tract of waste

ground within its limits, called "Golden Mile," extending about a mile along the turnpike road from Cowbridge to Swansea, is noted for its fine pasturage, and numerous flocks of sheep are fed on it and the surrounding lands. Pwll y Wrach, the property of the Rev. Mr. Thomas, and now the residence of T. Coulthard, Esq., is a respectable well-built mansion, pleasantly situated within the parish. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £6. 6. 8., endowed with £400 private benefaction, and £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Rev. Robert Thomas. The church is dedicated to St. Michael. There are places of worship for Wesleyan Methodists and Presbyterians. On the Golden Mile common is a tumulus; and in a field near it, on the road side, are vestiges of a small Roman camp; on the other side of the common are also traces of another small encampment; from which circumstances the Roman *Julia strata Maritima* is supposed to have passed near the course of the present turnpike road. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £143. 13.

CONVIL, or CYNWYL, a parish in the higher division of the hundred of ELVER, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 6 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles (N. N. W.) from Carmarthen, on the road to Newcastle, containing 1566 inhabitants. This is a place of great antiquity, having been originally a British settlement, afterwards visited by the Romans: it has subsequently been the scene of many interesting transactions connected with the history of the principality. Henry Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., is supposed to have marched through it, on his way to meet Richard III., who is said to have encamped his forces at Llanvihangel-Yeroth, in the vicinity of which a battle took place between the vanguard of the earl and the rearguard of the usurping monarch, which terminated in the troops of the latter being obliged to retire, in consequence of the unfavourable position which they occupied. A remarkable embankment here, called "The Line," extending a mile and a half in length, and in many places eighteen feet high, is ascribed by tradition to the earl; and on the opposite bank, in a marshy soil, is a corresponding work, on the line of which is an artificial eminence, called "The King's Barrow," still bearing on its summit the marks of fire, having probably been used as a beacon, kindled to prevent a surprise by night from the hostile party on the other side. This tradition, however, is generally rejected, on the ground of the apparent inutility of such a work in a country friendly to Henry's designs, and of which many of the inhabitants were actually engaged with great energy in carrying into effect the object of his enterprise; yet, by a striking coincidence, there is, within a mile and a half of these lines, a place called Llwyn Davydd, and it is on record that the earl halted at a place of that name, usually considered that near Llandysilio-Gogo, on the sea-coast in Cardiganshire, which, however, is out of the direct route between Milford Haven, where he landed, and Shrewsbury, the road sometimes lying through deep valleys, at that time rendered impassable by the boggy nature of the soil, and Llwyn Davydd, in the adjoining parish of Llangeler, being in the direct road over a chain of hills. The small rivers Bala and Gwili



run through this parish: the neighbouring district is composed of deep dingles and dorsal hills, which converge in a point at this place. A fair is held on November 21st. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Abernant, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed, exclusively of Abernant, with only £3 per annum, and a legacy of £8 by Mrs. Anna Warner. The church is dedicated to St. Michael. There are two places of worship for Independents, and one each for Baptists and Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. The sum of £5 is annually distributed among decayed housekeepers, arising from legacies by Mrs. Warner, of Southampton, in 1721, and Thomas Howell, Esq., of Pencaerau. Within the limits of the parish there was a remarkable cromlech, noticed by most preceding writers as being in a perfect state, but now scarcely distinguishable from an ordinary heap of stones, some of which, after being broken into fragments with gunpowder, were used, within the last few years, in the erection of a farm-house near the spot. This ancient monument of the Druids consisted of one principal stone of prodigious weight, supported by four upright stones, and surrounded by others in an erect position, supposed to have originally formed an entire circle. In addition to its appropriation to religious purposes, it is supposed to have been also used as an observatory, as it occupied the summit of a lofty hill, from which there is at most times a distinct view of the Bristol channel, and is found to have been originally constructed with a due regard to the meridian of the place, which now declines a little to the eastward; and this deviation, on a calculation of the precession of the equinoxes, has been considered a proof of its having been erected something more than two thousand years ago, or two hundred years before the Christian era. There are various tumuli in the parish, within which also there is a mineral spring, strongly impregnated with iron, and formerly held in considerable repute for its efficacy in the cure of certain diseases: it is called Fossana, or Ffos Sana, and from this appellation is supposed to have been known to the Roman conquerors of Britain, and to have been called by them *Fons Sana*. On a farm called Troed y Rhiw, in the northern part of the parish, formerly stood a chapel, which is supposed to have been suffered to fall to ruin in or prior to the reign of Henry VIII., few vestiges of it being now discernible. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £498. 15.

CONWAY, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES.  
—See ABERCONWAY.

CORWEN, a market town and parish in the hundred of EDEYRNION, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 10 miles (S. by W.) from Ruthin, and 194 (N. W. by W.) from London, containing 1980 inhabitants. The name of this place signifies "the white choir." On the invasion of North Wales by Henry II., in 1165, that monarch advanced at the head of his army to the Berwyn mountains, near this town, where he was met by the combined forces of the Welsh, consisting of the entire power of North Wales, under the command of Owain Gwynedd and his brother Cadwaladr; the forces of South Wales, led by the gallant Rhys ab Gruffydd; those of Powys, by Owain Cyveilioc and the sons of Madoc ab Meredydd; and the men of the country between the Wye and the Severn, by their two chieftains, the sons of

Madoc ab Ednerth. These exerted themselves with so much vigilance and activity in cutting off the supplies of the English troops, and in harassing them by skirmishes, that Henry, unable to compete with the resolute spirit of the Welsh and the unfavourableness of the season, deemed it prudent to retire with his forces, and for a time at least to abandon the project of subjugating the principality. The English monarch took up his position on the ridge of the Berwyn chain of mountains, and the Welsh occupied a strong intrenchment on the steep declivity of a hill on the opposite side of the vale. This camp, called *Caer Drewyn*, was of a circular form, and was defended by a single wall: there were two entrances, near the north-eastern of which was an oblong square, strengthened by a ditch and a wall: within the area were several strong buildings, together with cells in the walls themselves. Remains of these works are yet visible, consisting of a circle of loose stones, about half a mile in circumference, and the foundations of the buildings. This strong post is also said to have been occasionally resorted to by Owain Glyndwr, whose magnificent house on the Dee was situated about four miles from Corwen, on the eastern side of the road to Llangollen, where part of the moat by which it was encompassed is still visible, being almost the sole relic of that noble and extensive pile, which was surrounded by every convenience for the exercise of unbounded hospitality: at a short distance from its site there is a mound of considerable size, supposed to have been the station where a watch was kept.

The town is pleasantly situated on the southern bank of the river Dee, on the great road from London to Holyhead and Dublin, under a rock at the foot of the Berwyn mountains, and in the rich and beautifully diversified vale of Edeyrnion. About half a mile to the south-west, on the line of the Holyhead road, the Dee is crossed by a handsome stone bridge of seven arches, the view from which, both up and down the vale, is exceedingly pleasing, especially upward, where the river assumes the appearance of a glittering lake, skirted on each side by luxuriant meadows and thick enclosures. Upon the Berwyn mountain, behind the church, is a place called Glyndwr's Seat, which commands a charming prospect; and from this spot it is superstitiously reported that Owain threw a dagger, which, falling upon a stone, formed in it an impression of its whole length, half an inch deep; this stone is now in the south wall of the church. The parish is very extensive, being eleven miles in length, and from three to four in breadth. There are two weekly markets, on Tuesday and Friday; the former being principally for corn, which is pitched in the open street. Fairs are held on March 12th, May 24th, July 14th, October 7th, and December 20th, for the sale of horses, horned cattle, &c. One of the bridewells for the county is situated at this place, under the care of the constable; but as it is a very small inconvenient structure, prisoners are only confined in it until they can be conveyed to Dolgelley.

The living consists of a sinecure rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, the former rated in the king's books at £15. 5. 10., and the latter at £7. 1. 3., and both in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph: the tithes of the parish are divided into two equal portions, which are respectively assigned to the rector and the vicar. The church, dedicated to



St. Sulien, is a cruciform structure, in the Norman style of architecture, with a square tower at the western end. Under an arch on the northern side of the chancel is the tomb of one of the early vicars, named Iorwerth Sulien, representing, in relief, a human figure habited in priestly robes, and bearing the following inscription in old characters:—"HIC JACET JORWERTH SULIEN, VICARIUS DE CORWAEN, ORA PRO EO." In the south wall of the church, on the outside, is the stone before mentioned as bearing the cross supposed to be the impression of Owain Glyndwr's dagger. In the churchyard stands a curious stone cross, consisting of a square upright pillar of one entire stone, ornamented at the top, and inserted in a flat circular stone, which rests upon four or five rude smaller ones. Built in the porch is a rude pointed stone, called *Carreg y Big yn y vâch Rewlyd*, "the pointed stone in the icy recess," of which it is fabulously related, that every attempt to erect the church on a different site having failed, the founders were directed by a supernatural power to the spot where this stone stood. At Rûg there is a private unendowed chapel, supported by G. H. Vaughan, Esq., in which the English service only is performed. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, with a Sunday school attached. A parochial school is supported by subscription, aided by a bequest of £4 per ann. by a member of the family of Salusbury, formerly owners of the adjacent domain of Rûg, who have been great benefactors to this place, and one of whom also bequeathed funds for clothing four boys annually. Situated behind the church is a college or hospital, for the support of six widows of clergymen of the Church of England, who died possessed of cure of souls in the county, which was built and endowed in 1750, by William Eyton, Esq., of Plâs Warren, in the county of Salop. Only two of the houses are now occupied: the inmates, who have each a good house and garden, receive in addition £20 per annum each. Almshouses for eight poor women were founded by a member of the family of Salusbury. There are also various pecuniary bequests for the relief of the poor, including one of £400, by Lumley Salusbury, for clothing eight poor women of this parish, two of Gwyddelwern, and two of Llangar; one of £200, by Roger Salusbury, for clothing six poor old men and twelve children; one of £150, by Mrs. Jones, for the benefit of thirty decayed families; and £75 by Hugh Jones, £50 by William Jones, £20 each by Roger Jones, the Rev. Mr. Humphreys, and Mrs. Wynne, and £10 by David Jones, for distribution among the poor. Within the limits of the parish is situated the elegant mansion of Rûg, now the property and residence of G. H. Vaughan, Esq., which is memorable in history as the spot to which Gruffydd ab Cynan, King of North Wales, was inveigled by one Muriawyn Gôch, soon after the decisive victory obtained by him at Carno, in 1077, which placed him upon the throne; and there betrayed to Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, and Hugh Belesme, Earl of Shrewsbury, by whom he was conveyed to the castle of Chester, from which he escaped by stratagem, after an imprisonment for twelve years. Near it is a well, called St. Sulien's, the water of which is efficacious in the cure of rheumatic complaints. On one of the Berwyn mountains, called Moel Verma, in this parish, an urn of earthenware, containing human bones, and now in the possession of Col. Vaughan, was

discovered some years ago. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £766.

COSHESTON, a parish in the hundred of CASTLE-MARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (N.) from Pembroke, containing 678 inhabitants. The village is beautifully situated on the southern declivity of a hill, the base of which is washed by an estuary of Milford Haven, navigable for barges. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £11. 12. 11., and in the patronage of Sir John Owen, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a low tower surmounted by a spire. The poor children of this parish are admissible into the National school at Pembroke. John Jones, Esq., M. D., in 1698, bequeathed certain property for apprenticing poor children, and the relief of the aged and infirm, of the four parishes of Lawrenny, Cosheston, St. David's, and Lampeter-Velvrey, with a discretionary power to his brother, the Rev. Mr. Jones, as executor, to add other parishes: of the produce of this charity, Cosheston receives a sum amounting to about £30 per annum, which is appropriated agreeably to the directions of the testator. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £137. 15.

COWBRIDGE, a borough and market town, having exclusive jurisdiction, in the parish of LLANBLETHIAN, locally in the hundred of Cowbridge, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (W.) from Cardiff, and 170 (W.) from London, on the main western road through the county, containing 1097 inhabitants. The Welsh name of this place is *Pont vaen*, a corruption of *Pont y vôn*, of which last the English name is a literal translation. The town is supposed to have been originally an appendage to the castle and lordship of St. Quentin; and was surrounded, in 1090, by Robert St. Quentin, one of Fitz-Hamon's knights, with a stone wall, having three gates, which, in Leland's time, were all entire, but of which only the south gate now remains. Its situation, though low, is salubrious, and its appearance prepossessing: the town consists principally of one spacious street, extending for nearly half a mile along the turnpike road; the houses are in general well built, and several of them are handsome: it is neither paved nor lighted, but well supplied with water from springs, and from the small river Ddaw, which passes through the centre of it. The old town-hall, shambles, and market-house, which stood in the centre of the principal street, obstructing the thoroughfare, have been removed, and the old county bridewell, situated at this place, has been recently converted, chiefly by subscription, into a neat town-hall, with jury-rooms and other apartments. The market days are Tuesday and Saturday; the market on the latter is chiefly for butchers' meat and other provisions: the fairs, principally for cattle, are on the first Tuesday in February, the Tuesday before March 25th, May 4th, June 24th, and September



Seal and Arms.



29th: there are also two great markets on the first Tuesdays in August and December. The government of the town, by charter of incorporation confirmed in the 33rd of Charles II., is vested in a mayor, who is deputy constable of the castle of St. Quentin, two bailiffs, twelve aldermen, and twelve capital burgesses, assisted by a town-clerk, two serjeants at mace, six constables, an ale-taster, and other officers. The deputy constable is appointed by the Marquis of Bute: the bailiffs are annually chosen, on Michaelmas eve, from among the aldermen, of whom four are nominated for that purpose by the burgesses, out of which number the mayor selects two: the aldermen are elected from the capital burgesses, by a majority of their own body, as vacancies occur; and the capital burgesses are elected in the same manner, by the aldermen and a majority of their own body, from the burgesses: the town-clerk is also appointed by the Marquis of Bute, and the other officers by the corporation. Cowbridge was formerly one of the eight contributory boroughs within the county, which returned one member to parliament, the right of election having been in the burgesses at large, in number between seventy and eighty, of whom about one-half are resident: it is now, by the late act for amending the representation of the people, contributory with Cardiff and Llantrissant in the return of a member: the right of election is vested in the resident burgesses only, if duly qualified according to the provisions of the act, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the present number of houses of this value, situated within the limits of the borough, which comprise an area of little more than thirty-three acres, and were not altered by the late boundary act, is seventy-nine: the bailiffs of Cardiff, at which place the elections are held, are the returning officers. The freedom is acquired by an apprenticeship of seven years to a resident freeman, inherited by birth by all the children of freemen, or obtained by marriage with a freeman's daughter, or by gift of the corporation. The mayor and bailiffs are justices of the peace, exercising exclusive jurisdiction within the borough: they have power to hold a court of record, every three weeks, for the recovery of debts under £5, but for many years have not exercised that privilege. The petty sessions for the hundred are held here every Tuesday, and the Easter quarter sessions for the county. Cowbridge is commonly reputed a parish, but it has no distinct incumbency: the chapel, which was originally a chapel of ease to the church of Llanblethian, is still served by the vicar of that parish, who performs morning service at one, and evening service at the other, alternately every Sunday. The chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, is an ancient and venerable structure, and contains several handsome monuments of modern erection, and two of more ancient date, one to the memory of the Carnes, of Nash, and the other to that of the family of Jenkins, of Hensol, near Cowbridge. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The free grammar school is of uncertain foundation: it is of considerable repute, and is supposed by some to have grown out of the ruins of an ancient establishment at Lantwit Major, and to have been removed to this place in the

reign of Elizabeth. It is under the superintendence of the Principal and Fellows of Jesus' College, Oxford, who appoint the master, with a salary of £20 per annum, a large dwelling-house in Church-street, and two gardens. The endowment was augmented by Sir Leoline Jenkins, Knt., Judge of the Admiralty in the reign of Charles II., who was educated in this school, and who founded two fellowships, two scholarships, and one exhibition, in Jesus' College, which are limited exclusively to natives of the principality educated at this school. Sir Leoline also assigned a fund for clothing poor persons every fourth year, which is regularly appropriated in that manner by the master of the school. There are divers other charitable bequests for the benefit of the poor, among which are, one of £225, since laid out in land, by Rebecca Wyndham, for apprenticing poor children; one of £100 by Catherine Williams, in 1682, for apprenticing children and for clothing poor aged men and women; and various minor sums to be expended in bread for the poor, the principal of which is a rent-charge of £4. 10., by Mary Wilcox, subject to the payment of land-tax, chief-rent, and repairs. Some Roman coins have been discovered at this place: one, which was of brass, bore the inscription *CÆSAR TRAIANUS*; the reverse, *PONT MAX . . . . . SII*; the exergue, *BRITANNI*. At the distance of about two miles, in a field adjoining the road from London to Haverfordwest, on the southern side, and close to the common called the Golden Mile, is a square intrenched camp of small dimensions, supposed to be Roman; and on the south side of that common are vestiges of a similar work, both probably indicating the course of the *Via Julia Maritima*. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £361. 6.

COYCHURCH, otherwise LLANGRALLO, a parish in the hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E.) from Bridgend, comprising the townships of Higher Coychurch, Lower Coychurch, Pencoed, and Peterston super Montem, each of which separately maintains its own poor, and containing 1079 inhabitants, of which number, 284 are in Lower Coychurch. It derives its Welsh name from St. Grallo, by whom the church is said to have been founded, and to whom it is dedicated: this saint was nephew to Illutus, the founder of Lantwit Major, in this county, with which place a connexion appears to be indicated by a circular cross in the churchyard, corresponding in every respect with that at Lantwit, and, from what is said to have been legible of the inscription, which is now totally obliterated, most probably erected by the same persons, *viz.*, Samson, the successor of Illutus, and Samuel the sculptor. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £21. 1. 8., and in the patronage of the Earl of Dunraven. The church, situated in the hamlet of Lower Coychurch, is a spacious and venerable structure, though much dilapidated. There is a chapel of ease at the hamlet of Peterston, with a Welsh Sunday school annexed. Within the limits of the parish are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, to which, as well as to the church, are attached Sunday schools, supported by subscription. Various charitable benefactions of small amount have been left for distribution among the poor. There are mines of coal in the hamlet of Higher Coychurch, of



a bituminous quality, called the Hirwain collieries, in which several of the labouring poor are employed; and lead-ore has been found in the parish. Out of a rock of magnesian limestone issues a spring, the water of which forms beautiful incrustations; and there is a cavern in the parish, in which are fine specimens of bright calcareous spar. Near the church is a farm-house, supposed to have been anciently a religious establishment, subordinate to the abbey of Ewenny. The Rev. Thomas Richards, author of a Welsh and English Dictionary, was forty years curate of this parish. The average annual expenditure of the whole parish, for the support of the poor, amounts to £339.17., of which the average proportion of Lower Coychurch is £64.17.

COYCHURCH (HIGHER), a hamlet in the parish of COYCHURCH, hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N. E. by E.) from Bridgend, containing 259 inhabitants. It is bounded on the north by the river Ewenny, and contains some collieries of bituminous coal, called the Hirwaun collieries, which are situated at the foot of the Cevn Hirgoed mountain. There is a place of worship for Independents, with a Sunday school in connexion with it. Some small benefactions, amounting to about £24, have been given for the benefit of the poor of this hamlet, of which £14 were applied towards the erection of a house for their reception; and the sum of fifty shillings per annum, arising out of a tenement, is regularly distributed among such as do not receive parochial relief. This hamlet is assessed separately for the support of its poor: the average annual expenditure is £109.11.

COYTY, otherwise COITY, a parish in the hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, on the eastern bank of the river Ogmores, comprising the Higher Hamlet, or manor of Coyty Anglia, and the Lower Hamlet, or manor of Coyty Wallia, the latter forming part of the market-town of Bridgend, and known also by the name of Oldcastle, from a fortress anciently situated there (and each hamlet separately maintaining its own poor), and containing 1642 inhabitants, of which number, 477 are in the Higher Hamlet, and 1165 in the Lower Hamlet. The lordship of Coyty was conferred by Fitz-Hamon on Sir Payne Turberville, one of the knights who accompanied him in his expedition into Wales, by whom the castle, which is extensive and magnificent, even in its ruins, is supposed to have been originally erected. From the family of Turberville it passed into the possession of Sir Richard Berkrolles, and subsequently to the families of Gamage, Sydney, and Wyndham. It is at present the property of the Earl of Dunraven and Mountearl, by marriage with the daughter and sole heiress of the late Thomas Wyndham, Esq., member for the county of Glamorgan in several successive parliaments. The living is a rectory, with the chapel of Nolton annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £21.12.3½, and in the patronage of the Earl of Dunraven. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, possesses no extraordinary architectural interest. On opening a grave in the chancel, for the interment of the late rector, Dr. Richards, a vault was discovered, containing the remains of Sir Payne Turberville and his lady. There is a place of worship for dissenters in the village of Coyty. Davydd Hopkins, a poet, or Welsh bard, who in 1700

was admitted to the Gorsedd of Glamorgan, at which he presided in 1730, was a native of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £560, of which sum the average proportion of the Higher Hamlet is £174.18., and that of the Lower £385.2.

CRAIGIOGUWLAN (CREIGIOG UWCH-LAN), a township in the parish of LLANARMON, hundred of YALE, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 5¾ miles (S. E. by E.) from Ruthin. The population is returned with the parish. The small river Alyn runs in a northerly direction through this township, which forms the upper portion of the parish, and is partly bounded on the east by the elevated hills on the border of Flintshire.

CRAIGISGLÂN (CREIGIOG ÎS-GLÂN), a township in the parish of LLANARMON, hundred of YALE, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 4¾ miles (E. S. E.) from Ruthin. The population is included in the return for the parish. This township is situated in a narrow valley, bounded on one side by the Clwydian hills, and on the other by those on the confines of Flintshire, the river Alyn flowing near the centre. There are several respectable residences in different parts of it.

CRAY (CRAI), a chapelry in the parish and hundred of DEVYNOK, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 9½ miles (W.) from Brecknock, containing 576 inhabitants. It is situated at the junction of the small river Crai with the Usk, which latter is here crossed by a bridge. The common of Little Forest, in this chapelry, was anciently attached to the Great Forest of Brecknock, but on the attainder of the Duke of Buckingham, as lord of Brecknock, it was separated from the latter, and granted, by Henry VIII., first to Lord Seymour of Sudley, Lord High Admiral, and again, on his attainder, to another favourite, whose descendants afterwards disposed of it to various purchasers. The proprietors of this portion of Crai are exempt from a feudal practice which anciently prevailed in the parish of Devynock, whereby the other tenants were obliged to resort to the lord's mill, to have their corn ground, but it is not now so strictly observed as it was formerly. There are several respectable residences in this chapelry, more especially in that part adjoining the vale of the Crai. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Devynock. The chapel, dedicated to St. Ild, and sometimes called the chapel of Llan Ild, stands higher up the vale, on the eastern declivity of an eminence, and close to the left bank of the Crai rivulet. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. In 1626, Sir John Davy, the owner of this property, bequeathed a portion of the tithes, amounting to £40 per annum, for erecting five almshouses and a free school; and a sum of £12 per annum was devised by Morgan Watkin, in 1699, for the benefit of the poor. Some vestiges of ancient barrows are still discernible, and of carneddau on the adjacent hills. This chapelry is separately assessed for the support of its poor: the average annual expenditure amounts to £244.2.

CREGRINA, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES.—See CAREGRINA.

CRESWELL-QUAY, a village situated at the point of junction of the three parishes of LAWRENNY, CAREW,



and JEFFRESTON, in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.E.) from Pembroke. The population is returned with the respective parishes. It is situated on an æstuary of Milford Haven, and in each of the three parishes there is a small quay for the convenience of shipping the coal and culm from the mines with which this district abounds. From twenty to thirty thousand tons have been annually shipped at this place for exportation; but the quantity has recently much diminished, and at present not more than six thousand tons are annually shipped, generally in vessels of about eighty tons' burden.

CRICCIETH (CRÛGCAITH), a borough and parish (formerly a market town) in the hundred of EIVIONYDD, Eivionydd division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 18 miles (S.) from Carnarvon, and 240 (W.N.W.) from London, containing 648 inhabitants. This place, which is of considerable antiquity, at an early period belonged to Ednyved Vychan, who was seventy-sixth in descent from Henwyn, Duke of Cornwall, and was baron of Brÿnfenigl, lord of Criccieth, and chief counsellor to Llewelyn the Great. He acquired an honourable name and possessed much influence among his countrymen, and is stated to have built a strong fortress here, which, having fallen into decay, was restored and enlarged by Edward I. This castle formed one of the defences of the passage over the sands called Traeth-Mawr, from the territory included in the present county of Merioneth into the country of Snowdon, during the wars between the Britons and the invading Saxons and Normans. About the year 1140, Gruffydd ab Llewelyn, having been unjustly made prisoner by his brother Davydd, who afterwards succeeded to the sovereignty of North Wales, was imprisoned in it for a considerable time, and then delivered into the power of the English monarch, Henry III. Edward I., having completed the subjugation of Wales, restored and strongly fortified the castle, appointing William de Leybourn governor, with a salary of £100 per annum, out of which he was to maintain thirty stout men (ten of them cross-bowmen), a chaplain, a surgeon, a carpenter, and a mason. Among its later governors was Sir Howel y Fwyall, so called from his bearing the figure of a poleaxe upon his shield, who, having attended Edward the Black Prince on his continental expeditions, and meritoriously distinguished himself at the battle of Poitiers, was knighted by that prince, and appointed to the governorship of the castle, which he afterwards made his principal residence. The same prince also constituted the town of Criccieth a free borough, and made the constable of the castle mayor, granting the burgesses the same privileges as were enjoyed by those of Rhôs Vair, in the county of Anglesey. It is not known at what time the castle first fell into decay; but, in the 24th of Henry VIII., orders were issued to the constable to put it into thorough repair, at the king's cost; and that monarch, in the 35th year of his reign, conferred upon the burgesses the right of participating in the election of a representative for the borough of Carnarvon, to which it consequently became a contributory borough.

Criccieth is now only an inconsiderable village of mean appearance: from its contiguity to the shore of Cardigan bay, the situation is favourable for commerce;

but only a few vessels touch here, bringing limestone in ballast, and taking away slates from Port Madoc, and there is neither harbour nor any facility for unloading vessels: only a few fishing-boats belong to the town. The market, which was on Wednesday, has been disused for several centuries; but three fairs, chiefly for horses and cattle, are held annually on May 23rd, June 29th, and October 22nd. The corporation consists of a mayor, who is always constable of the castle, and is appointed by letters patent for life; two bailiffs, who are annually elected by the burgesses, on the 29th of September; and a recorder, who is appointed by the mayor during pleasure. This is one of the boroughs contributory to Carnarvon, in the return of one member to parliament: the right of election was formerly in the burgesses generally, here about fifty-four in number, but is now, by the late act for amending the representation of the people, vested in the resident burgesses only, if duly qualified according to the provisions of the act, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of ten pounds and upwards, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the number of houses of this value, situated within the limits of the borough, which comprise an area of four hundred and seventy acres, and were not altered by the late boundary act, is only nine: the bailiffs of Carnarvon are the returning officers. The freedom is obtained only by gift of the corporation. The charter empowers the corporation to hold courts of session for petty offences arising within the borough, but it does not appear that they have ever exercised that privilege: they hold a borough court annually, at which the bailiffs are chosen and the borough officers sworn in; and they have power to hold a court of requests for the recovery of debts, but no court has been held for many years: the county magistrates hold petty sessions here once a month. The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacies of Trêvlys and Ynyscynhaiarn annexed, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £13. 8. 11½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Catherine, is a spacious structure, partly in the later style of English architecture, consisting of a nave, chancel, and south aisle: in the east window are some portions of stained glass, and both internally and externally the building exhibits some good details, but is in a very neglected state. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The Rev. David Ellis, rector of this parish, gave £200, directing the interest to be appropriated to the payment of a schoolmaster, to teach all the poor children of the parishes of Criccieth, Trêvlys, and Ynyscynhaiarn: at present twenty-four children derive benefit from this endowment. The castle occupied the summit of a conical hill, projecting into the sea, and overlooking the northern expanse of the bay of Cardigan: the rock upon which it was situated is precipitous on all sides, and connected with the main land only by a narrow isthmus, which, for its greater security, was intersected by a double fosse and vallum. The remains consist of two round towers, which are square within, and are supposed to have assumed their external form during the repairs by



Edward I., when they were probably cased with stone; also a gateway; the fragments of walls, enclosing an area of irregular form; and the foundations of two square towers. Though a fortress of great importance, from its commanding situation, it does not appear to have been of very great extent, or to have been more strongly defended by art than by the advantages of its site. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £139. 9.

CRICKADARN, or CERRIG-CADARN (CRÛG CADARN), a parish in the hundred of TALGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. by N.) from Hay, comprising the North and South divisions, each of which separately maintains its own poor, and containing 397 inhabitants, of which number, 185 are in the North, and 212 in the South, division. The name of this parish signifies a strong mount, and may have been derived from the situation of its church, which occupies the summit of a high bank, overlooking the small river Clettwr, which flows into the Wye, at Errwd, on the road to Builth. The village is situated on the river Wye, by which it is separated from the county of Radnor, and the high road from Hereford through the Hay to Builth traverses the eastern part of the parish. The Clettwr, just above where it is crossed by a small bridge, flows through a deep winding dingle, the sides of which are nearly precipitous, and are well clothed with wood from the summit to the margin of the stream, presenting a strikingly picturesque scene. The living is an endowed discharged vicarage, consolidated with that of Llandeulley, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small ancient edifice, with a massive tower, but destitute of architectural interest; the interior contains the ancient rood-loft, which is of oak, ornamented with carvings in cinquefoil, and supported on pillars. There is neither parsonage-house nor glebe land attached to the living. The registers of this parish, as well as those of Llandeulley, were lost in the year 1792, prior to which date there are consequently no entries. There are places of worship for Baptists and Independents. The Rev. David Williams, in 1712, bequeathed a rent-charge of £2, to be distributed among eight poor people, to whom also, in 1721, Mrs. Lettice Parry bequeathed land producing £1 per annum, and in the same year Mr. William Evans bequeathed a rent-charge of £5, which is annually distributed in bread among the poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the North division amounts to £126. 13., and that of the South division to £86. 15.

CRICKHOWEL (CRÛG-HYWEL), a market town and parish, in the hundred of CRICKHOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, on the high road from London to Milford Haven, 13 miles (S. E.) from Brecknock, and 153 (W. by N.) from London, containing 1061 inhabitants. This place derives its name from an ancient British fortress, called Crûg Hywel, situated at the distance of about two miles to the north-north-east of it, and formerly of great strength and importance. In the reign of William II., Bernard de Newmarch, having wrested the province of Brycheiniog (now Brecknock) from Bleddyn, son of Maenyrch, the native sovereign, divided it among the Norman knights who were associated with him in the expedition, of whom Sir Humphrey de Bourghil received a grant of

the manor of Crickhowel, to be holden by the service of one knight's fee, as of the paramount lordship of Blaenllyvni and Dinas, which Bernard retained for himself. The manor continued in the possession of this family for some generations, and afterwards passed to the Turbervilles, descended from Sir Payne de Turberville, to whom Robert Fitz-Hamon had granted the lordship of Coyty, in Glamorganshire. In 1172, the castle of Crickhowel was stormed and its garrison made prisoners by Sitsyllt ab Ririd, a chieftain of Monmouthshire. Sir Edmund Turberville is mentioned as lord of Crickhowel in the latter part of the reign of Richard I., and in that of King John, whom he is stated to have served in the wars in France. His grandson, Hugh de Turberville, adhered to Henry III., in opposition to the disaffected barons. In the reign of Edward I., Sir Hugh, assisted by Sir Grimbald de Pauncefote and Sir Roger de Bredwardine, raised troops in Wales for the king's service: to the former of these knights Sir Hugh gave his daughter Sybil, with his Brecknock estates, in marriage, and to the latter he assigned the mesne manor of Gwernvale, and other estates in Crickhowel. Sir Grimbald, in the fourth year of that reign, obtained from the king the grant of a weekly market and an annual fair on the 12th of May, to be held at this town, which was confirmed by Henry VI. to his descendant, Sir John de Pauncefote, with the additional privilege of free warren within the manor. Henry IV., in 1403, during the insurrectionary proceedings of Owain Glyndwr, issued especial orders to Sir John to fortify and defend his castle here against the threatened attack of that daring chieftain, by whom it was ultimately demolished, with many others in this part of the country. In the war between the houses of York and Lancaster, the Pauncefotes were staunch supporters of the latter, and suffered greatly for their adherence to the cause. Hugh de Pauncefote, in the 23rd of Henry VI., settled upon that monarch and his heirs, by indenture, the reversion of this manor, in failure of issue of his own family; which ensuing, the name henceforward ceases to occur in connexion with this place. From a document among the patent rolls in the Tower, it appears that the barony of Blaenllyvni and Dinas, of which this manor was held by tenure of knight's service, was in the possession, *jure uxoris*, of Richard Duke of York, who had espoused Anne, sister of Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March, in whose family it had for some time been vested. Edward IV., grandson of Duke Richard, and the lawful inheritor of the estate, soon after his accession to the throne, granted the manors of Crickhowel and Trêtower to his friend and favourite, Sir William Herbert, of Raglan Castle, Knt., whom he afterwards created Earl of Pembroke, which title, at the request of the king, was given up, in exchange for the earldom of Huntingdon, by Sir William's son and successor, whose only daughter and heiress, the Lady Elizabeth Herbert, conveyed these estates by marriage to Sir Charles Somerset, Knt., afterwards created Earl of Worcester, from whom, by lineal descent, they have been transmitted to their present noble owner, the Duke of Beaufort.

The town is beautifully situated on the north-eastern bank of the Usk, upon a declivity sloping gently to the river, over which is a bridge of thirteen arches, of various dimensions, built of dark-coloured stone, and par-



tially mantled with ivy, the whole being remarkably picturesque in appearance. It is irregularly built, but is inhabited by numerous respectable families, and is greatly resorted to, during the season, by anglers, for trout-fishing in the river Usk, which also abounds with salmon. The environs, within a narrow compass, are strikingly picturesque, presenting a highly pleasing and luxuriant prospect of a richly cultivated vale, watered by the Usk, and, together with the sloping grounds, adorned with numerous elegant seats, genteel residences, farm-houses, and cottages. The line of the horizon is rendered beautifully irregular by the picturesque forms of the surrounding mountains; the vast Breannog, rising suddenly on the northern side of the vale, shelters it from the cold winds, and on the south the bold escarpment of the Darren, overlooking the little village of Llangattock, forms an agreeable contrast with the cultivated lands beneath. The steep, but well-wooded, declivity of Llanwenarth Graig, descending from the pointed Sugar Loaf, with the apparently opposite connexion of the Blorenge mountain, shuts out towards the east the view of the lower lands of Monmouthshire surrounding Abergavenny; while the verdant Myarth, with a chain of other eminences, terminates the prospect to the west. Crickhowel had formerly two trading companies, the Clothiers' and the Shoemakers', the wardens and officers of which had each a handsome pew in the old church, decorated with their respective emblems of trade, carved in oak. Dr. Smollett, in his excellent novel of "Humphrey Clinker," mentions the Crickhowel flannels; but the manufacture has been entirely discontinued: there is still, however, some business done in the making of shoes. The neighbouring mountains contain mines of iron-ore and coal, and there are several railways connected with the works. On the banks of the river, at a short distance from the town, are some paper-mills. The Brecknock and Abergavenny canal passes at the distance of about a mile, affording a direct communication with Bristol: lime and coal, the produce of the neighbourhood, together with timber, iron, and grocery, are the principal articles conveyed along it. The market is on Thursday; and fairs are held on February 1st, April 13th, May 12th, September 24th, and November 6th, of which that in May is the greatest. The market-house, the upper part of which is used as the town-hall, is an incommodious building, inconveniently situated in the middle of the High-street, adjoining the turnpike road, which it is in contemplation to remove to a more eligible site.

Prior to the union of Wales with England, Crickhowel was one of the marcher territories, subordinate to the paramount lordship of Blaenllyvni, and was comprehended within the district of the Lower Ystradwy, or, more properly, Ystrad Iw. On the abolition of the independent jurisdiction of the lords marcher, in the 27th of Henry VIII., it was consolidated with the county of Brecknock, and constituted the head of a hundred. The ancient name of Ystradwy is now lost, except in that part of the parish of Llanbedr which is called Llanbedr Ystradwy. The Norman conquerors of lands in Wales, on introducing the feudal system of tenure, usually conceded to the natives many of their local customs. Thus, they had two courts, one called *Englischeria*, and the other *Welschria*; the former comprehending the freeholders, and the latter the customary tenants

of the manor. The freeholders, for the most part, held their lands by military, or knights' service, though a few were permitted to hold in socage; the customary tenants were originally the native peasantry of the country, who, having been despoiled of all real property, were allowed to hold small tenements by certain base services, or personal labour, for the benefit of the lord. These were at first rendered in kind, but afterwards commuted for money payments, still known by the name of *Cymmorth* rents, or rents in lieu of aid. On divesting the marcher lordships of their exclusive jurisdiction, and bringing them under the authority of the common law of the land, certain privileges were continued to the proprietors. Thus, the Duke of Beaufort, as lord of the manor of Crickhowel, appoints a coroner for the hundred, and holds a court leet twice a year, and a court baron every three weeks, for the manor: he also annually appoints a bailiff for the town, which is a borough by prescription, though the office is now merely nominal, its duties being confined to collecting the manorial chief-rents: two aldermen were also formerly elected for the borough, but this privilege has not for some time been exercised. The lords of the manors of Crickhowel and Trêtower have also claimed and exercised the right of executing, by their bailiffs, within the limits of these liberties respectively, all the king's writs, that of *Non omittas* alone excepted. The county magistrates hold a petty session every Thursday in the town-hall, for the transaction of business relative to the hundred.

The parish is divided into two hamlets, the borough hamlet and the country hamlet, each having its churchwarden and overseer of the poor, but not possessing separate jurisdiction, the assessments being levied generally upon the whole. It was formerly a chapelry within the parish of Llangattock, the rectors of which received one-third of its tithes, but was made a distinct parish by Lady Sibyl de Pauncfote, relict of Sir Grimbald, by whom the portion of the tithes above-mentioned was settled on the rector of Crickhowel. The living is now a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 17. 8½, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the rector: the rectory is a sinecure, rated at £5. 9. 9½, and in the patronage of the Duke of Beaufort, as lay impropiator of a certain remaining portion of the tithes of the parish, which is rated at £4. 14. 7. The tithes are thus divided into three unequal portions, the lay impropriation, the sinecure rectory, and the vicarage, and are collected by a common agent, who pays to each party his share: there is also an allotment for the sexton, consisting of the clear yearly tenths of certain lands specified within the parish. The rectorial glebe consists of about twenty-five acres of meadow and arable land; the vicarial, of one acre: there is no parsonage-house for either rector or vicar. The church, dedicated to St. Edmund the King and Martyr, was founded and endowed by the munificence of Lady Sibyl de Pauncfote, and consecrated, in 1303, by David de Sancto Edmundo, Bishop of St. David's: it was originally much larger than at present, but having been found upon examination to be in a very dilapidated condition, a faculty was obtained in the year 1765, enabling the churchwardens to take down two side aisles, and apply the materials in repairing the remainder: it



was thus left cruciform, consisting of a nave, chancel, and two transepts, with a tower rising from the intersection of the nave with the transepts, containing five bells, and surmounted by a shingled spire, the only one in the county. To afford accommodation for the increased population of the parish, a new aisle was built on the south side of the nave, in 1830, by voluntary subscription among the inhabitants, as an equivalent for pews, aided by a grant from the Incorporated Society for building and enlarging churches and chapels: this additional portion contains one hundred and fifty sittings, half of which are free, and this is the first known instance of increased accommodation being added to a church by the equitable mode of allowing those who want seats, to purchase and annex them in perpetuity to their houses. The south transept, called the Rumsey Chapel, was originally a chantry appendant to the estate of a family of that name in the parish, though erected and endowed prior to their connexion with the place: but the exclusive right has long been forfeited by the owners, from neglect in performing the necessary repairs. The north transept, called the Gwernvale Chapel, was also a chantry belonging to the Gwernvale estate, the proprietor of which still repairs it, and supports his claim to the exclusive possession of it. The chancel is long, narrow, and much lower than the remainder of the building: in each of the side walls are two low arched recesses, probably intended by the foundress as burial-places for the family, two of them having been used for that purpose. Within the upper recess on the south, upon a low altar-tomb, is the mutilated effigy of a knight, in a recumbent position, cross-legged, and clad in chain mail, having a sword hanging from a belt, and upon the left arm a shield, bearing the device of three lions rampant, the armorial ensign of the Pauncefotes: the inscription is almost entirely defaced, but the tomb is probably that of Sir Grimbald de Pauncefote, husband of the foundress: the latter is supposed to lie interred beneath the opposite arch, where is a low tomb, supporting a recumbent figure of a lady, habited in ancient costume: the interments were evidently made from the outside, as appears from the worked stone facing of the walls at the back of the arches, the want of which behind the other two is considered a proof of their never having been occupied. Projecting into the chancel, near the communion table, is a large and handsome monument of black and white marble, enclosed by an iron railing, supporting the well-executed effigy, in alabaster, of Sir John Herbert, of Dan y Castell, near this town, who died May 10th, 1666, and his lady Joan, who died some years after: the knight is represented in a reclining posture, with flowing hair, clothed in plate armour, with a truncheon in his right hand, and a helmet at his feet: his lady, richly habited, is recumbent on a quilted mattress, having the head supported upon an embroidered pillow, with tassels at the corners, and a small book in her hand. The inscription states that the monument was erected, in 1690, by Elizabeth, wife of Wm. Le Hunt, serjeant-at-law, son of Sir John Le Hunt, of Middleton, in the county of Warwick, Knt.: upon the east end of the monument are sculptured the figures of a man habited as a serjeant-at-law, the head broken off, and of a female, both kneeling, dated 1703, and

1694. In addition to these, there are some neat mural tablets, but of minor interest. There are places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, and for English and Welsh Wesleyan Methodists, attached to each of which is a school for the instruction of children. Two day schools and two Sunday schools have been established in the parish, for children of the church of England: for these, two school-rooms, for the education of children of both sexes, have been erected upon the plot of glebe belonging to the vicarage, at the expense of the present vicar, the Rev. George Jones Bevan, who has distinguished himself as the author of some valuable tracts and essays: they are conducted upon the National plan, and are supported by voluntary subscription.

The castle and its precincts formerly occupied a space of about eight acres, encompassed by roads, and terminating in a point upon the road to Abergavenny, on the south-eastern side of the town: the lower portion of this area is now occupied by houses, erected within the last few years: the structure itself, with its bailey within the walls, included a surface of two acres, one rood, and fourteen perches: the remains are small, and destitute of picturesque attraction. The mount, vulgarly called the "Castle Tump," commands a fine view of the transcendent beauties of the vale, both above and below: it was the site of the keep, or donjon, a lofty square building four stories high, the vaults of which are, no doubt, still entire beneath the present mount. About a mile and a half from the town formerly stood the "baptismal and parochial chapel" of St. Mary, still known by its Welsh name, Llanvair, or "Mary-church." That its erection was of a date long prior to that of the present parochial church of St. Edmund is certain, from the report of Giraldus Cambrensis, in the reign of Henry II., who states that he himself, as archdeacon of Brecknock, was cited to appear in *capellâ Sanctæ Mariæ de Crucohel*, to answer certain interrogatories to be proposed to him by the priors of Llanthony and Brecknock, respecting a fine imposed upon him, but not paid, at the suit of the Archbishop of Canterbury, with whom he had been at issue. Having long since fallen into lay hands, it was used, until within the last twenty years, as a barn: it was then taken down, and a new farm building erected upon the spot, so that the name is now the only vestige of the ancient structure: a neighbouring field, called Cae Crochenydd, or "the Potters' Field," is said by tradition to have been the place of interment for strangers who died within the parish. The principal relic of more remote antiquity situated in this neighbourhood is the fortification of *Crûg Howel*, or "Howel's Mount," occupying a conspicuous situation upon a bold knoll of the Breannog mountain, rising to the north of the town. Leland notices it as *Cragus Hoelinus*, and in an old survey of the manor it is called *Cae Crûgiau*, or "the Mounded Enclosure;" but the present English inhabitants call it the Table Hill. It is of an irregular triangular form, and slopes gently from the north-western angle, which is very acute: a rampart of loose stones surrounds the area, which comprises a space of one thousand one hundred and sixty feet within the inner circumference. Towards the vale, the descent is precipitous; the only entrance being from the north, whence a steep narrow way, called Cevn



fordd, or "the ridge-way," communicates with the mountain, a bold projection of which, overlooking the fortress, is called Disgwylyva, the "look out," or "watching-place;" and upon the summit is the beacon, a high conical heap of stones. The great Roman road, denominated by Sir R. C. Hoare the *Via Julia Montana*, leading from the celebrated Silurian station of Caerlleon, by the station near Brecknock to *Maridunum*, now Carmarthen, passed through this parish, by the foot of the Breannog mountain; and in a field adjoining the old chapel of Llanvair is a high artificial mound, supposed by some to have been the site of a Roman *arx speculatoria*, or watch-tower. By the road side, near Gwernvale, formerly stood a fine British cromlech, which was destroyed several years ago, for the purpose of ascertaining what lay beneath it: within the parish is a maen hir, "or long stone," of which there are many more in the vicinity, and respecting which there is a variety of opinions, some supposing them to have been sepulchral, others simply commemorative, and others again the mere boundary marks of a territory, or district. By the side of the road leading towards Brecknock stands an old gateway, called Porth Mawr, or the "Great Gate," through the opening of which there is a most delightful prospect of the vale and the river Usk, and which has erroneously been regarded as having formed an appendage to the castle, with which it is stated to have had a subterraneous communication. It was, in fact, the entrance to a mansion called Cwrt Carw, or "Stags' Court," erected in the reign of Henry VII., by a member of the Herbert family: the old house, which is said to have been defended by its owner against a body of the parliamentary troops under Cromwell, has long since been demolished: the estate upon which it is situated is now the property of Edward William Seymour, Esq., who resides there.

At the distance of half a mile from the town stands Gwernvale House, the handsome seat of John Gwynne, Esq., built about the commencement of the present century, by Tristram Everest, Esq. The more ancient mansion is situated on the hill behind it, and is now the property of Joseph Bailey, Esq. In old writings this estate is designated "Moelmore, alias Gwernvald," and the mesne manor to which it belongs still bears that name: it is now indiscriminately called Gwernvale, or Wernvale, which the late Archdeacon Payne ingeniously conjectures to be a corruption of *Tir Wronon Voel*, "the land of Wronon the Bald," since, from an ancient deed in the possession of that gentleman, prior to and at the time of his decease, it appears, in the 11th of Edward II., to have belonged to *Wronon*, surnamed *Voel*, or "the Bald," and styled *Comportionarius Ecclesie Beati Edmundi de Crúghoel*. In the year 1668, this estate was purchased by Sir Henry Proger, Knt., a branch of the Gwernddû family in Monmouthshire, who, being a staunch loyalist, retired, during the usurpation of Cromwell, with his exiled sovereign into France, accompanied by his brothers James, Valentine, and Edward, all of whom served Charles with exemplary fidelity, and even, in some instances, with culpable zeal. Henry and Valentine are reported to have been personally concerned in the assassination of Ascham, the parliamentary envoy at the court of Madrid, who was murdered in the open day at his

own house. The former, after the Restoration, received the honour of knighthood from the king, who appointed him one of the gentlemen of the privy chamber: he left one son, Charles, a lieutenant-colonel in the Foot Guards, who sold the Gwernvale estate to his uncle, Mr. Edward Proger, of Hampton Court. This latter gentleman was appointed, early in life, Page of Honour to King Charles I., and, by His Majesty's command, sworn Groom of the Bedchamber to his son, then Prince of Wales, at Paris. Throughout the whole of that eventful period his unbounded fidelity to his royal master sustained no diminution, personally attending him in all the vicissitudes of his fortune; and the affection with which His Majesty regarded him, and the estimation in which he was also held by some of the most distinguished royalists, are evinced by the correspondence that he maintained with them: several letters to him from the king himself, from Prince Rupert, the Duke of Hamilton, the Marquis of Montrose, Lord Cottington, and others, were, in their several autographs, at the time of his death, in the possession of the Venerable Archdeacon Payne, who had also other curious documents relating to Mr. Proger, besides an original portrait of him, by Sir Peter Lely, purchased at a sale of property at Gwernvale, in 1789, and a good painting of his eldest brother, Sir Henry, by Cornelius Jansen. In the year 1650 he was with the king in Scotland, but, with several other noblemen and private gentlemen, was banished thence by a mandate of the estates of parliament, "as an evil Instrument and bad Counsellor of His Majesty's late Father and himself." Still, however, he retained the good opinion of the king, who in the same year rewarded his services by a grant of two thousand acres of land in Virginia; but from this he derived no real benefit, owing to the inability of his royal master to enforce the grant, and his neglecting to confirm it after the Restoration. Lord Orford informs us that Mr. Proger received permission of the king to erect a house in Bushy Park, near Hampton Court, of which he had been appointed keeper, on the condition that at his death it should lapse to the crown. After representing this county in parliament for seventeen years, he at length declined a contest, and withdrew into retirement, in 1679, and, upon the death of his royal master, resigned all public business: he lived for several years after in depressed circumstances, notwithstanding the services he had rendered to two successive monarchs, and died at the advanced age of ninety-two, on the last day of December, 1713. By his wife Elizabeth, daughter of—Wells, Esq., of Suffolk, he had a numerous offspring, of whom only three daughters survived: the eldest of these, named Philippa, upon the partition of property which took place after his death, obtained the estate of Gwernvale, which she bequeathed to her husband, Dr. Samuel Croxal, a man of considerable literary attainments, and holding good preferment in the church, who died in 1751, leaving it to a relative, Mrs. Hester Bailiss, with remainder to her niece, married to Mr. John Newby, who soon sold it to Mr. Everest, its late proprietor. As distinguished residents of Crickhowel may be noticed the late Rev. Henry Thomas Payne, archdeacon of Carmarthen, &c., an eminent philologist, antiquary, and topographer; and, at the present time, the Rev. Thomas Price, vicar of Llanvihangel Cwm Dû. The average



annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £272. 6.

**CRINOW**, a parish in the hundred of **DUNGLEDDEY**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 1 mile (E.) from **Narberth**, containing 86 inhabitants. This parish, though in the hundred of **Dungleddey**, is almost entirely surrounded by that of **Narberth**, and, with the exception of a very small portion, belongs solely to **Roger Eaton, Esq.**, whose elegant mansion of **Park Glâs** is situated within its limits. The living is a rectory not in charge, in the archdeaconry and diocese of **St. David's**, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the King, as **Prince of Wales**. The church is a very small and simple edifice, without tower or steeple, and destitute of any architectural ornament.

**CROES**, a joint township with **Berwyn**, in the parish of **TRÊGARON**, upper division of the hundred of **PENARTH**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 4 miles (E. N. E.) from **Trêgaron**, containing, with **Berwyn**, 210 inhabitants. This township, the upper part of which is wild, rugged, and mountainous, takes its name from the river **Croes**, which flows through it, and, after being joined by the river **Berwyn**, unites with the **Teivy** a short distance below the town of **Trêgaron**.

**CROESLLWYBIR (CROES-LIBIN)**, a township in the parish of **LLANIDLOES**, upper division of the hundred of **LLANIDLOES**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 1 mile (N.) from **Llanidloes**. The population is included in the return for the parish.

**CRONWERE (CRUNWEAR)**, a parish in the hundred of **NARBERTH**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 6 miles (E. S. E.) from **Narberth**, containing 274 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the confines of the county, and at a short distance to the south of the turnpike road from **Laugharne** to **Narberth**. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of **St. David's**, rated in the king's books at £6. 16. 10½., and in the patronage of the King, as **Prince of Wales**. The church, dedicated to **St. Elidyr**, is appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service, but not distinguished by any architectural features. An average annual expenditure amounting to £58. 6. is applied for the maintenance of the poor.

**CRÛGGION (CRÛGION)**, a chapelry in that part of the parish of **ALBERBURY** which is in the lower division of the hundred of **CAWRSE**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 6 miles (N. E.) from **Welshpool**, containing 173 inhabitants. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of **Salop**, and diocese of **Hereford**, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the **Vicar of Alberbury**. The chapel is a neat edifice of brick, situated not far from the banks of the **Severn**. A National school is supported by subscription, in which about forty children are instructed. **Methuselah Jones**, in 1727, bequeathed a rent-charge of £3. 3. for providing annually ten coats for poor persons of this place. On the loftiest of the **Breidden hills**, in this chapelry, an obelisk was erected, in 1781, in commemoration of the distinguished naval services of **Admiral Lord Rodney**, particularly of his defeat of the powerful French fleet in the **West Indies**, commanded by **Count de Grasse**. The inhabitants are separately assessed for the maintenance of their own poor: the average annual expenditure is £92. 1.

**CUGIAN (GOGOIAN)**, a township in the parish of **LLANDEWY-BREVI**, lower division of the hundred of **PENARTH**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5½ miles (N. E.) from **Lampeter**, containing 111 inhabitants. This township is situated on the left bank of the river **Teivy**, which is here crossed by a bridge, and at the western declivity of some elevated ground. It separately supports its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £29. 11.

**CWM**, a parish in the hundred of **RHUDDLAN**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**, 3 miles (E.) from **Rhuddlan**, containing 442 inhabitants. The name of this place appears to be derived from the situation of the church and village in a sequestered hollow, enclosed by lofty hills. The parish, which is about three miles in length, and two and a half in breadth, and is partly within the manor of **Rhuddlan**, belonging to the **Bishop of St. Asaph**, consists principally of mountainous tracts of common, with only a very small portion of enclosed and cultivated land. The scenery is highly picturesque; and from the hills which surround the village are obtained some fine prospects, extending over the fertile and beautiful **Vale of Clwyd**, and embracing a view of the **Irish sea**, and the summits of **Snowdon**, with the adjacent mountains. The elevated parts of the parish are thought to abound with mineral treasures, and iron-stone has been found, for the working of which a forge and a foundry are now being erected, about a mile and a half from the village. These works will be impelled by a stream from **Fynnon Asaph**, or "**St. Asaph's Well**," a spring of great power, the waters of which already turn two corn-mills in the parish, at no great distance from its source, and another stream from which forms the cascade at **Dyserth**. Slate has also been found in the **Cwm** mountain, but not of a quality adapted for roofing. The turnpike road from **Chester** to **Holyhead** passes within a mile and a quarter of the village. A part of this parish is within the limits of the contributory borough of **Rhuddlan**. The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of **St. Asaph**: the rectory, which is a sinecure, is rated in the king's books at £6. 15. 5.; and the vicarage, which is discharged, is rated at £5. 8. 9., and is endowed with £200 royal bounty: they are both in the patronage of the **Bishop of St. Asaph**. The tithes of the parish are equally divided between the rector and the vicar. The church, dedicated to **St. Valacianian**, is a plain substantial edifice, without either tower or spire, and, though the exterior walls are kept in good repair by the parish, the interior is in a miserable state of dilapidation: it contains several gravestones, supposed to be sepulchral monuments of **Knights Templar**; and in the churchyard is an ancient tombstone, on which is a bow sculptured in stone. According to tradition, the renowned Welsh prophet and bard, **Davydd Ddû of Hîraddug**, so called from a mountain of that name above the church, was buried under one of the walls of the church, in fulfilment of his own prediction, that he should neither be buried in or out of it. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, in connexion with each of which is a Sunday school. The rent of some lands in the parish, producing from £15 to £20 per annum, is appropriated to the apprenticing of poor children: the origin of



this benefaction, which is of very ancient date, is not correctly known: it is vested in the Glynne family, and Sir Stephen Richard Glynne, Bart., is the present trustee. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £232. 15.

CWM, a division in the parish of GWYDDELWERN, hundred of EDEYRNION, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, comprising the united townships of Aelhaiarn, Bonron, Maesgammedd, Maesgwyn, Myarth, Trebâch, and Trefrith, the population of which is returned with the division of Uwchmynydd. This division forms the lower portion of the parish, and the road from Corwen to Ruthin passes through it. The parochial church and village of Gwyddelwern are situated within its limits. It separately supports its own poor.

CWM-COTHY (CWM-COTHI), a hamlet in the parish of CAYO, higher division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (N. W. by W.) from Llandovery. The population is returned with the parish. The river Cothi has its source contiguous to it, and in its irregular course in the vicinity passes through a vale, which is distinguished by striking features of great richness and diversity. In this hamlet are the remains of some ancient mines, now called Gogovau mines, supposed to have been worked by the Romans, as the vestiges of an aqueduct for bringing the waters of the Cothi to the excavations are still discernible. Dôlcothy, the seat of John Johnes, Esq., is situated here, and near it is a mineral spring of some repute.

CWMDARE (CWM-DÂR), a hamlet in the parish and newly-created borough of ABERDARE, hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (W. S. W.) from Merthyr-Tydvil. The population is returned with the parish. The parochial church, and great part of the village, or town, of Aberdare are situated in this hamlet, which occupies the left bank of the river Cynon, near its source. In the event of Aberdare receiving a charter of incorporation, Cwmdare will be abstracted from the hundred, and necessarily placed within the jurisdiction of the borough. Besides a dreary extent of bare mountain land, it contains very little which is not connected with the town or iron-works in the vicinity: towards the north-west there is a large tract of waste land, at the extremity of which, on the north-western point of the parish, are the Hîrwaun iron-works, and the houses connected with them: the works are situated in another parish, but nearly all the houses are within the limits of this. Here are four almshouses, open to the poor of the whole parish, and endowed with a rent-charge of £5 by Mrs. Elinor Matthews, in 1724.

CWMDŪ (CWM-DŪ), a hamlet in the parish of LLANGONYD, hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $8\frac{1}{4}$  miles (N. by W.) from Bridgend, containing 968 inhabitants. This hamlet, the name of which signifies "the black vale," is situated in a valley, through which flows a tributary of the river Llynvi, and in a wild and mountainous district, remarkable for its fossil and mineral productions. The principal of these are iron-ore and coal; and, owing to the extension of the works, this place has of late years greatly increased in importance and population, the latter of which, in 1821, amounted only to three hundred and seven inhabitants. A tram-road for the con-

veyance of these articles to the harbour of Porthcawl and the town of Bridgend has been constructed. This hamlet separately supports its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £152. 5.

CWM-GARW-LLWYD, a hamlet in that part of the parish of LLANDILO-VAWR which is in the lower division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (N. by W.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 179 inhabitants, who are almost exclusively employed in agriculture. It forms a small vale, through which a stream flows, and falls into the Towy near Llandilo-Vawr. A separate assessment is made for the maintenance of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £94. 5.

CWMGILLA (CWM-GELLAU), a township in the parish and hundred of KNIGHTON, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (S. W.) from Knighton, containing, with the lordship of Farrington, 183 inhabitants. The name signifies the hazel valley, which is descriptive of its situation in a small vale, intersected by a stream, which falls into the Teme at Knighton. A part of the township is included within the boundaries of the borough of Knighton. There are two small tumuli of which no satisfactory account can be obtained.

CWM-HÎR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES.—See ABBEY CWM HÎR.

CWM-RHEIDOL (CWM-RHEIDIOL), a township in that part of the parish of LLANBADARN-VAWR which is in the upper division of the hundred of GENEU'R GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, containing 649 inhabitants. The river Rheidol, which gives name to the township, flows through a vale here, remarkable for its varied and picturesque scenery. There are extensive lead mines, which yielded, in 1831, forty-five tons of that metal and sixty tons of ore, and afforded employment to the greater portion of the inhabitants. This township separately supports its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £154. 17.

CWM-TOYDDWR (CWM-DAUDDWR), otherwise LLANSANTFRAID CWM-TOYDDWR, a parish in the hundred of RHAIDR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile (W. S. W.) from Rhaiadr, containing 867 inhabitants. The name of this place, signifying "the dingle of the two rivers," or "the church of St. Bridget in the dingle of the two rivers," is derived from that of the saint to whom the church is dedicated, and its situation near the confluence of the rivers Wye and Elain, which unite towards the southern extremity of the parish. From this latter circumstance some etymologists have supposed the name to have been originally *Cymmer Dau Ddwr*, signifying "the junction of two rivers," from which they derive its present appellation. The parish, which is pleasantly situated on the western side of the river Wye, by which it is separated from the town of Rhaiadr, extends nearly ten miles in length, and in the central part is nearly five miles in breadth: of the whole of this extensive tract, a very inconsiderable portion only is under cultivation; the remainder, being chiefly mountainous, affords excellent pasturage to numerous flocks of sheep and herds of cattle, which are reared for the English markets. The scenery in some parts of it is extremely wild, and in others highly picturesque: the higher grounds afford some pleasingly varied and interesting prospects, and some of the loftiest hills command a fine view, extending to the Breck-



nockshire Beacons, and the mountains of Plinlimmon and Cader Idris. In the vale of the Elain are the Cwm Elain lead mines, discovered in 1796, which have been for some time discontinued; and in other parts of the parish there are some quarries of good slate. The veins of the lead mine run from north-east to south-west; their sides are but imperfectly indurated; and the ore is of the species called galena, contained, with blende, or sulphate of zinc, quartz, &c., in a mixed matrix of quartz and grey mountain rock. The woollen manufacture is carried on upon a very limited scale, affording employment to a small number of persons; and the high road from Rhaiadr to Aberystwith, passing through the parish, gives a facility of intercourse with the neighbouring places. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The vicar receives one-half of the tithes of the parish, with the exception only of the hamlet called the Grange, of which he receives only one-third: the remainder belongs to the impropriator. The church, dedicated to St. Bridget, and rebuilt in 1778, is a neat and well-constructed edifice of stone: it is well pewed and ceiled, and has a good gallery. At Nant Wylt, about four miles from the mother church, is a small but well-built chapel of ease, erected in the year 1772. The Rev. Charles Price, Vicar of Llanarth, in the county of Cardigan, in 1719, bequeathed, in trust to the vicar of this parish and the vicar of Nantmel, a house and lands called Llawr y llan, in this parish, directing the produce to be appropriated to the instruction of poor children, and for the preaching of five divinity lecture sermons, in the parish church of this place, on the first Sunday in May, and in the four following months: the school is kept at Rhaiadr, and six boys of this parish are gratuitously instructed in it, in consideration of this bequest. A house called Troed Rhiw, with a few acres of land attached to it, was bequeathed, about a century and a half ago, by John Davies, for the reception of lame, blind, maimed, and infirm poor of this parish: the land now produces £13 per annum, which income, increased by the annual sum of £4, the interest of a sum of money produced by a sale of timber on the estate, is divided among the inmates. Jeremiah Powell charged a farm in this parish with the annual payment of £2 to the poor. There are some remains of a military post within the parish, on the bank of the Wye, nearly opposite to the site of Rhaiadr castle, with which it is said to have had a communication by a subterraneous passage under the bed of the river: part of this intrenchment was demolished in 1830, but an artificial mound is still remaining near the lines, which, at some remote period, was probably the site of the keep of a castle. Vestiges of two ancient chapels are still visible, called respectively Capel Madoc and Aber Hênllau: they are supposed to be of more ancient foundation than the original parish church, and, from their being respectively situated in the two hamlets into which the parish is divided, to have been, previously to the erection of the church, the only places of worship in the parish. The name of a neighbouring farm, called Coed y Mynach, or "the monks' wood," has led to an opinion that there was anciently a monastery at this place; but no satisfactory account of any religious establishment of

that kind can now be obtained; and it is more probable that the farm was an appendage to the abbey of Strata Florida, in the adjacent county of Cardigan, to which a road may still be traced over the mountains. A mineral spring, the water of which is strongly impregnated with sulphur, has been recently discovered at Hŷr Nant, in this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £414.

CWM-TWRCH, a hamlet in the parish of CAYO, higher division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (N. W. by W.) from Llandovery. The population is returned with the parish. An old Roman road, called Sarn Helen, leading from Llanio to Llanvair ar y brŷn, can be traced here through the valley of the Twrch. The declivities of the hills are well wooded, especially where the Twrch falls into the Cothi; and the road from Llandovery to Lampeter passes along the left bank of the former stream.

CYFEILIOG (CYFYLLIOG), a parish in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (W.) from Ruthin, containing 636 inhabitants. It is situated in the southern portion of the county, and is intersected by several small streams, which, rising in the circumjacent hills, unite within the parish, and, flowing in a north-easterly direction, fall into the river Clwyd. It comprises a moderate extent of arable and pasture land in a good state of cultivation; the surface is varied, and the soil, especially in the lower grounds, is tolerably fertile. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, though not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature; and the views, though obstructed in some parts by the intervening heights by which the parish is sheltered, are neither destitute of interest nor void of beauty. The living is annexed to the vicarage of Llanynys, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is not remarkable for any architectural details. An endowment of £3 per annum has been bequeathed for the instruction of poor children; and the produce of several small charitable donations is annually distributed among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £308.5.

CYLCH-BYCHAN, a hamlet in the parish of ST. DAVID'S, hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 1½ mile (E.) from St. David's, containing 359 inhabitants. It forms one of the four cylchs, or hamlets, into which the parish is divided, the adjunct signifying the smaller hamlet, as compared with Cylch Mawr, or the larger.

CYLCH-GWAELOD-Y-WLAD, a hamlet in the parish of ST. DAVID'S, hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (W.) from St. David's, containing 512 inhabitants. The name denotes that it consists of the lower, or coast, portion of the parish, which is divided into four cylchs, or hamlets, this one forming its western division, and extending along the sea-coast, being the most western part of the principality. The island of Ramsey, on which there is a single farm, is included in this hamlet.

CYLCH-MAWR, a hamlet in the parish of ST. DAVID'S, hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 2½ miles (N. E.) from St. David's, containing 492 inhabitants. The adjunct signifies that it is the larger, in contrast with Cylch Bychan, or the



smaller, both forming two of the four cylchs, or hamlets, into which the parish is divided.

CYNNULLMAWR (CYNNULL-MAWR), a township in the parish of LLANVIHANGEL GENEU 'R GLYN, upper division of the hundred of GENEU 'R GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{4}$  miles (N. E. by E.) from Aberystwith, containing 636 inhabitants. This township takes its name from an elevated mountain, at the western base of which the road from Aberystwith to Machynlleth passes: it is bounded on the north by the river Lery. Glánvraed, an old mansion on the left bank of this river, is remarkable as the supposed birthplace of the celebrated antiquary, Edward Llwyd, author of the *Archaeologia Britannica*, and many other works on the natural history and antiquities of Wales: he also collected a great number of ancient British records, which were afterwards unfortunately destroyed in the fire which consumed Havôd House, in this county. The township is separately assessed for the support of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £219. 14.

CYNNULL-MAWR-LLWYNSWCH, a joint hamlet with Gelludie, in the parish of LLANDAROG, upper division of the hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. S. E.) from Carmarthen. The population is returned with the parish. The Gwendraeth Vâch river flows through this hamlet, and is crossed by a bridge on the road from Carmarthen to Llandeby and Pont ar dulais.

CYNON, a joint hamlet with Tâf, in the parish and newly-created borough of MERTHYR-TYDVIL, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S.) from Merthyr-Tydvil. The population is returned with the parish. This hamlet is formed by the long isthmus of elevated ground at the junction of the rivers Cynon and Tâf, being bounded on the west by the former, and on the east by the latter: parallel to these run the Aberdare and Cardiff canals. At the southern extremity of the hamlet the Tâf is crossed by a bridge; and near the same spot an aqueduct conveys the Cardiff canal over that river and the road to Aberdare. The vale of the Cynon is well wooded and picturesque.

CYVOETH Y BRENNIN (CYVOETH Y BRENNIN), a township in the parish of LLANVIHANGEL GENEU 'R GLYN, hundred of GENEU 'R GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, containing 965 inhabitants. This township, a part of which pays the great tithes to the vicar of Llanvihangel, is the property of the crown, and from that circumstance partially derives its name: there are copper and lead mines within its limits. It separately maintains its own poor: the average annual assessment is £171. 18.

CYVRONNYDD (CYFRONYDD), a township forming a detached part of the parish and liberties of WELSHPOOL, upper division of the hundred of CAWRSE, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N. W.) from Welshpool, containing 56 inhabitants. This place is situated on the road from Welshpool to Llanvair, on the banks of the river Banw, which empties itself into the Vyrnwy a little beyond Mathraval, nearly four miles to the north. Cyvrannydd Hall, the property and residence of P. Jones, Esq., is delightfully situated amidst thriving plantations, upon the declivity of a hill, the summit of which embraces a pleasing prospect of the beauties of the vale, through which winds the Banw, and the

adjacent country, including the hills of Merionethshire. There are remains of fortifications on this and several of the hills in the vicinity. This township is separately assessed for the maintenance of its own poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £30. 3.

## D.

DALE, a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 13 miles (S. W. by W.) from Haverfordwest, containing 335 inhabitants. This place is supposed to have derived its name from a contraction of *De Vale*, the name of one of its ancient lords, in whose time it was dignified with the title of a borough, and appears to have enjoyed certain privileges. It still preserves the right of depasturing cattle on a plot of ground, called Dale Meadow, after the lord of the manor has cleared off the hay, which privilege was granted to the holders of burgrave tenements by Henry VII., who, while Earl of Richmond, landed at this place, on his expedition to wrest the crown of England from Richard III. Here he was met by Rhys ab Thomas, who advanced from Carew castle with a well-disciplined and well-appointed band of followers, to join the standard of the earl, with whom he was present at Bosworth Field, and to whose success he materially contributed, not only by his influence in adding to the number of his partisans, but by his valour and discretion in the field. This place is situated on a small bay, forming one side of the entrance into Milford Haven, and affording, in Dale Roads, good anchorage for small vessels, which may ride in safety in two or three fathoms at low water. Block-houses were built here in the reign of Elizabeth, and a chain is said to have been drawn across the mouth of the haven, from St. Anne's to Nangle Point on the opposite side, to obstruct the passage of the Spanish Armada. St. Anne's lighthouses were originally erected here, in 1712, by William Allen, Esq., to whom a lease was granted by the crown for ninety-nine years, which term expired in 1813: they were rebuilt and again opened in 1800. The lantern of one of them contains eleven lights, and has an elevation of one hundred and sixty feet; and that of the other has sixteen lights, at an elevation of one hundred and ninety-five feet. Copper-ore was formerly worked in the parish, but the operations have been discontinued. A small fishery is carried on, employing six boats, which are chiefly engaged in taking lobsters, oysters, and herrings, during their respective seasons; and there is a small trade in the importation of coal and culm from the interior of the county. The parishioners at large have the right of depasturing their cattle on Pickleridge common. The surrounding scenery is of a bold and striking character; and from the higher grounds are obtained some extensive and pleasing views over St. George's channel to the south and east, and of the surrounding country to the north. Dale Castle, formerly the family mansion of the Allens, passed by marriage with the heiress to John Lloyd, Esq., of Mabus, in the county of Cardigan, and is now the property of his grandson, John P. Allen Lloyd Philipps, Esq.: it is an embattled structure, and has been modernized and greatly improved, by the addition of two spacious wings, communicating with the



centre by two circular projecting towers; it now forms one of the finest castellated mansions in the county, and, from its situation, is a prominent and interesting object in the scenery of the place. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of J. P. A. Lloyd Phillips, Esq., who is the lay impropriator. The church, dedicated to St. James, and rebuilt in 1761, at the sole expense of John Allen, Esq., is a neat edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, and contains an elegant font of marble, presented to the parish by the same beneficent individual. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. A small portion of land has been bequeathed by an unknown benefactor, the rent of which is annually given to the poor of the parish. Along the cliffs by which this part of the coast is bounded are several remains of ancient encampments, apparently of Danish construction. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £110. 15.

**DÂROWEN (DÂR-OWAIN)**, a parish in the hundred of **MACHYNLLETH**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 6 miles (E. by N.) from Machynlleth, containing 961 inhabitants. This parish, the name of which signifies Owain's oak, or forest, is bounded on the north-west by the river Dovey, and on the north-east by the Twymyn, which flows into the Dovey at its northern extremity, and includes about nine thousand acres of land, of which only about four thousand are enclosed and under cultivation, the remainder being in commons, chiefly applied as sheep-walks. A considerable quantity of peat is obtained in it, for consumption in the neighbourhood. There are three lead mines, one in Freeth Cwm Bychan, another at Cwm Dû, and the third at Dylivau, all which were in operation within the last few years, but the quantity of ore produced being inconsiderable, the former two have been discontinued: the manufacture of flannel is carried on here. The turnpike roads from Machynlleth to Newtown, through Carno, and to Welshpool through Mallwyd, run through the western and northern parts of the parish. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, not rated in the king's books, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph: it was instituted in the year 1545, by Bishop Robert Warton, at the request of Richard ab Gruffydd, rector. The rectory is a sinecure, rated at £10. 17. 11., also in the gift of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Tudyr, is in the early style of English architecture: it is situated in the township of Noddva, the name of which signifies a place of refuge, its limits being probably described by three stones, one called *Careg Noddva*, standing about one mile to the east, another large stone, rising nearly three yards above the ground, about a mile to the south, and a smaller one about the same distance north-east. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, with a Sunday school attached to each. One of the Welsh circulating schools is at present (1831) situated at this place. They were established by the Rev. Griffith Jones, rector of Llandowror, in the county of Carmarthen, about the beginning of the eighteenth century, at different places, from which, after they had

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been held a year or two, or a sufficient time to teach the scholars in them to read, they were to be removed to other places. In this useful design the benevolent founder was assisted by subscriptions from many persons in England and Wales; and, after his death, they were continued by Mrs. Bevan, a benevolent lady of property residing at Laugharne, in the same county, who, at her demise, bequeathed a legacy of £10,000 towards their permanent support: but the validity of the will being disputed by the heir at law, the matter was referred for investigation to the Court of Chancery, and was decided by the Lord Chancellor in favour of the schools, about the year 1810, at which period the principal and interest had accumulated to £30,000 in the three per cents. Trustees, principally residing in the counties of Pembroke and Carmarthen, were appointed, who nominated two visitors, one for North Wales, and the other for South Wales, for the purpose of visiting the schools twice a year, and reporting upon the state of each; according to the tenor of which report they are either continued or removed, being seldom kept more than two years at one place. At the distance of about half a mile westward from the church, on the summit of the hill Vron Gôch, in the township of Noddva, are the remains of an ancient encampment; and on the top of another, called Bwlch Gelli lûs, there is a tumulus, near which, on the sheepwalk of the farm Berllan Deg, a celt and several brazen instruments of warfare were found some years ago. Dr. John Davies, author of the Welsh and Latin Dictionary, and the Welsh Grammar, and one of the translators of the Bible into the Welsh language, was appointed to the sinecure rectory of this parish by Bishop Parry, in 1615; it was also held by Dr. Randolph, Bishop of Oxford, and afterwards of London; the present rector is Dr. Luxmoore, Dean of St. Asaph. St. Tudyr, son of Arwystl Gloyf, who flourished in the seventh century, is stated in the Genealogy of the Saints to have been interred here. The wake, or feast, of his dedication is annually observed on the 25th of October, or the Sunday next after it; and the diversion is continued the following day, by what is called *Curo Tudyr*, "the beating of Tudyr," generally performed by the boys, one of whom carries a long pole, or branch of a tree, upon his shoulder, the rest beating it with clubs, probably to perpetuate the remembrance of the persecution which that saint endured. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £474. 15.

**DAVID'S (ST.)**, or **LLANVAES**, a parish, composed of the Lower and Upper divisions, each separately maintaining its own poor, the former of which constitutes part of the borough of **BRECKNOCK**, while the latter is included partly in the hundred of **DEVYNOK**, the portion in which is designated "the township," and partly in that of **PENCELLE**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**, containing 1321 inhabitants, of which number, 1166 are in the Lower, and 155 in the Upper, division. This parish, which is situated at the confluence of the Tarrell with the Usk, comprises some extensive tracts of arable and pasture land. The scenery is finely varied; and the views from the higher grounds are highly picturesque, comprising a pleasing variety of interesting objects. Frwdgrêch, the elegant seat of Samuel Church, Esq., and Dinas, the residence of John Lloyd, Esq., both of which are in this parish, are de-



scribed in the article on BRECKNOCK, in which will also be found a more minute account of other objects of importance, locally situated within the limits of the parish of St. David's, but forming conspicuous features in that borough and its environs. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 15. 7½., endowed with £400 private benefaction, and £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Archdeacon of Brecknock, to whom the tithes belong. The church, in which a Sunday school is held morning and evening, is situated in the borough of Brecknock. In this parish are almshouses for twelve female decayed housekeepers of the town of Brecknock, founded and endowed by Mrs. Games and Mrs. Walker, which have a walled court in front, and are comfortably fitted up for the inmates, who receive a small stipend. The celebrated Sir David Gam, who accompanied Henry V. to the field of Agincourt, where, by his intrepidity, he saved that monarch's life by the sacrifice of his own, and was knighted on the field of battle, while in the agonies of death, is said to have resided at Newton, in this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the Lower division of the parish is £179. 17.; and that of the Upper is £180. 1.



Arms.

DAVID'S (ST.), a city and parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 16 miles (W. N. W.) from Haverfordwest, 26 (N. W.) from Pembroke, and 265 (W. by N.) from London, containing 2388 inhabitants. This city has been described by several historians as occupying the site of the Roman station

*Menapia*, both from the evidence of various ancient roads leading in a direction towards it, and the situation of that station as noticed in the Itineraries. But modern writers are of opinion, chiefly from the absence of all military works or other relics of the Romans, that the site of *Menapia* was nearer the sea, on a sandy tract called "The Burrows," and is now covered by that element, which has encroached considerably upon the shore in the vicinity. That the district now constituting the parish of St. David was inhabited at a very early period is obvious, from the numerous druidical remains with which it abounds. In the fifth century it appears to have been called by the Welsh *Mynyw*, which is also variously written *Menyw* and *Manyw*, and is probably compounded of the words *Man* and *Yw*, signifying "small yew trees," which were formerly very plentiful in the vicinity, though divers other etymologies have been proposed. Its Roman name, which was probably a Latinized modification of the British *Mynyw*, was also altered into *Menevia*, which is still retained in the style of its bishops, who are called *Episcopi Menevensis*. The history of the present city commences with that of the saint to whom it owes its name, who is also the patron saint of Wales, and to whom its origin is ascribed. St. David was the son of Xantus, Prince of Caredigion, and Non, daughter of Gynyr, of *Caer Gawch in Mynyw*, or *Menevia*, a chieftain who lived about the middle of the fifth

century, and who, embracing a religious life, gave all his lands to support the church, which was probably the first endowment of the see of Menevia. The period of David's birth is not with certainty known, but may be assigned to the middle of the fifth century. The author of his life in the *Acta Sanctorum* considers him to have been born in 445; Cressy in 462; and others at a still later period. In Leland's *Collectanea* it is related that St. David was baptized by Elveus, Bishop of Menevia; that he was brought up in a place called *Hén Mynyw*, or "Old Menevia," and that Gistilianus, Bishop of Menevia, was his uncle; from which it appears that this place had been made the seat of an episcopal see at least before David had arrived at years of maturity. Having been advanced to the honour of priesthood, and having long studied in the Isle of Wight, under Paulinus, a disciple of St. Germanus, David proceeded to propagate the truths of Christianity among the Britons, and to assist in uprooting the Pelagian heresy, in which he exhibited such surpassing abilities, whereby he collected around him a body of disciples, many of whom were afterwards canonized for their superior wisdom and piety, that at a great synod held at Llandewy-Brevi, in the county of Cardigan, he was preferred to the archbishoprick of Caerlleon, the capital of Gwent, on account of the increasing infirmities of the holy Dubricius, who then enjoyed that high dignity. David, however, only accepted it at the unanimous request of the bishops, clergy, and laity present at the synod, and on condition that he should be allowed to remove the metropolitan see from Caerlleon to this place, where St. Patrick had already founded a monastery, over which David presided, and which he is said to have held in greater favour than all the other religious houses in the diocese. The archbishop, with the consent of his nephew, the renowned King Arthur, accordingly removed the seat of the primacy to Menevia, called by Giraldus Cambrensis *Vallis Rosini*, which Capgrave translates "The Rosy valley," and Sir R. Colt Hoare "the Vale of Rhôs," and established it at his college in this vale, near *Hén Mynyw*, or "Old Menapia;" and the place was afterwards called by his countrymen, from respect to his memory, *Tŷ Dewi*, "the House of David," or "St. David's," which appellation it has ever since retained. During his primacy he had for his suffragans the bishops of Worcester, Hereford, Bangor, Llandaf, Llanelwy or St. Asaph, Llanbadarn near Aberystwith, called in Latin *Paternensis*, and Margam; the first two were at an early period accounted English bishopricks, and the two last being dissolved, the succeeding archbishops had only the bishops of the other three Welsh dioceses as suffragans. The period of the death of David, and the age at which he died, are as undetermined as the time of his birth. Pits considers this event to have occurred in the year 544; Giraldus Cambrensis, and John of Tynemouth, in 609; and Bishop Godwin in 647; whilst all concur in ascribing to him the incredible age of one hundred and forty-seven. Usher and his biographer in the *Acta Sanctorum* are also of opinion that he died in 544; but the former states that he was only eighty-two years old, and the latter ninety-seven. He was interred in the cathedral which he had founded, and many years after his decease was canonized by Pope Calixtus II.; but the distinction which he attained, as patron saint of Wales, is com-



paratively of modern origin. His immediate successor is stated by Giraldus to have been Ceneauc, or Kenanc, called also Kinothus, who was also interred in the cathedral, and was succeeded by St. Teilo, the celebrated bishop of Llandaf; but in Bishop Godwin's list of successors the name of Eliud appears next to that of David.

The city and cathedral of St. David were repeatedly exposed to the desolating effects of incursive warfare in the early ages, and the events which marked the progress of one had an equal influence on that of the other. In the year 808, during the reign of Cynan Tyndaethwy, they were reduced to ashes by the West Saxons, which disaster was followed by a destructive murrain among the cattle of the surrounding district; and in the reign of Anarawd, in the year 911, St. David's was utterly destroyed by the Danes. On the latter occasion a desperate battle was fought in the vicinity, in which Maylor, one of the Welsh princes, was slain. Bishop Godwin records that, in the time of Samson, the twenty-fifth archbishop, there were seven suffragans to this see, *viz.*, the bishops of Exeter, Bath, Hereford, Llandaf, Bangor, St. Asaph, and Fernes in Ireland: this prelate, in 915, according to Browne Willis, on account of a pestilential disease which then raged here, withdrew to Dol in Brittany, taking his pall with him, where he died; and his successors in the see, either for want of the pall, or for some other reason, were deprived of the title of archbishop, although they still exercised the power of consecrating the Welsh bishops of Llandaf, St. Asaph, and Bangor, until the reign of Henry I., when a Norman ecclesiastic, named Bernard, not chosen by the Welsh clergy, as had been the custom, but forced upon them by the English monarch, yielded an extorted submission to the see of Canterbury, which has continued to the present time; the bishops of St. David's and the other Welsh dioceses being thenceforward suffragans to the primate of all England. The first mention of the archdeaconry of St. David's occurs in this reign, about the year 1128, when it was held by one William, whose successor was the celebrated Giraldus Cambrensis, who was afterwards elected to the bishoprick, but not consecrated. Meanwhile, events of great importance to the city had occurred. In 982, during the reign of Howel ab Ievav, Geofryd, son of the Danish king Harold, laid waste the church of St. David and its possessions; and, towards the close of the same century, the Danes again landed, slew Bishop Ugenau, or Morgenau, and destroyed with fire and sword the inhabitants and their property. The reigning sovereign, whose two sons had been interred here, being unable to restrain the desolating progress of these marauders, was compelled to purchase their departure by paying them a tribute of one penny for every man in his dominions, commonly called "The Tribute of the Black Army," and is said to have died of grief in consequence. In 1077, in the reign of Trahaern ab Caradoc, St. David's was sacked and destroyed by a roving army either of Danes or Norwegians, who landed in great numbers from their ships. But, notwithstanding these disasters, the city rapidly increased in wealth and magnificence, owing principally to the many munificent largesses bestowed at the shrine of its patron saint, two visits to which were anciently deemed as meritorious as one pilgrimage

to Rome. The amount of these offerings is reported to have been so great, that it was divided among the clergy of the establishment by measure, to save the trouble of counting it.

In 1077, William the Conqueror invaded Wales with a great army; but not experiencing the slightest opposition from the natives, he, with his accustomed good policy, changed his military expedition into a pilgrimage, and advanced at the head of his troops to this city, where he offered his devotions at the shrine of St. David, and received the homage of the Welsh princes. This shrine was sacrilegiously pillaged and the city plundered in 1087; and, a few years afterwards, the Danes once more landed, plundered and burnt the church, and, taking possession of the surrounding intrenchments, settled here for some time, during which they perpetrated the most cruel outrages in the adjacent district. In 1090, the descent of the Normans on the modern county of Pembroke commenced; and it is probably to the hardy valour of these invaders that the city of St. David's owed the tranquillity which it afterwards enjoyed. During the prelaty of David Fitzgerald, the immediate successor of Bernard, the Norman bishop, who, in the reign of Henry I., had surrendered the archiepiscopal authority of the see into the hands of the Archbishop of Canterbury, King Henry II. came hither, and, having made his offering at St. David's shrine, was entertained by the bishop. Peter de Leia, the successor of Fitzgerald, finding the cathedral church almost in ruins, from the frequent assaults of the Danes and other piratical invaders, pulled it entirely down, in 1180, and built in its stead a new church, dedicated, as the former had been, to St. Andrew and St. David, and which constitutes the greater part of the present edifice. Prior to the preferment of this prelate, the chapter had elected Giraldus Cambrensis, as the successor of his uncle, Bishop Fitzgerald; but the king, unwilling to elevate to that dignity a man of such influence and talents, refused to ratify their choice. The same body, however, on the death of Peter de Leia, again placed Giraldus at the head of a list of four persons, whom they nominated; but his election not being confirmed, the see remained vacant for six years, whilst Giraldus was endeavouring to procure his consecration to it, and it was ultimately filled by Geoffry de Henelawe, prior of Llanthony, whose successor was Iorwerth, or Gervase, by whom the precentorships in the cathedral were founded, about the year 1225, and in whose prelaty the new tower of the cathedral fell down, in November 1220.

During the war between Henry III. and the disaffected barons, Richard Earl of Pembroke, Mareschal of England, and the most powerful of the barons, attacked this city, in 1233, and barbarously put to death all the king's partisans in it. In March 1248, whilst Anselm was bishop, a great part of the cathedral was thrown down by an earthquake. The office of Treasurer of St. David's was founded in 1259, by Bishop Carew, and the dignity of Chancellor in 1287, by Bishop Thomas Becke, who also established other offices in the cathedral, some of which exist at present, though under different names. During the episcopacy of Becke, King Edward I. and Queen Eleanor, in 1284, came on a pilgrimage to the shrine of St. David. The next bishop was David Martin, who built a chapel, dedicated to St.



Mary, at the eastern end of the cathedral, still occasionally called Bishop Martin's chapel, in which he was interred. He was succeeded by Henry Gower, Chancellor of England, who erected the magnificent episcopal palace of St. David's, the interesting remains of which are so deservedly admired: he died in 1347, and was interred in a chapel, dedicated to St. John, which he had built for his own sepulture under the rood-loft of the cathedral. His immediate successor was John Thoresby, Chancellor of England, and subsequently Archbishop of York; and Bishop Adam Houghton, who was also Chancellor from 1377 to 1379, was another early successor. The latter drew up certain statutes, which were to be observed in the church of St. David's: he also built St. Mary's College, adjoining the northern front of the cathedral, for a master and seven fellows, and endowed it with £100 per annum, and a separate house for each: to this institution John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, was so great a benefactor, as to be reckoned joint founder with the bishop. Bishop Houghton was interred in the chapel of St. Mary; and his second successor was John Gilbert, who was twice appointed Treasurer of England. He was succeeded by Guy Mohun, who was also keeper of the King's Privy Seal, Treasurer of England, and Treasurer of St. Paul's, London. This prelate's immediate successor, Henry Chicheley, afterwards became archbishop of Canterbury, and was accounted the most worthy and benevolent bishop of the age in which he lived. Edward Vaughan, the eighty-second bishop of St. David's, is recorded as the last who contributed materially to the embellishment of the cathedral: he built a most elegant chapel between that of St. Mary and the choir, which he dedicated to the Holy Trinity; and adorned various parts of the building with appropriate embellishments: he also erected St. Justinian's chapel, about a mile from the city, and, dying about the year 1521, was interred in his own chapel, where was formerly a brass plate inscribed to his memory. His successor, Richard Rawlins, died in 1535, and was the last bishop buried in the cathedral. Bishop Barlow, the immediate successor of Rawlins, presided over the see thirteen years, during which, in order, as it is said, (by Brown Willis,) successively to provide for his five daughters, who were married to five bishops, he greatly impoverished it, even taking off the roof of the episcopal palace, for the sake of the lead, and thus occasioning so much damage to that magnificent structure, as to require the revenue of the bishoprick for twelve years to repair; but this object was never attempted, so that it now presents a vast pile of picturesque ruins. Bishop Barlow's successor, Robert Farrar, was also a great dilapidator; but after the fall of his patron, the Duke of Somerset, he was imprisoned by the precentor and canons, and, having continued in confinement during the remainder of the reign of Edward VI., was, on the accession of Mary, adjudged an heretick, and burned at the stake at Carmarthen, in 1555. On Farrar's deprivation, Henry Morgan was elected, in 1553, but was ejected on the accession of Elizabeth, and succeeded by Thomas Younge, the precentor who caused the imprisonment of Farrar, and who was driven into exile in Germany, during the persecutions in the reign of Mary, but finally was made Archbishop of York. His successor in this bishoprick was Richard Davies, a man of great learning,

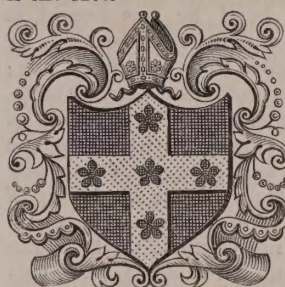
and one of the translators of the Bible: he was succeeded by Richard Milbourne, D.D., who was translated to the see of Carlisle in 1621, and was accounted one of the most learned, pious, benevolent, and public-spirited persons of the age. The next bishop was the celebrated William Laud, D.D., who was subsequently elevated to the archbishoprick of Canterbury, and was beheaded on Tower Hill in 1644. His second successor in this see was Roger Mainwaring, who was imprisoned and subjected to great persecution during the parliamentary war, in the midst of which he died, in 1653. About this period, lands of the value of £3547. 4. 8., were alienated by an ordinance of the parliament from the bishoprick, which continued vacant from the death of Bishop Mainwaring to the election of William Lucy, in 1660. Another vacancy, of five years and eight months, occurred in the see, which was terminated in 1704, by the appointment of George Bull, one of the most eminent divines of the last century. Robert Lowth, prebendary of Durham, who was eminently distinguished for his learning and amiable manners, was elevated to this see in 1766, but was translated in that year to Oxford, and thence to London. Samuel Horsley, the one hundred and fifteenth bishop, was appointed in the year 1788: he was a man of great learning, and early distinguished himself by an intimate acquaintance with the mathematical sciences. Amongst his other publications were, a complete edition of Newton's works, and a translation of Hosea: he was translated to Rochester in 1793, and afterwards to St. Asaph. Thus, with the divines who have since succeeded to this bishoprick, has the see of St. David's had the greatest number of prelates of any in the kingdom: of these, twenty-six were archbishops, and twenty-one more, although they did not bear the title, retained archiepiscopal authority over the other Welsh sees; and many others filled the highest civil offices in the state.

The parish comprises the westernmost portion of the great rocky promontory projecting into St. George's channel, and forming the northern boundary of St. Bride's bay, and also the small islands lying off its extremity, which gave to this headland its ancient name of *Octopitarum*, or *Octo-petrarum*: these islands, with some sunken rocks, occasion in the intervening channels exceedingly strong currents. They are eight in number, of which seven are mere rocks, called "the Bishop and his Clerks;" and the eighth, which is called Ramsey Island, lies about one mile from the main land, and is about three miles in length and one in breadth. At the southern end of the intervening sound is a dangerous reef of rocks, denominated "The Bitches;" and in the middle of it there is a rock much dreaded, called "The Horse," which is covered at high water. The whole of Ramsey Island is elevated, and at each end rises a lofty hill, imparting to it a grand and romantic appearance, and presenting various picturesque groups of rocks: on the summits of these hills, which command prospects of great extent and magnificence, there are divers remains of antiquity, including intrenchments, *carneddau*, &c. The island contains much good arable and pasture land, and is amply supplied with water, the principal stream being powerful enough to turn a mill. The "Bishop and his Clerks," three of which afford scanty pasturage for sheep, are appurtenant to Ramsey: they are all included in this



parish, and are the property of the bishop. At the eastern end of Ramsey, and scarcely separated from it, are two smaller rocky islands, one termed *Ynys y Byry*, or "The Kite's Island," and the other *Ynys y Cantwr*, or "The Precentor's Island," yielding a thick matted herbage, on which a few sheep feed. A little to the north-west of Ramsey there is a bank, which is said to have been formerly noted for its excellent fishery of cod, turbot, soles, &c., long since entirely neglected. The rocky cliffs of this and the other islands are annually the resort of an immense number of migratory birds, including eligugs, razor-bills, puffins, &c., and were anciently likewise distinguished for their breed of falcons. The city of St. David's, exclusively of "the Close," is pleasantly situated on ground sloping gently towards the sea, and at the distance of one mile from it; and consisted formerly of five streets, called respectively High-street, St. Nun's-street, New-street, Ship-street, and Pit-street, but is now reduced in appearance to a mere village, the houses, with very few exceptions besides those of the clergy, being small and meanly built. In the middle of the town stands the High Cross, where the market was formerly held, and funerals were wont to stop, and from which the High-street is continued downward to "the Close," an extensive area at the foot of the hill, which comprises within its precincts the venerable cathedral, the magnificent ruins of the episcopal palace, the habitable houses of some of the dignitaries, and the ruins of several others; the whole exhibiting very interesting remains of the pristine grandeur of the buildings of this ancient city. The Close, which is extra-parochial, is twelve hundred yards in circumference, and was formerly encompassed by an embattled wall, of which there are still some remains: in this wall were four gates, corresponding with the cardinal points; but the only one remaining is the Tower Gate, situated at the bottom of the High-street, and forming the principal entrance into the Close. The small river Allan, which is celebrated for its trout, runs through this area, and is now crossed by a bridge, in lieu of an ancient marble slab, which was polished by the feet of pilgrims, and was superstitiously believed to possess miraculous properties. The only prebendal house now remaining is that of the prebendary of St. Nicholas Penros, besides which there are five other houses for the dignitaries of the cathedral, *viz.*, the precentor, treasurer, chancellor, and the archdeacons of Brecknock and St. David's, which are neat modern buildings, much differing in character from the sacred edifice with which they are connected. This parish is very productive of grain, which in some years is shipped to a considerable extent: a haven is formed by the mouth of the river Allan, at Porth Clais, about one mile from the city, where a pier was constructed, at a very early period, to defend it from the violence of the waves, and was rebuilt in 1722. Of late years the quay has been extended, and the harbour otherwise considerably improved. To this small port, which is a creek to that of Milford, belong seven vessels, averaging about twenty-five tons' burden, which are principally employed during winter in conveying grain (chiefly barley) and butter to Bristol and other ports on the Severn, and during summer in bringing limestone, coal, and culm from the shores of Milford Haven. In the year 1830,

three thousand quarters of grain and two hundred and fifty casks of butter were shipped from this place. The market, which was formerly held on Monday and Thursday, has long been discontinued: fairs are held on March 12th and August 5th. St. David's has no municipal corporation, although there is an officer called mayor, whose duty consists only in collecting the chief-rents belonging to the bishop, within the limits of the city, which is co-extensive with one of the four *cylchs*, or divisions of the parish, called *Cylch y Drêw*, or "the Town Hamlet," the remaining three being denominated *Cylch-Mawr*, *Cylch-Bychan*, and *Cylch-Gwaelod*, "the Larger, the Smaller, and the Lower Hamlets," and all united for the maintenance of the poor. During the recent debates in parliament on the subject of amending the representation of the people, it was proposed by the first Reform Bill that St. David's should be contributory to Haverfordwest, but that arrangement was altered, and it is now wholly omitted in the Act.



Arms of the Bishoprick.

The diocese appears anciently to have comprised the whole of South Wales, and is still of very great extent, containing the four counties of Brecknock, Cardigan, Carmarthen, and Pembroke; the whole of Radnorshire, except six parishes, which belong to the see of Hereford; the deanery of Gower, in the county of Glamorgan, which contains twenty-two parishes; the hundred of Ewyaslacy, in the county of Hereford; and two parishes in each of the counties of Monmouth and Montgomery. The ecclesiastical establishment consists of a bishop (who is also dean), a precentor, chancellor, treasurer, four archdeacons, eight prebendaries, and six canons curial; a sub-chanter, four priest-vicars, four lay-vicars, an organist, six choristers, a master of the grammar school, verger, porter, sexton, and a keeper of the church during time of service. Of these, the precentor, chancellor, and treasurer are, by virtue of their dignities, styled *Residentiarii Nati*; and, in addition to them, three other canons are chosen by the rest of the members, as vacancies occur, from among the archdeacons, prebendaries, and canons curial: these six residentiaries constitute the chapter, and hold an audit annually on the festival of St. James, which has been kept for several ages, and at which they are obliged by the statutes to be present, either in person or by proxy, to receive rents, impose fines, &c. On this occasion they keep by turns a public table, and he at whose expense the entertainment is provided is called "The Master of the Fabrick." The precentor is invested with the privileges of dean, and accordingly takes his seat in convocations, and subscribes in chapter next after the bishop, who is properly dean, and has a stall assigned to him at the entrance into the choir of the cathedral, on the right hand side. Divine service is performed in the cathedral by the eight vicars choral and four choristers, under the direction of the sub-chanter, who has a stall among the prebendaries. The sub-chanter and vicars choral are of themselves a body corporate, having lands of their own, of which they grant leases under a sepa-



rate seal, without the interposition of the chapter. The bishops formerly exercised almost sovereign authority throughout the diocese, particularly over the province of Dewisland, or honour of Pebidiawg, in which their jurisdiction was more absolute than the minor regality of a lordship marcher. In their instruments they called the inhabitants of Dewisland, including St. David's, their subjects; and such as dared to violate rashly, or infringe upon, their statutes, were punished by them. The mayor of St. David's acted in entire subordination to the bishops, whose statutes and mandates it was his duty to enforce; and he held his court in the building which formed the south-east wing of the Tower Gate. The bishop's seneschal, or steward, was usually some person of distinction in the country; and within his jurisdiction the prelate had several inferior courts, from which an appeal lay to the supreme court at his castle of Lawhaden, which place still confers on the bishops the dignity of a baron of the United Kingdom. In some cases the bishop exercised the power of inflicting capital punishment; but on the other hand he was bound to garrison and protect the city and its suburbs, and, by his military tenure, was compelled to be present in war; on which occasion he made his progress with great state, being accompanied from this city, on the first day of his march, by the burgesses, carrying with them the relics and shrine of St. David, so far as permitted their return that night. The privileges of the sanctuary of St. David's were very extensive and much respected: the sanctity of the place was not confined to the limits of the Close, or of the city, but the whole parish, emphatically called in Welsh *Plwyf Tŷ Ddewi*, "the parish of the house of St. David," was overspread with chapels, crosses, and holy wells, some of the last being still held in great repute. In addition to the sumptuous episcopal palace of St. David's, the bishops had castles at Trêvdyn, about six miles distant, Llan-Vydd (now Lamphey), and Lawhaden, in Pembrokeshire; at Llandygwidd, in Cardiganshire; Llanddewi, in Brecknockshire; and Aberguilly, in Carmarthenshire; all which are now in ruins, except the last, where an establishment is still kept up. At present the bishop holds his consistorial court at Carmarthen for the whole of the diocese, at Brecknock for the counties of Brecknock and Radnor, at Haverfordwest for Pembrokeshire, and at Cardigan for Cardiganshire: at each of the last three places the principal registrar appoints a deputy.

The cathedral, dedicated to St. Andrew and St. David, is a magnificent cruciform structure, consisting of a nave, with aisles extending nearly the whole length of the building, a choir and chancel, north and south transepts, and a large square tower of elegant proportions rising from the intersection of the nave and transepts, surmounted by pinnacles at the angles. The exterior, with the exception of an early Norman doorway on the north side, is wholly in the various styles of English architecture: the western front was rebuilt, towards the close of the last century, by Mr. Nash, and displays a fantastic intermixture of these various styles. The principal entrance is through a grand doorway at the west end, called the Bishop's Door; but this is seldom used, the common entrance being by a handsomely enriched porch on the south side. The nave is separated from the aisles by a row of five massive pillars on each

side, alternately round and octagonal, with corresponding pilasters at each end, supporting six arches richly ornamented in the later Norman style, above which is a double series of Norman arches, reaching to the roof of the nave, and occupied in the upper part of the higher range by the windows of the clerestory, every alternate one of which, on the south side, has been closed: there is also a range of five elegant windows, in the English style of architecture, in each of the aisles, opposite the arches which separate them from the nave. The roof of the nave is of Irish oak, divided into compartments, and ornamented with a carved pendent in the centre of each. The choir is entered from the nave by a flight of steps, leading to an arched narrow passage under the rood-loft, the front of which is adorned with a handsome stone screen, erected by Bishop Gower, and accounted, both for design and execution, one of the finest specimens of decorated English architecture: it is comprised within the four lofty arches that support the tower, three of which are of ancient English architecture, and the fourth, which is occupied by the rood-loft, and is supposed, from the decayed state of its pillars, to be the only one remaining of those on which the tower was anciently built by Bishop Peter de Leia, is in the Norman style, but all of them spring from Norman columns: it contains twenty-eight stalls, which are of oak, and the bishop's throne, which was executed at the expense of Bishop Morgan, and, for elegance of design and carved decorations, is probably only surpassed by that in Exeter cathedral: in the north arch, and not in the rood-loft, as is usual, is placed the organ. The chancel, which is separated from the choir, by a low screen, contains a beautiful Mosaic pavement, composed of small tiles, inscribed with religious mottoes and other ingenious devices: the high altar is placed under an elegant design of three arches, said to have been formerly filled with painted glass, which, combined with the elegant window above, consisting of three lancet-shaped compartments, and adorned with the most elaborate tracery, had a rich and beautiful appearance. Immediately beyond the chancel is the chapel erected by Bishop Vaughan, in the reign of Henry VIII., an exquisite specimen of the later style of English architecture, almost rivalling in richness and elegance the chapel of Henry VII. in Westminster Abbey: the roof, which is of freestone, is beautifully designed in fan tracery, and the sculpture, from the great care with which it is preserved by the chapter, appears almost as fresh and perfect as when first executed. Beyond a small intervening passage, and forming the eastern extremity of the cathedral, is the decayed chapel of St. Mary the Virgin, built by Bishop Martin, which has been unroofed for some years, and is rapidly falling into ruins. In the same state also are the aisles eastward from the transepts, which were greatly damaged by Cromwell's soldiers, who unroofed them for the sake of the lead, which they sold to one of their partisans, then in possession of the priory estate at Cardigan, who made use of it in covering the church and priory-house there. From the north aisle a considerable flight of steps forms the ascent into what was formerly the chapter-house, but is now used as a grammar school. Under it is a room of the same dimensions, having an elegant groined roof, and probably that in which the entertainments of the chapter took place at their audits, there being at the upper end a *dais*, as in colleges and



ancient baronial mansions. Both these ruined aisles retain vestiges of their groined roofs, with windows of beautiful proportions in the English style of architecture, and other corresponding decorations. The transepts have no distinguishing architectural feature: in the north transept stood formerly a chapel, dedicated to St. Andrew, and in the south was one dedicated to St. David, and now called the Chanter's. The north-west door of the cathedral opens into a space much obstructed by some heavy and unsightly buttresses, which it was found necessary to erect, for the support of this part of the building. Between this and the ruins of St. Mary's College stood the cloisters, of which only the pillars of the arches are now remaining. The extreme length of the cathedral, including the chapels of Bishop Vaughan and St. Mary, is two hundred and seventy-four feet and a half; its breadth along the transepts, one hundred and eighty-four feet, and the width of the nave and aisles seventy-six feet. Among the monuments are several of great beauty and antiquity: the celebrated shrine of St. David, now scarcely distinguishable from other ancient tombs, occupies a recess on the north side of the chancel, consisting of three arches in the ancient style of English architecture, resting on pillars of great delicacy and beauty, in the central one of which was placed an image of the saint, and on each side were those of St. Patrick and St. Denis: beneath a horizontal slab were four quatrefoil holes, for the offerings of pilgrims, of which two have been closed; and the whole was formerly enriched with precious stones, and veiled with silken drapery. Under the rood-loft are three recumbent effigies, one of which, formerly enclosed on two sides by a railing of brass, is that of Bishop Gower, and the other two are attributed by Browne Willis to Thomas Wallensis, who died in 1255, and Richard de Carew, who died in 1280, though other writers have assigned them to different persons. In the area of the chancel stands the altar-tomb of Edmund Earl of Richmond, the eldest son of Owen Tudor, by Catherine, Queen of Henry V., and father of Henry VII., on which were formerly his effigy and various escutcheons and other ornaments in brass, which were removed by the parliamentarians, who stripped the cathedral of many of its costly decorations: the earl was first interred in the monastery of Grey friars, at Carmarthen, on the dissolution of which his remains are said to have been removed to this place. On the floor of the south side of this portion of the building are the recumbent effigies of Bishops Iorwerth and Anselm; and, under recesses on each side of the altar, are figures of two knights in armour, well executed in freestone. That on the south side, which is in good preservation, is interesting as the memorial of Rhys ab Gruffydd, last prince of South Wales, who died in 1196: the effigy represents a man rather advanced in years, in a recumbent posture, his vizor raised, and his head supported by a helmet, with a sword suspended at his side by a rich belt, a lion rampant sculptured on his breastplate, and another lion supporting his feet. The other effigy is that of a Welsh chieftain, named Rhys Gryg, and represents a younger man, similarly accoutred. Near it is the handsome tomb of Treasurer Lloyd, who died in the reign of James I. In the roofless aisle on the north side of the chancel are the mutilated effigies of a Knight Templar and a monk, another effigy with an inscription much defaced, and two

arched ornamented recesses. Beneath a richly adorned canopy, on the south side of the dilapidated chapel of St. Mary, lie the remains of its founder; and on the opposite side is the tomb of Bishop Houghton. The decayed aisle on the south side of the chancel contains the monuments of various dignitaries of the cathedral, one of which is supposed to be the effigy of Giraldus Cambrensis, who was interred here. In the north transept, in which there is an effigy of some dignitary, many relics of antiquity, found in the cathedral, and some of them very curious, are deposited. In this part of the building there is a place separated by a railing, said to have been anciently used as a penitentiary; and in the wall are some round holes, by means of which the voices of the priests officiating in the choir might be heard by the inmates. Near the west end of the cathedral stands a building, erected towards the close of the last century, as a chapter-house; but, from the inelegance and impurity of its style of architecture, and as it obstructs one of the finest views of the venerable cathedral, it has been the object of general censure. Besides a room in which the affairs of the chapter are transacted, it comprises a handsome apartment, forty-two feet long, in which the audit entertainments of the chapter take place, with kitchens, cellars, &c., the whole being surmounted by a fancifully ornamented spire. The records of the minor chapter are kept in a room over the porch on the south side of the cathedral.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Precentor and Upper Chapter of St. David's. The cathedral is used as the parish church, divine service being performed in the nave four times every Sunday, twice in the English, and twice in the Welsh language. Formerly there were several small chapels in the parish, most of them situated near the sea-side, adjacent to the landing-places, so as to attract the devotion of seamen and passengers; and the offerings received at them were carried to the cathedral, and there divided every Saturday among the canons and priests. Of these, the names of four have been preserved, *viz.*, St. Justinian's, St. Non's, Capel y Pystill, and Capel y Gwyrhyd. St. Justinian's is said to have been built by Bishop Vaughan, and now forms a very interesting ruin in a beautiful and romantic situation: there are also some remains of St. Non's. There are two places of worship each for Calvinistic Methodists and Independents, and one for Wesleyan Methodists. The grammar school attached to the cathedral affords instruction to six choristers, the number fixed by Bishop Morgan, in 1501, who conferred upon it a handsome endowment, which, however, it lost at the time of the Reformation, by the act for the suppression of chantries: the master is appointed by the upper chapter, and receives from that body a stipend of £20 per annum; and each of the choristers receives £3. 8. per annum from the same source. Another free school has been established by the upper chapter, from whose funds it is principally supported: there are at the present time upwards of eighty boys and fifty girls in this school. St. David's is one of the four parishes participating in the munificent bequest of the late Dr. Jones, made in the year 1698, for the relief of the poor and the ap-



Winchester, whose conduct towards his vassals was highly oppressive, in depriving them of several of the privileges conferred by Lacy. On the execution of Spencer, this lordship was again forfeited to the crown, and was conferred by Edward III. on Roger Mortimer, Earl of March. This nobleman having suffered the same fate as his two predecessors, that monarch assigned the lordship to William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, who died in 1333; and on the reversal of the attainder of the Earl of March, it was restored to his grandson Roger, and, passing to Richard Plantagenet, Earl of Cambridge, by marriage with Anne, sister of Roger, the last Earl of March, it came to the house of York, and thus became vested in the crown. During the war between the rival houses of York and Lancaster, Denbigh was held for Henry VI. by his half-brother, Jasper Tudor, Earl of Pembroke, from whom it was taken by the Yorkists in 1460; but in 1468, Pembroke, returning with an army of two thousand Welshmen, burnt the town in revenge. Leland informs us that Edward IV. was besieged in the castle, from which he was permitted to retire only upon condition of leaving the kingdom for ever. The castle appears to have remained from this time in the possession of the crown, till the year 1563, when Elizabeth granted it, with the lordship, to Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, whom she created Baron of Denbigh. The conduct of this nobleman rendered him obnoxious to the inhabitants, whom his extortions drove into open rebellion against his authority: various tumultuary proceedings took place, in which some of the gentlemen resident in the neighbourhood being implicated, were tried and beheaded. The queen, in order to allay the strong feelings of discontent which the rapacity of the earl had excited, secured to the tenants by charter, in the nineteenth year of her reign, the quiet possession of their property within the borough, and conferred upon the burgesses several new and valuable privileges; and the earl, with a view to make some satisfaction for the evils he had inflicted, and to conciliate the minds of the inhabitants, commenced at his own cost the erection of an elegant chapel in the castle, of which he laid the first stone on the 1st of March, 1579, as appears from a foundation stone now in the south-east corner of the building. This edifice, which was intended as a parochial church for the inhabitants, was from some circumstance not completed, and the walls, which had been raised to a considerable height, were left to moulder into ruin.

On the subsequent attainder of the Earl of Leicester, the castle and lordship again reverted to the crown; and from this time till the commencement of the civil war of the seventeenth century, very few circumstances of historical interest are recorded. In 1643, the castle was garrisoned for the king, at the sole expense of the inhabitants of Denbigh and the gentry resident in the vicinity, and the custody of it was given to William Salusbury, a gentleman in the neighbourhood, who repaired it at his own expense, and raised and maintained an armed force sufficient to resist every effort made by General Mytton to reduce it for the parliament. The royalists retained possession of the castle, which after the disastrous battle of Rowton Moor, in September 1645, afforded an asylum to the vanquished monarch, who occupied for two nights the tower, now in ruins,

which from that circumstance was called *Siambr y Brenin*, or "the royal apartment." On the first of October, in that year, the parliamentarians obtained an important advantage over the royalists, within sight of the castle, on which they afterwards made an unsuccessful attack, that fortress having resisted all their efforts to obtain possession of it, and after the battle afforded an asylum to the wounded royalists who were left upon the field. In 1646, the parliamentarians obtained a victory over the king's forces at Llanrhaiadr, about two miles from Denbigh; but they made no impression on the castle, which the garrison continued to defend with unabated intrepidity, till September 1646, when, in obedience to a special order from the king, dated at Newcastle, the governor capitulated on honourable terms, and, after the treaty was signed, delivered the keys to General Mytton, on the 26th of October; this being the last fortress which held out for the king. Soon after the Restoration, the fortifications were dismantled by order of Charles II. William III. granted the castle and lordship of Denbigh, together with several large possessions in Wales, to the Earl of Portland, which excited a considerable ferment among the inhabitants, who having sent a petition to parliament, which gave rise to some animated debates in the House of Commons, the grant was rescinded, and the castle and lordship are still under the superintendence of a steward appointed by patent from the crown.

The town is picturesquely situated nearly in the centre of the rich and beautiful Vale of Clwyd, partly at the base, and partly on the acclivity, of a steep, isolated, rocky eminence, the summit of which is crowned by the venerable remains of the castle. At a distance it presents an interesting appearance, which, however, is not entirely sustained on entering the town. It consists of three principal and several smaller streets and lanes, and is well paved and lighted, but only scantily supplied with water, which is brought from several springs, each at some distance from the more respectable portions of the town. Leland informs us that there were formerly several streets within the walls, but that, at the period at which he wrote, namely, in the reign of Henry VIII., most of the houses were in a dilapidated condition, or wholly removed. The environs abound with beautiful and richly varied scenery; the air is remarkably salubrious; the land in the vicinity is rich and in a high state of cultivation; and in the immediate neighbourhood are numerous splendid seats and elegant villas, inhabited by opulent families, whom the advantages of its situation have induced to select Denbigh for their residence. Considerable improvements are now in progress, by widening the narrower streets and excavating the rock, by which some good levels have been obtained, and various other advantages gained. The great Eisteddvod, or congress of bards, was held here on the 16th and two following days of September, 1828, and was honoured by the presence of His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, and most of the nobility and gentry of the surrounding country. The proceedings were opened by reading the old proclamation, usual on such occasions; after which the prize compositions were read, and the medals were distributed by some of the ladies to the successful candidates. The Duke of Sussex, on his arrival on the second day, was met by the corporation at the con-



finer of the borough, where an address was read and the freedom of the borough presented to His Royal Highness, who, having returned a suitable reply, proceeded to the area beneath the castle, where the competitors recited their *englynion*, and displayed their trials of skill in performing on the harp: some of the most eminent vocalists from the metropolis were engaged at the festival, which was also enlivened by the Denbighshire band, during the intervals of the public performances. A Welsh literary society was formed here a few years ago, which now languishes for want of sufficient support: a news-room and reading-room have been for some time established, to which the terms of subscription are £2.2. per annum. The trade is principally confined to the supply of the inhabitants, for whose use commodities of every kind are brought by land carriage from the port of Rhuddlan, eight miles distant. Some tanneries are carried on to a considerable extent; and on the banks of a stream, at a small distance from the town, are two small cotton-mills, principally employed in spinning for the manufacturers at Manchester. The manufacture of gloves and shoes, from skins made at Dôlgelley and other places, was formerly carried on here to some extent: about seven thousand dozen pair of gloves were annually sent to London, Bristol, and other places; and the shoes were sent to Liverpool, and there shipped for the West Indies, &c. A most extensive bleaching establishment was erected at Llewini, in 1780, by the Rt. Hon. Thomas Fitzmaurice, who, in order to encourage his tenantry in Ireland, and to promote the national manufacture, received his rents in brown linen cloth, which was sent to this place to be bleached; and for this purpose he erected, at an expense exceeding £20,000, one of the most complete and elegant structures of that kind in the kingdom, in which, under the immediate superintendence of the proprietor, more than four thousand pieces of Irish linen were bleached annually. After his decease, the works were carried on by some persons from Lancashire, for a few years; but this extensive concern has been discontinued, and the buildings have been taken down. The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday (the former being the principal), and are plentifully supplied with provisions, which are sold at a moderate price: fairs are held on the Saturday before Palm-Sunday, May 14th, June 28th, July 18th, September 25th, and the second Wednesday in November.

The first charter of incorporation obtained by the inhabitants was granted by Henry Lacy, in the reign of Edward I., and was confirmed by Edward III., who conferred on the inhabitants additional privileges, which were subsequently confirmed by Richard II., Henry IV., Henry VI., Richard III., Henry VII., Henry VIII., Elizabeth, and Charles II.: by the two last of these charters the government is vested in two aldermen, a recorder, two bailiffs (who are also sheriffs), two coroners, and twenty-five common-councilmen, assisted by a town-clerk and other officers. The aldermen are annually chosen, at Michaelmas, from among the common-councilmen, by whom the recorder is elected; the common-councilmen, as vacancies occur, are chosen by the burgesses at large, and the town-clerk by the council, though the charter contains a reservation in favour of the king. The aldermen are justices of the peace, exercising exclusive jurisdiction within the borough, the

limits of which, as defined by the charter, extend to the distance of one mile and a half in every direction from the centre of the town, including the parish of Denbigh, formerly called Whitchurch parish, and parts of the parishes of Hênllan and Llanrhaiaadr: in the following year they succeed to the coronership. This borough first received the elective franchise in the 27th of Henry VIII., and in the year following Ruthin and Holt were made contributory boroughs, since which time they have continued jointly to return one member to parliament: by the late act for amending the representation of the people, Wrexham has been added to this district of boroughs. The right of election is vested in the resident burgesses, if duly qualified according to the provisions of the act, amounting at present to three hundred and forty-eight, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the number of tenements of this value within the limits of the borough, which were not altered by the late Boundary Act, is two hundred and sixty: the bailiffs are the returning officers. The freedom is obtained only by gift of the corporation, who acknowledge no inchoate right in sons of freemen, apprentices, or others. The corporation hold quarterly courts of session, for determining on all offences, except such as are capital, arising within the borough; and a court of record is held every alternate Friday, in which the bailiffs preside, for the recovery of debts and the determination of pleas to any amount: the process in this latter court is by attachment against goods for debts of £2 and upwards. A court baron for the lordship is held by prescription, every three weeks, under the steward, who also appoints a recorder, in which debts to the amount of forty shillings and upwards are recoverable: this court has also the power of attaching goods, and, in default of special bail, of issuing a writ of *fiery facias*, for levying on them for the debt and costs. The Easter and Michaelmas quarter sessions for the county are held here. The town-hall, which is situated in the centre of the market-place, was erected in 1572, by Robert Earl of Leicester, and was considerably improved and enlarged in 1780: it is an extensive and commodious building, comprising in the lower part a covered area for the use of the market, above which are the council-chamber, in which the business of the corporation is transacted, and a court-room, in which are held the quarter sessions and court of record for the borough, and the Easter and Michaelmas sessions for the county.

The living consists of a discharged rectory and vicarage, united by an act passed in the 29th and 30th of Charles II., in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £23. 17. 3½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The ancient parochial church, dedicated to St. Marcellus, and now in a very dilapidated condition, is situated at Whitchurch, about a mile from the town, from which place the rectory was transferred by act of parliament to Denbigh, which was made the head of the parish. In the porch of this church are two monumental effigies, in brass, and in a kneeling posture, of Richard Myddelton, of Gwaynynog, governor of Denbigh castle, in the reigns of Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth, and of his



wife Jane, both of whom were here interred; the latter died in 1565, and the former ten years subsequently. In the body of the building there is an ill-executed mural monument to the memory of the learned Welsh antiquary, Humphrey Llwyd, of Foxhall, near Denbigh, who is represented kneeling beneath a range of small arches, and in Spanish costume. He was born in 1527, and, in addition to his great skill in physic and music, is celebrated as an excellent rhetorician, a sound philosopher, and a profound antiquary: he was representative in parliament for his native place, and, dying prematurely, was interred here in 1568. There is also a large altar-tomb to the memory of Sir John Salusbury, and his lady, the former of whom died in 1578. A neat mural monument on the western wall has been erected, by the Gwyneddigion Society in London, to the memory of Thomas Edwards, of Nant, commonly called Twm o' Nant, the celebrated Cambrian poet, who died on the 3rd of April, 1810, at the age of seventy-one, and was interred in the churchyard. All parochial duties are now performed at the chapel of St. Hilary, within the walls of the castle, with the exception of funerals, which still take place at Whitchurch, there being no cemetery attached to the former. The chapel of St. Hilary is a spacious structure, in the later style of English architecture, with various modern additions, by which its original character, especially in the northern part, has been materially destroyed. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists: that belonging to the Calvinistic Methodists is large and commodious. The free grammar school was founded in 1727, by subscriptions from thirty-three individuals, amounting to £340. 2., which was vested in the purchase of an estate in the parish of Tremerechion, county of Flint, now under the management of three trustees: the representatives of the original subscribers have the privilege of nominating one boy for every £5 so subscribed: the present income is £70 per annum, and there are twenty boys on the foundation. The Blue-coat charity school was founded, pursuant to the will of Mrs. Oldfield, dated in 1714, whereby she bequeathed lands in the parish of Llanrhaiadr, now producing £90 per annum, for its endowment, which was subsequently augmented by a bequest of £200 by Mr. Morgan Evans, with which land, now producing £22 per annum, has been purchased: there are twenty-four boys upon the foundation, who are clothed and educated from these funds. A National school in connexion with the parent institution, built by subscription in 1816, and in which eighty-six boys and one hundred girls are instructed, has been incorporated with the Blue-coat charity school, and is principally supported by subscription. Numerous charitable bequests have been made for distribution among the poor, amounting in the aggregate to more than £1700; but nearly the whole has been lost by mismanagement or neglect.

Contiguous to the town are the remains of a priory of Carmelite, or White friars, founded before the year 1289, and dedicated to St. Mary, by John Salusbury, of Lleweni, who, from an inscription on a mutilated brass plate, discovered some time since, appears to have been buried in the conventual church of the priory, which was the mausoleum of the founder's family until the period of the Reformation. The remains consist

principally of the church, now converted into a malt-house, of which the eastern window is a fine composition, in the later style of English architecture, and in excellent preservation: the roof also, which is a beautiful specimen of carved oak, is still entire. Various mutilated effigies, and fragments of tombs, bearing inscriptions in some instances much defaced, have been discovered among the ruins of this once stately structure. The castle is situated on the summit of the Caled-Vryn, an isolated limestone rock, rising abruptly to the height of two hundred and forty feet from the western boundary of the Vale of Clwyd, and encloses an area of considerable extent: the principal entrance is on the north, under a lofty and magnificent arch, which is nearly entire, and flanked by two large towers, now in ruins; above it is a niche, in which is a robed figure of the founder, Henry Lacy, in a sitting posture: the whole of the rooms and towers are in a state of the utmost dilapidation. The citadel is surrounded with walls, a mile and a quarter in circumference, which enclose the whole of the ancient town: the principal entrance is on the north-west, and is defended by two majestic towers, which are nearly entire: from these the walls extend round the brow of the hill, on the most elevated and precipitous parts of which numerous lofty towers have been erected, forming together one of the strongest bulwarks in the kingdom. There were two gates on the line of wall, called the Exchequer gate and the Burgeses' gate, the former from having been the place where the court for the lordship was held, and the latter from having been appropriated to the same use by the burgeses. Within these walls are the ruins of the church, or chapel, founded by the Earl of Leicester, and the chapel of St. Hilary, formerly appropriated to the use of the garrison, and now the parochial church. The former appears to have been of very large dimensions: the walls enclose a considerable area, now covered with grass, in which horses and cattle are depastured: of the original building one lofty arched gateway alone remains, of which, according to a vulgar prophecy, the key-stone will one day fall on the head of the most illustrious man in Denbigh. Within the walls of the fortress are numerous cottages, which materially diminish the interest commonly excited by these extensive ruins; and on the south-west front of the castle, and on the boundary wall on this side, are an extensive terrace and bowling-green, commanding one of the richest and most interesting views of the fertile Vale of Clwyd, embracing the whole of the eastern portion of this beautiful and finely varied tract, and terminated by the ocean at Llandulas bay, and on the south by the whole range of the mountains of Clwyd, with their numerous camps and tumuli. On this delightful spot, the grand congress of the Bards, called the Great Eisteddvod, was held in 1828.

According to Leland, a chapel of ease was built here by a person named Fleming, after whom it was called Capel Fleming; and near it anciently stood an almshouse, founded by the same individual, and built of hewn stone, which, in Leland's time, had already fallen into decay: no traces of either of these buildings are now visible. Among eminent men who have been connected with this place, in addition to those already noticed, was Sir Hugh Myddelton, who was born at Galt Hill, within half a mile of the town: he was alderman of Denbigh



in 1597, and in the following year presented the corporation with two maces, and two elegant cups of silver. In 1608, Sir Hugh succeeded in bringing the New River to London, upon which occasion he received the honour of knighthood, and in 1622 was raised to the baronetage: he represented the borough in many successive parliaments, and died in 1631. In the park of Gwynnynog, about two miles from the town, a monument, consisting of a tall Grecian urn, resting on a square pedestal, has been erected to the memory of Dr. Samuel Johnson: on one side is inscribed the time of his death, and on the other an inscription records that the spot was often dignified by the presence of that great moralist, whose writings, "exactly conformative to the principles of Christianity, gave ardour to virtue and confidence to truth." Denbigh gives the title of earl to the family of Fielding. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £917. 3.

DENBIGHSHIRE, a maritime county of NORTH WALES, bounded on the north by Flintshire, the Irish sea, and a detached part of Carnarvonshire; on the west by Carnarvonshire; on the south by Merionethshire and Montgomeryshire; on the south-east by the English county of Salop; on the east by a detached portion of Flintshire; and on the north-east by the English county of Chester. It extends from 52° 48' to 53° 18' (N. Lat.), and from 2° 54' to 3° 47' (W. Lon.); and includes an area, according to Evans' Map of North Wales, of three hundred and eighty-seven thousand six hundred statute acres, or nearly six hundred and six square miles. The population, in 1831, was 83,167.

At the period of the Roman invasion of Britain, the territory now forming the county of Denbigh, in Welsh called *Sir Dinbech*, was included in the country of the *Ordovices*, a people who, according to Whitaker, extended their dominion over North Wales, from the districts now forming the county of Salop, a great part of which, on their advance towards the north-west, fell into the possession of the *Cornavii*. Under the Roman sway it formed a portion of *Venedotia*, one of the minor divisions of the great province of *Britannia Secunda*, but retains hardly any trace of its occupation by that people. No station is known to have been situated within its limits; and the only roads connected with it were, a branch of the Watling-street, which crossed the northern parts of it, from the station *Varis*, at Bodvari, on the western confines of Flintshire, to that of *Conovium*, at *Caerhên*, near Aberconway, in Carnarvonshire; and the *Via Devana*, which, from the station *Deva*, at Chester, passed southward within or near the eastern confines of Denbighshire towards that of *Nidus*, at Neath, in Glamorganshire. Nothing of importance is recorded concerning this territory until the reign of Offa, the Anglo-Saxon king of Mercia, who, to put an end to the predatory incursions made by the Welsh into the western parts of his dominions, led a powerful army against them, pursued them to their fastnesses, and extorted a peace on his own terms: by these means he annexed to his former dominions extensive districts, until then possessed by the native Britons, which he colonized with a Saxon population, and separated from the territories of the Welsh by the vast ditch and rampart which bears his name, extending from the æstuary of the Dee to the banks of the Wye, and including in the Mercian territory part of the present county of Denbigh. To the

eastward of this is another similar boundary line, running nearly parallel with it, at a distance varying from five hundred yards to three miles, and called *Wat's Dyke*, of the formation of which there is no authentic record. Offa's Dyke, however, prevented not the hostile incursions of the Welsh into the Saxon territories; and the Saxons retaliated by making dreadful ravages on the more accessible parts of the country of the Cymry. Egbert, in the year after his accession to the throne of Wessex, entered North Wales with a formidable army, devastated the whole country to the foot of the Snowdon mountains, and seized upon the seigniory of Rhyvonioc, in Denbighland. On the death of Rhodri Mawr, or Roderic the Great, sovereign of all Wales, the greater part of this county became included in the principality of North Wales, called by the Welsh *Gwynedd*, and the seat of the government of which was at Aberfraw, in Anglesey; while those parts of it lying eastward and southward of the Vale of Clwyd were included in the sovereignty of Powys, the seat of government being at Mathraval, near *Meivôd*, in Montgomeryshire. Anarawd, the son of Roderic, who succeeded to his kingdom of Gwynedd in 877, was, a few years afterwards, applied to for an asylum in his dominions by the remainder of the Strath-Clyde Britons of the North, who had been long harassed by the Danes, Saxons, and Scots, and had lost Constantine, their king, in battle. Anarawd received them on the condition of their recovering a portion of the Saxon territory, on which to settle, and of their defending it by arms: under the conduct of one Hobart, they easily dispossessed the Saxons of the country between the Dee and the Conway, of which they remained in quiet possession until Eadred Earl of Mercia began to make preparations for regaining the territory from which he had been so summarily expelled. The Britons, receiving early intelligence of his designs, removed their cattle and goods beyond the Conway, and being promptly joined by Anarawd with a powerful body of forces, this prince completely defeated the Saxons at Cymryd, about two miles from the town of Aberconway, and pursued them into Mercia, whence his troops returned to their own country loaded with spoil. The northern Britons were allowed to establish a separate state in the conquered country, which included the greater part of the counties of Denbigh and Flint, and received from its inhabitants the name of Strath-Clwyd, or Ystrad-Clwyd, from its being traversed by the river Clwyd. In the contests maintained for the sovereignty of Wales between the sons of Hywel Dda and those of Edwal Voel, the former, assembling their forces in South Wales, laid waste the territory of North Wales, as far as the river Conway, on the banks of which they were encountered by the latter at Llanrwst, where, after a sanguinary conflict, the sons of Edwal Voel were victorious, and, pursuing their enemies into South Wales, they retaliated upon their territories the evils which had been inflicted upon their own.

From this period no event peculiarly affecting Denbighshire is recorded, until after the conquest of England by the Normans. Henry II., leading a large army into North Wales, in the year 1157, drove Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, out of his camp near Northop in Flintshire; and the latter took up a strong position, since called *Cil Owain*, or "Owain's Retreat," near the city of St. Asaph: on Henry's further advance, Owain



retreated to Bryn y Pin, a still stronger post, situated about five miles to the west of St. Asaph, in this county, and soon after concluded a peace with the English monarch, among other conditions of which he and his chieftains submitted to do homage to Henry. A few years after this, all the princes of Wales, with Owain at their head, entered into a confederacy for the recovery of their independence; and the first enterprise of the revolt was an inroad by Davydd, son of Owain, into Flintshire, whence he carried off the inhabitants and the cattle, and brought them into the Vale of Clwyd. Henry advanced with a small army to Rhuddlan, in Flintshire, but soon returned into England, where, having assembled the choicest troops from every part of his dominions, he advanced into Powys by way of Oswestry in Shropshire. The combined forces of the Welsh assembled to oppose him at Corwen, a little beyond the southern border of Denbighshire; and Henry, desirous of bringing them to action, led his army to the Ceiriog, a small river in the south-eastern part of the county, the woods on the banks of which he ordered to be cut down, to escape the danger of ambuscades. In attempting to force a bridge over this river, the English monarch was aimed at by a Welshman, whose arrow would inevitably have pierced his body, had not Hubert de St. Clair, constable of Colchester, sprung forward and received it in his own. While the English were cutting down the woods, a strong party of Welsh, without any orders from their leaders, being acquainted with the ford, crossed the river, and suddenly attacked the van of Henry's army, which was composed of pikemen; and in the warm action that ensued many were slain on both sides. Henry, however, effected the passage, and advanced across the south-eastern part of this county and the Berwyn mountains to the confines of Merionethshire, where he encamped for several days, the Welsh being posted upon the opposite heights, losing no opportunity of cutting off his supplies. The English army was at length reduced to great distress, and its difficulties were rendered still greater by sudden and violent rains; so that Henry was constrained to return into England with great loss of men and ammunition: in revenge for the disappointment of his designs, he commanded the eyes of the hostages, which he had previously received, to be plucked out: this defeat has generally been called the battle of Crogen. After the death of Llewelyn, the last prince of North Wales, his brother Davydd held a meeting of the Welsh chieftains at Denbigh, of which he possessed the lordship, in which it was determined to maintain the war against the attacks of the English. This task, however, proved far beyond their strength; and Davydd, being soon afterwards taken prisoner near this place, was put to death as a traitor by the English monarch. About the period of the subjugation of Wales by Edward I., the eastern parts of this county fell into the hands of English possessors, under very peculiar circumstances: Emma, widow of Gruffydd ab Madoc, who died in 1270, disagreeing with her husband's relatives respecting the education of her sons (or, as Mr. Pennant thinks, her grandsons), obtained possession of the eldest two, and delivered them over as wards to Edward I. One of them, named Madoc, with his inheritance of Bromfield and Yale, was placed by that monarch in charge of John Earl Warren; and Llewelyn, the other youth, with his patrimony of Chirk

and Nanheudwy, in that of Roger Mortimer, third son of Roger Mortimer, the son of Ralph Lord Mortimer, of Wigton. These noblemen having obtained possession of the territories above-mentioned, conspired together, and caused the sons of Gruffydd to be drowned in the river Dee; after the perpetration of which murder they each received from the king a grant of the estates of their respective wards, dated at Rhuddlan, October 27th, 1281, with the exception of the castle of Hope, and the lands thereto appertaining, which Edward retained in his own possession. The first-mentioned lordship continued in the family of the Warrens until the year 1347, when it descended by an heiress to the Fitz-Alans, Earls of Arundel, who purchased from John, grandson of Roger Mortimer, the lordship of Chirk and Nanheudwy: these united domains remained with the Fitz-Alans for several generations, and at last, after repeated attainders and forfeitures of different heirs, became finally vested in the crown.

The lordship of Denbigh was bestowed by Edward I. upon Henry Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, who, among other conciliatory concessions to his new vassals, granted them permission to kill all kinds of wild animals, except in certain parts reserved for his own amusement: but the exercise of these privileges seems to have been abridged by his successors, for, in the reign of Henry VI., five parks are enumerated in this lordship, *viz.*, Moylewike, Caresnodooke, Kyfford, Bagh, and Posey, the rangership of which that monarch gave to Owen Tudor. Lacy erected a castle to secure his new acquisition, and converted the neighbouring village into a walled town, thus laying the foundation of the future importance of the present county town. A wide-spread revolt soon compelled Edward again to head an expedition into North Wales, on which occasion the Earl of Lincoln, to preserve his newly-erected castle of Denbigh, advanced before the king, and, arriving under its walls on November 11th, 1294, was suddenly attacked by the Welsh insurgents, who, encouraged by the situation of the English, were desirous of hazarding their fortunes upon the issue of a single battle, in which the English forces were defeated and compelled to retire. From the Earl of Lincoln the lordship descended to Thomas Earl of Lancaster, who married that nobleman's daughter Alicia, and, after whose attainder, Edward II. gave it to his favourite, Hugh le Despencer. After the execution of the latter nobleman, Edward III. bestowed it on Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, who being a few years after attainted of high treason, the seigniorship of Denbigh was granted by the same monarch to William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury; but it was soon restored to the family of Mortimer, in which it remained until conveyed by marriage to Richard Duke of York, on the accession of whose son Edward to the throne of England, it became vested in the crown. Queen Elizabeth, in the sixth year of her reign, granted it to her favourite, Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, at the same time creating him Baron Denbigh; but on the attainder of this nobleman, the title and estates reverted to the crown. In 1696, William III. issued a patent, under the great seal, conferring on William Earl of Portland the lordships of Denbigh, Bromfield, and Yale, without regard to the tenures of persons then occupying various parts of such estates, by compositions, rents, royal payments, and services to the crown, or to the Prince











of Wales, on whom it had been usually settled for his support: but the Welsh landholders, aware that such an unqualified grant would encroach upon their liberty and property, and form a dangerous precedent, applied to their representatives to state their grievances before parliament; and the Commons, after due deliberation, presented a petition to the king, from the whole House, earnestly requesting him to recall his grant of the above-mentioned lordships, with which the king complied. The lordship of Denbigh, with the *forests* (as they are legally termed) of Bromfield and Yale, still form a part of the landed possessions of the crown.

The other grand seigniorial territory in this county, namely, the lordship of Ruthin, was granted by Edward I. to Reginald Grey, second son of Lord Grey, of Wilton, in whose descendants it remained until the reign of Henry VII., when, for some valuable consideration, it was conveyed to the crown by George Grey, Earl of Kent, and Baron Ruthin, in whose family the latter title continued until the death of Charles Grey, eighth Earl of Kent, after which it descended, by female heirs, through the families of Longueville and Yelverton, to that of Talbot, by which it is now enjoyed. The lordship of Ruthin, after its conveyance to the crown, seems to have been possessed by the Earl of Warwick, and subsequently formed part of the estates belonging to the Myddeltons of Chirk castle, and in the early part of the present century was vested in three co-heiresses of that family: by a decree of Chancery, in 1819, it was finally settled on Miss Myddelton, the present owner. Richard II., during his expedition into Ireland, deposited a vast amount of treasure in the castle of Holt, in this county, which had been originally erected by Earl Warren, and which was delivered up to Bolingbroke, in 1399, prior to the deposition of that unfortunate monarch. During a fair holden at Ruthin, in the year 1400, the Welsh chieftain, Owain Glyndwr, suddenly made a descent upon that place, attacked its castle without success, and, after pillaging the inhabitants and burning the town, returned to the mountains. In the wars of the Roses, Edward IV. is said by Leland to have been besieged in the castle of Denbigh, on which occasion he entered into a compact with the Lancastrians, by which he was allowed a safe retreat, on condition that he should leave the realm, and never return. Denbigh, among several other strong places in Wales, was held, during the latter part of the year 1459, by Jasper Tudor, Earl of Pembroke, in behalf of his half-brother, Henry VI.; but in the following year it was taken by the Yorkists. In 1468, however, the earl is said to have returned into Wales, and being joined by a large body of forces, he pillaged and burned the town of Denbigh. The statute of the 27th of Henry VIII., which for ever abrogated the peculiar jurisdictions of the lordships marcher, at the same time incorporated the lands subject to such jurisdictions in new and additional counties, of which this of Denbigh is one. In the year 1643, during the great civil war of the seventeenth century, Holt castle, which had been garrisoned for the king, was taken for the parliament by the troops under Sir William Brereton and Sir Thomas Myddelton, the latter of Chirk castle, in this county, which he represented in parliament: it was soon after retaken by the royalists, but, in April 1646, was again compelled to surrender to the parliamentary

forces, after a vigorous siege of about two months. After the retreat of Charles I. from Chester, in 1645, he took refuge for some time at Denbigh. In November, the parliamentary forces under General Mytton gained an important victory, near that town, over the royalist troops commanded by Sir William Vaughan, slaying about one hundred, taking nine hundred prisoners, and totally dispersing the remainder. The castle of Denbigh, nevertheless, remained in the undisputed possession of the royalists until July of the following year, when it was besieged by General Mytton, to whom it surrendered on the 3rd of November ensuing. In the mean time the castle of Ruthin, which had been first attacked by the same commander in the middle of February, had surrendered to him in the middle of April. In 1659, Sir Thomas Myddelton, in concert with Sir George Booth, having declared too precipitately in favour of the restoration of Charles II., the castle of Chirk was besieged and taken by the troops under the command of General Lambert.

Denbighshire is in the diocese of St. Asaph (excepting fourteen parishes, which are in that of Bangor), and in the province of Canterbury: the portion in the first-mentioned diocese is included in the archdeaconry of St. Asaph, and deaneries of Rhôs, Bromfield and Yale, and Marchia: the fourteen parishes of the latter are in the immediate jurisdiction of the Bishop of Bangor, and form the deanery of Dyfryn Clwyd: the total number of parishes is fifty-eight, of which twenty-three are rectories, twenty-one vicarages, and fourteen perpetual curacies. For purposes of civil government it is divided into the six hundreds of Bromfield, Chirk, Isaled, Isdulas, Ruthin, and Yale. It contains the borough and market towns of Denbigh, Ruthin, and Wrexham, the last having been added to the district of boroughs by the late Reform Act; the borough of Holt, and the market towns of Llangollen and Llanrwst. One knight was formerly returned to parliament for the shire, and one representative is now returned for Denbigh and the three other boroughs conjointly: but the county is now entitled, under the late act, to the return of two members, who, with the member for the boroughs, are elected at Denbigh: the polling-places are Denbigh, Llangollen, Llanrwst, and Wrexham. This county is included in the North Wales circuit: the assizes are held at Ruthin, and the quarter sessions at Wrexham and Denbigh alternately; the county gaol is at Ruthin, and the county houses of correction, or bridewells, are at Ruthin and Wrexham. There are thirty-six acting magistrates. The parochial rates raised in the county for the year ending March 25th, 1830, amounted to £41,139, and the expenditure to £41,311, of which £34,272 was applied to the relief of the poor.

The form of this county is extremely irregular; and beyond its south-eastern extremity is a detached portion, comprising part of the village of Llanymynech, bounded on the west by the river Tanat, and on the south by the Vyrnwy (which streams separate it from Montgomeryshire), and on the east and north by Shropshire. Its surface and scenery are much diversified; and the rugged and mountainous features of the principality are here conspicuous, though frequently softened into picturesque beauty by an intermixture of varied fertility. The hundred of Yale, in the eastern part of the county, is for the most part mountainous, bleak, and



barren. This elevated district, almost the only produce of which is heath, is formed by the Clwydian and Hiraethog range of mountains, which, with its dependent hills, also form the greater part of the elevated wastes which occupy so much of every other district of the county: this range is in the form of the Roman letter U, its two sides running parallel with each other, and enclosing the beautiful Vale of Clwyd. The north-eastern, or Clwydian wing, entering within the north-eastern border of the county from the vicinity of Ysceiviog, in Flintshire, presents a variety of limestone and argillaceous strata in its course by Yale, Minera, the Vrondeg hills, Eglwyseg lime-works, Oernant slate-quarries, and Cevn dû, to Bryn Eglwys, where it completes the curve which connects it with the south-western, or Hiraethog range: this wing extends from above Derwen, on the southern border of the county, to Eglwys-Bâch, on the river Conway, its north-western extremity, and forms one of the most extensive and dreary wastes in the whole principality, being from twenty-five to thirty miles in length, and varying in breadth from five to nine miles: its chief covering is heath. Among these hills, in the western part of the county, are several small lakes, which give rise to numerous meandering streams. The hills on the coast extend no farther eastward than Abergele, where the country begins gradually to sink into the extensive plain of Morva Rhuddlan, which stretches eastward into Flintshire. By much the greater part of the far-famed Vale of Clwyd is in this county, in which it extends in length more than twenty miles, and in breadth generally from five to seven: thickly studded with towns, villages, and seats, its appearance is rendered still more pleasing by being enclosed on every side by mountains, whose brown and barren summits form a fine contrast with the verdant meads and luxuriant fields below. The dreary appearance of the desert moors is also, in many parts, relieved by small and fertile valleys, watered by sprightly streams, one of the principal of which is that called the Valley of Yale. Bromfield, by far the most important division of the county, with regard to population and wealth, was anciently called *Maelor Cymreig*, "Welsh Maelor," to distinguish it from the detached portion of Flintshire, on the opposite side of the Dee, called *Maelor Saesneg*, "English Maelor": lying to the north and west of the Dee, and to the south and east of the Alyn, the former in its western part shares in the wild and mountainous character of the adjoining hundred of Yale; but the greater portion of it is fertile, pleasant, and highly cultivated. Chirk, anciently called *Gwayn*, forming the south-eastern extremity of the county, almost wholly consists of hills, of which the two most conspicuous are Cader Verwyn and Cevn Uchâ, forming part of the Berwyn range of mountains, which, from the vicinity of the village of Chirk, extends south-westward into Shropshire, Montgomeryshire, and Merionethshire. The mountains of Denbighshire are not among the highest in North Wales: some of the most remarkable elevations are, Moel Vammau, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five feet above the level of the sea; Cyn y Brain mountain, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight; Moel Venlli, one thousand seven hundred and sixty-seven; Craig Eglwyseg, one thousand six hundred and eighty-eight; Moel Arthur, one thousand four hundred and ninety-one; Pen y Cloddiau, one thousand four hundred and fifty-two; Molvre Uchâ,

one thousand two hundred and thirty-four; Llanellian mountain, one thousand one hundred and ten; and Moelvre Isâ, one thousand and thirty-seven.

The climate is very various in different situations. On the hills the air is generally cold and sharp; for even the westerly winds, during the greater part of the year, are deprived of their genial mildness in their passage to this county by the snow-clad heights of the Snowdon range; and the more elevated districts are wholly exposed to the east and north: this keenness of the air, however, added to the dryness of the soil, renders the inhabitants of the more hilly regions particularly hardy and robust. The atmosphere of the valleys is milder and more humid; but the Vale of Clwyd, as it opens northward to the sea, is exposed to the full violence of boreal blasts, which are nevertheless supposed to contribute to the salubrity for which it is celebrated: its inhabitants are distinguished for the soundness of their constitutions and their longevity. On some parts of the Hiraethog hills no grain is sown but the hardy oat; and so unpropitious is the climate there, that in some years it never ripens, but is quite green in the month of October. The soils vary in richness, in proportion as their situation is more or less favourable for receiving alluvial deposits from higher grounds. Strong loams, excellently adapted for the cultivation of wheat, &c., and for permanent pastures, occupy the Vale of Clwyd below Ruthin, a low maritime tract in the vicinity of Abergele, the banks of the Conway near Marl, and upwards towards Maenan and Trêvriw, the borders of the Dee adjoining Cheshire, and much of the detached portion of the county bordering on the river Vyrnwy. Free loams, adapted for the general purposes of tillage, are found in patches adjoining to, or intermingled with, the strong loams; as also in the Vale of Clwyd, above Ruthin; in the valley of Llanrwst, above Trêvriw; in small proportions in the valley of the Tanat, and in the lower parts of the smaller valleys. Light soils, consisting of various admixtures of sandy loams, rounded pebbles, gravel, and peat, more particularly adapted for the culture of barley, peas, turnips, &c., abound in the valleys, particularly in their higher recesses, and on slopes having a southerly aspect: the soils of this kind on the limestone, though shallow, are fertile. Ferny soil, or hazel mould, of various colours, occurs in small tracts, intermingled with the foregoing soils, and on the sides of the inferior hills, naturally producing fern, broom, furze, and underwood of various kinds, particularly hazel and hawthorn. On the slate hills, and on the slopes of the lesser valleys, is found *till*, or a hungry light mould, tinged with oxyde of iron, producing mountain ash, birch, and dwarf furze. Some parts of the Vale of Clwyd have their soils tinged by a substratum of a reddish sandstone, of loose texture; and a similar soil touches this county at Holt, on the Dee. The dry argillaceous substrata, of which most of the mountains consist, are generally covered with a thin coat of light peat, upon a substratum of till or of shale, and over run with common heath. The hollows and levels of the Hiraethog mountains abound with a considerable depth of excellent peat for fuel, which is so close-grained that, if cut with a sharp instrument, when dry, it presents a polished surface.



About a third part of the vales of Denbighshire is under tillage, and annually produces great quantities of grain for exportation. The common corn crops are wheat, barley, and oats. Wheat is commonly cut with the reaping-hook; and barley, in the Vale of Clwyd, with cradled scythes. Rye is occasionally grown; as also are peas, though to a much less extent than formerly: beans are hardly ever seen. The culture of turnips was introduced into this county about the year 1765, and though it has here made more progress than in the other counties of North Wales, it is yet far from being extensive. Potatoes are grown for home consumption. The most common artificial grass is red clover, with which rye-grass is sometimes mixed: some of the clover is seeded: in the hilly districts hay seeds are obtained from Anglesey. Only the meadows of the Vale of Clwyd, and those bordering on the Dee and the Vyrnwy, are rich enough to fatten cattle: the hilly parts of the county rear great quantities of cattle, to be sold lean to the graziers of richer districts. Artificial irrigation is assiduously practised in all convenient situations. In the more fertile vales of the eastern parts of the county, the grass lands are chiefly appropriated to the dairy, the produce of which, in both cheese and butter, is conveyed in considerable quantities to the markets of Chester, Shrewsbury, and Bridgenorth: the greater part of the cheese is made and sold as Cheshire cheese: a small quantity as Gloucester: annatto is used for colouring in the lowlands, but seldom in the uplands. Lime is the most general manure, where it can be conveniently obtained: it is frequently burned in sod kilns, on the field to be manured. Sea-thong, or sea-weed, is collected in considerable quantities on the coast after storms, and is highly valued as a manure. Shell-sand, containing a proportion of from two-thirds to four-fifths of decayed shells, is sometimes imported in sloops from the coasts of Carnarvonshire and Anglesey, for the same purpose, and is the most fertilizing of all. The "Lummas plough," a variation of the Rotherham plough, is in almost universal use, having been first introduced, in place of the large old-fashioned plough, about the year 1760: the Scotch plough, drawn by two horses abreast, is also occasionally seen; but the horse-teams more generally draw singly: oxen are commonly yoked in pairs. The cattle of the high lands are almost wholly of the diminutive race which occupies so much the greater part of North Wales, and are provincially called *runts*: their colour is chiefly black; their horns long, and curving upwards; and their particular value consists in their extreme hardness, owing to which they may be reared on their scanty pastures at little expense or trouble. In the vales the cattle are of a superior kind, larger, and of all varieties of colour: those reared in the maritime plain extending from Abergele eastward are distinguished for their aptitude to fatten. The sheep in the mountainous districts are small and hardy, having generally white faces and legs, and sometimes horns, and their wool is commonly coarse: the weight of their carcass varies from seven to twelve lb. per quarter; that of their fleece, from three-quarters of a lb. to two lb. and a half. Another native breed is that which occupies the south-eastern and eastern parts of the county, from the border of Montgomeryshire to Wrexham: they have black faces, and as fine wool as any sheep in

the island, that of the Ryeland breed only excepted: the mutton of those fed on the limestone lands is reckoned particularly delicious. Other breeds, of various kinds and crosses, are kept by individuals in the enclosed districts. Hogs are most numerous in the dairy district. In the vales, excellent draught horses, both for the coach and for the waggon, are obtained from England: their colour is generally black, or bay, and they are strong, active, and well made. Towards the eastern border of the county are some orchards, from which, in plentiful seasons, cider and perry are sometimes made for home consumption. The most extensive woodlands are in the Vale of Clwyd and on the eastern border of the county: on the latter side there are about five hundred acres in the parish of Chirk only. The woods around Erthig, or Erddig, the seat of Simon Yorke, Esq., are distinguished for their luxuriance, and the taste with which they have been formed: this is the only spot in North Wales where the song of the nightingale is known to have been heard. Some of the most flourishing trees in the Vale of Clwyd are, the oak, sycamore, ash, chesnut, elm, and poplar. The enclosures of waste lands, since the year 1790, when they formed one-half of the county, have been very numerous and extensive. The more elevated regions, being sterile, and having so ungenial an aspect, are applied with most profit to the rearing of lean cattle. Some parts of the Vale of Clwyd are rendered of very little value by stagnant water, for which there is no outlet, and which causes the soil to produce little besides rushes and other coarse aquatic grasses; but much of this land has been greatly improved by draining and embanking. Coal is the common fuel, except in the districts most distant from the pits, where peat is used. In the year 1796, an Agricultural Society was established at Wrexham, which extends the sphere of its transactions over the country around that town, to the distance of twenty miles in every direction. In the Vale of Clwyd is a Farmers' Club, which holds its meetings monthly.

The geology of this county is interesting, and its mineral productions are various and important, consisting chiefly of coal, iron and lead ores, slates, limestone, and freestone. The Berwyn range of mountains is composed of primitive schistus, that is, such as does not contain iron pyrites, or any impressions or remains of organized bodies; the position of the strata being at the same time nearly perpendicular. The greater part of it lies in thick irregular laminæ, intersected in different places by veins of quartz; but the slates that are quarried are unmixed with quartz, and frequently incline in their position considerably from the perpendicular: the position of the strata is most irregular on the eastern descent of Trim y Sarn, and the southern side of Llangollen Vale. On the border of Flintshire, the Clwydian hills consist of argillaceous shale, which, proceeding south-eastward, is bounded on the north-east by the limestone of that county, and on the south-west by that bordering the Vale of Clwyd: from Moel Accre to where this range joins the Hiraethog mountains, at the head of the Vale of Clwyd, limestone and argillaceous strata are met with alternately. The Hiraethog range consists of shale, with grey mountain rock, or semi-indurated whinstone, and flags used for flooring and for tombstones: this is bounded on the east by



limestone, and on the west is intersected by narrow tracts of grey limestone, which run transversely to the direction of the chain of hills. The great limestone tract of North Wales commences in an abrupt precipice, about nine hundred feet high, at Llanymynech, in the south-eastern detached part of this county, and thence proceeding northward, the range of hills of which it is composed forming the western boundary of the great plain of Salop, it is found successively at Porth y Waŷn, Coed Trêvlech, Soughton, Cyn y Bwch, Bryn y Garth, and the Vron: near the latter place it reaches the river Dee, and, making a turn towards the north-west, it extends over almost the whole county of Flint, and a great part of that of Denbigh. The south-westernmost line of rocks may be traced from Trevor, on the northern side of the Dee, by the bold rocks of Eglwyseg, near Valle Crucis Abbey, the heights of Yale, and the upper extremity of the Vale of Clwyd, down the south-western side of that beautiful district from Llanellidan to Evenechtyd, Coed Marchan, Llanrhaiadr, Denbigh, Cevn Meiriadog, and Llandulas; and terminates in the cliffs overhanging the sea at Llandudno, or Orme's Head, in Carnarvonshire: the north-easternmost range passes the collieries and freestone quarries at Ruabon to Minera, and thence runs parallel with the former into Flintshire. Eastward and north-eastward of this limestone range, which, in geological position, rests upon the slate, is a rich tract of coal measures, resting upon the limestone, from which they dip eastward while it ranges northward, and north-eastward when its direction is changed to the north-west. The thickest seam, at Brymbo near Wrexham, is fifteen feet; further south, at Ruabon, nine feet; at Chirk, seven feet; and at Llwyn y maen, and other places near Oswestry, only six feet: while at the southern extremity of the field, at Alberbury, in Shropshire, there are no seams thicker than from eighteen inches to two feet: the dip of the strata varies from two yards in three to one yard in seven. The coal is of different qualities: the most bituminous species is called binding, or coking coal; while others, having less bitumen, and exhibiting varieties of fracture, are called stone coal, hard coal, run splent, &c.: the latter are most useful for domestic purposes, as they do not cohere in burning, or leave many cinders, but emit a clear flame and diffusive heat. The principal coal-pits are in the vicinity of Wrexham and Ruabon, and at Minera, Acrevair, the Cevn, and Black Park near Chirk. Iron-ore is found in connexion with the coal strata, and is raised of a peculiarly excellent quality, and in great quantity, at Brymbo, where there are several furnaces for smelting it, together with the glossy and more fusible ore of Cumberland: there are also extensive iron-works at Acrevair, Rhôs-Llanrygog, and the Cevn; in the neighbourhood of which last place is obtained iron pyrites in large masses, which, being in some cases used in dyeing black, is sent in great quantities, by the Ellesmere canal, to Chester and Liverpool, to be shipped for America. The lead-ore is chiefly found in the limestone, though in some places in a gritstone, and in others in a blackish shale: the principal mines are, that at Minera, near Wrexham, and those in the parish of Llanverras, which have been worked for a long series of ages: the calcareous rocks of Coed Marchan, in the neighbourhood of Ruthin, of Llanverras, and Llanarmon, and along the sea-coast, are also known

to contain ores of this metal. A green, dusty, rich ore, called by the miners "copper malm," is found in the, Llanymynech lime-rocks, whence many tons of it have, at different times, been exported to be smelted: calamine is also obtained in great quantities at the same place. The limestone is of an excellent quality, and very white in its efflorescence after calcination: it is worked in almost innumerable places. The principal slate quarries are in the south-eastern part of the county, being those of Oernant, near Llangollen, and Glyn Ceiriog: to the former quarry there is a branch from the Ellesmere canal, and the latter are within five miles of the same canal at Chirk: the slates obtained at the former place are more durable than those of the latter, which, when exposed to the action of sulphuric acid, show symptoms of decomposition in four days. Chert is found at Trêvarclawdd, near Oswestry, and on the Llêchrydau hills, near Glyn Ceiriog. On the banks of the Dee, between Overton and Bangor, are great quantities of ductile clays, that will bear calcination, but are not used by any pottery. Carbonate of lime, in the various forms of spars, stalactites, and coarse mineral agaric, are found at Trevor, near Llangollen.

The principal article of manufacture is what are provincially called *webs*, and, by the London drapers, *Welsh plains*, or *cottons*, a coarse sort of thick, white, woollen cloth, made in pieces of from ninety to one hundred and twenty yards long: this is confined to the small district of Glyn, which comprises a few parishes to the north and west of the town of Oswestry in Shropshire, and contains eleven fulling-mills: the webs here made are termed by the drapers "small cloth," to distinguish them from those manufactured in Merionethshire and Montgomeryshire, which are about one-eighth of a yard broader. Instead of lambs' wool, in this manufacture, the clothiers mix, with the woofing of the coarse sort of webs, flocks from the fulling-mills, and, with the finer sort, combings from Yorkshire and Lancashire, generally in the proportion of about one-third. The market for the Glyn webs is held every Wednesday, at the town-hall in Oswestry. The southern parts of the county share in the manufacture of knit woollen stockings and socks, of which Bala, in Merionethshire, is the centre: the northern boundary of this manufacture extends from Bettws, in Merionethshire, by Ysptyty-Ivan, and Llanrwst, in this county, to Penmachno, in Carnarvonshire: next to Bala, the principal market for these stockings is at Llanrwst. In the Vale of Llangollen is a factory for spinning cotton yarn, and weaving it by means of power-looms. Many skins of the native sheep, and foreign lamb and kid skins, dressed at Dôl-gelley, in Merionethshire, are sent to Denbigh, and there manufactured into shoes and gloves, the former of which are sent to Liverpool, to be exported to the West Indies; while the latter, to the amount of about seven thousand dozen pairs annually, are disposed of to London, Bristol, and other places. Notwithstanding that this is geographically a maritime county, it possesses neither sea-port nor haven; and as none of its rivers, except the Conway, near its mouth, are navigable, while flowing through it or upon its borders, its natural facilities for water-carriage are very limited. The chief exports are, lean cattle and sheep; webs, stockings, shoes, and gloves; lead; malleable and manufactured iron; slates; and butter, cheese, and bacon: and



the principal imports, besides the various kinds of shop-goods for the ordinary supply of the inhabitants, are, dressed skins, to be manufactured at Denbigh; and pig iron, to be rendered malleable. The produce of the greater part of the county in wool is either sold to the adjoining manufacturing districts, or taken to the fairs of Chester and Shrewsbury, where it is purchased by the clothiers of the North of England. At Wrexham is held the greatest fair in North Wales, to which, besides the ordinary articles of sale, is brought the surplus clover and trefoil seed of the surrounding country, and, in some years, great quantities of Dutch grass seeds: at this fair, which commences on the 23rd of March, and continues to the end of the following week, are also exposed great quantities of Yorkshire cloths, and Lancashire and Sheffield manufactured goods, which supply nearly the whole of North Wales, and a great part of South Wales, for the ensuing year. A wool fair was established at Denbigh in the year 1808.

The principal rivers are the Dee, the Clwyd, and the Conway; besides which, the smaller rapid streams, descending from the mountains towards any of these three great channels, or from the south-eastern extremity of the county towards the Severn, are very numerous. The Dee, descending from Llyn Tegid, or Bala lake, in Merionethshire, enters a few miles below the small town of Corwen, in that county, and crosses the south-eastern part of Denbighshire from east to west, through the beautiful and picturesque Vale of Llangollen: on reaching the eastern side of Denbighshire it becomes its boundary, and forms the line of division between England and Wales; but flowing north-eastward, it separates from this county, in a very devious part of its course, the large isolated portion of Flintshire, which for several miles occupies its eastern bank: then, becoming the boundary of Cheshire, it takes a northerly course towards the city of Chester, and wholly quits Denbighshire at its north-eastern extremity, at Holt. The chief tributaries of the Dee from this county are, the Alwen, which has its source in one of the lakes in the western part of the county, and flows south-eastward into Merionethshire; the Ceiriog, a torrent which descends from the slate mountains in the hundred of Chirk, and joins it below Brynkinalt, in the parish of Chirk; the Clywedog, which it receives from the westward, a little below Bangor, in Flintshire; and the Alyn, which, rising among the hills about Llandegla, flows northward into Flintshire, through which county it makes an extraordinary circuitous course, and again touches Denbighshire in the vicinity of Gresford, from which village it runs eastward to the Dee, a little below Holt. The Clwyd descends northward from a small lake among the hills on the southern border of the county, through the rich and spacious vale to which it gives name, being joined in its course by numerous streams from the mountains on either side; having flowed past the town of Ruthin, it reaches the border of Flintshire, a little below the village of Llandyrnog, and, taking a north-westerly direction, enters that county in the vicinity of Bôdvari: its chief tributary is the Aled, which descends in a very irregular north-easterly course from the mountains near the source of the Alwen, in the south-western part of this county, and joins it a little below St. Asaph, in Flintshire. The Conway,

issuing out of the small lake called Llyn Conway, at the point of junction of the three shires of Denbigh, Merioneth, and Carnarvon, makes a rapid descent northward in successive cataracts, almost immediately becoming the boundary between the counties of Denbigh and Carnarvon: emerging from under the wooded cliff of Gwydir, it rushes into the beautiful Vale of Nantconway, and, a few miles below the handsome bridge of Llanrwst, enters the eastern confines of Carnarvonshire, between which and Denbighshire, after a course of a few miles, it again becomes the boundary, and so continues until below Llansantffraid, where, fast increasing in breadth, it again enters Carnarvonshire: the Conway is navigable to Llandoged, in this county, near which place it meets the tide. The south-eastern extremity of the county is bounded on the south-west by the rivers Rhaiadr and Tanat successively; the former, about midway in this line, falling into the latter, which in its further course to the Severn is joined by a small stream from the hundred of Chirk.

The Ellesmere canal, which forms a communication between the navigable channels of the rivers Mersey, Dee, and Severn, was originally designed to pass from Chester, through the eastern part of the county of Flint, and, entering Denbighshire in the parish of Gresford, to have proceeded southward through the eastern part of this county, to Shrewsbury; thus also opening a direct communication between Chester and the great coal district of Denbighshire. But, owing to the broken and unsound state of the country, caused by the various excavations which had been made for coal and other minerals, it was found necessary to abandon the construction of the above-mentioned line, in the country lying between Chester and the vicinity of Ruabon, to which a branch of the main canal now extends northward from the vicinity of Ellesmere, and terminates on the northern side of the Dee, at Pont Cysylltau. Here it is met by several rail-roads from the collieries, furnaces, and forges in the parish of Ruabon; and adjacent to it have been constructed basins, wharfs, and warehouses, which afford facilities for a considerable trade in the mineral produce of the country, &c. Hence a navigable branch extends up the northern bank of the Dee to Trevor, Llangollen, and the vicinity of the Oernant slate quarries, near Llantysillio, where it receives a powerful stream of water from the river Dee, turned into it by a very extensive weir and flood-gates, and by this means supplies an extent of nearly forty miles of the main canal and its branches. From Pont Cysylltau the principal branch crosses the Dee and the Vale of Llangollen upon a magnificent aqueduct, constructed partly of cast iron, one thousand and seven feet long, and one hundred and twenty-six feet eight inches high above the bed of the river: from the southern end of this aqueduct it is conveyed, by means of a high embankment, about five hundred yards in length, to the same side of the valley, passes the Vron lime-works, and then, after being carried through a tunnel, proceeds between the village and castle of Chirk, within a very short distance of Black Park colliery, from which there is a tram-road leading to a wharf on its banks: it then enters another tunnel, on emerging from which, near the village of Chirk, it is conveyed across the valley and river of Ceiriog, into Shropshire, by a second aqueduct of freestone, of ten



arches, seven hundred feet in length, and seventy feet high above the surface of the ground below : proceeding towards Shrewsbury, a branch from the vicinity of Frankton takes a south-westerly direction to the Llanymynech lime-works, in the detached part of the county, on the borders of Shropshire and Montgomeryshire. Here terminates, in this direction, the property of the Ellesmere Canal Company, and the navigation is continued to Welshpool and Newtown by the Montgomeryshire canal, the work of a separate company, which hence crosses the river Vyrnwy into the county of Montgomery, on an aqueduct of five arches, each of forty-five feet span, and twenty-five feet high above the ordinary level of the water in the river beneath : there are, besides, various smaller arches for the passage of flood water. From the lime-rocks at Llanymynech a railway, about two miles and a half in length, greatly facilitates the conveyance to the boats on the canal. The total length of the branch canal, which terminates at Pont Cysylltau, is little more than eleven miles ; that of the navigable feeder, which extends to the Dee at Llantysillio, nearly six miles ; and that of the Ruabon brook railway, which proceeds from the termination of the canal at Pont Cysylltau through an extensive coal field to Ruabon brook, three miles and a quarter. The roads of Denbighshire are in general good, the materials for making and repairing them being abundant and of good quality : their extent has also of late years been greatly increased. The great mail-coach road from London to Holyhead, by Birmingham and Shrewsbury, enters it from Oswestry at the village of Chirk, and crosses its south-eastern extremity, through Llangollen, to Corwen in Merionethshire, beyond which it again passes for some distance within its southern boundary. The old mail-coach road from London to Holyhead, by Chester, runs across the northern part of the county, from St. Asaph, in Flintshire, through Abergele, to Aberconway in Carnarvonshire : a branch from this, at the village of Northop, in Flintshire, passes through Denbigh, and rejoins the main road at Aberconway.

This county contains no remains of Roman occupation, unless the vast mining level which pierces the limestone hill at Llanymynech be of their formation : in this, now called Yr Ogo, or "the Cavern," have been found various Roman coins and other interesting antiquities, besides numerous skeletons. On one of the sloping sides of this hill is raised a stupendous rampart of loose stones, accompanied by a deep fosse, beyond which are two other fosses, cut in the rock with immense labour. But the most ancient monument of known date is "the Pillar of Eliseg," raised in memory of a British chieftain of that name, slain in battle against the Saxons, near Chester, in the year 607, by his grandson, Concenn : it is situated about two miles from Llangollen. Offa's Dyke, still by the Welsh designated by the synonymous appellation of Clawdd Offa, may be plainly traced in nearly the whole of its course through this county, which it enters from the north-western part of Shropshire, in crossing the river Ceiriog to Glyn, whence it proceeds by Chirk castle and across the river Dee and the Ruabon road, and forms part of the Wrexham road, as far as Pentre Bychan : hence it is continued, by Plâs Power, Adwy'r Clawdd near Minera, and Brymbo, across the little river Cegidog,

and on the southern side of Bryn Yorkyn mountain into Flintshire, its direction being first northward and then north-westward : near Chirk castle, by the river Ceiriog, is a large breach in it, supposed to be the place of interment of the English who fell in the battle of Crogen, and still called Adwy'r Beddau, or "the Pass of the Graves : " it is observable that the ditch is in all parts on the western, or Welsh, side of the rampart, and along its course are many artificial mounts, the sites of small forts. Wat's Dyke, to the east of Offa's Dyke, of equally large proportions, but not of so great a length, is first discoverable to the south of Maesbury, in the vicinity of Oswestry, whence it may be traced across the eastern part of this county to the æstuary of the Dee, near Basingwerk, in Flintshire : it enters Denbighshire, in crossing the Ceiriog at the spot where that river unites with the Dee, between Brynkinalt and Pen y Lan ; and then takes its course through Wynnstay Park, and by Pentre'r Clawdd to Erddig, where there is the site of a strong fort : hence it passes above Wrexham, near Melin Puleston, by Dôlydd, Maes-gwyn, Rhôs-ddû, Gwersylt, across the Alyn, and through the township of Llai, to Treuddin, in the county of Flint. Mr. Pennant notices it as remarkable, that Wat's Dyke should have been overlooked, or confounded with that of Offa, by all early writers, except Thomas Churchyard, the poet, who supposes the object of its formation to have been, that the intervening space between it and the latter might be free ground, for the purposes of traffic, between the Danes and the Britons. On one of the limestone hills to the west of Abergele, called Copa yr Wylva, or the "Mount of the Watch Tower," are the remains of a very strong British post ; as there are also of another, called Caerddin, or Garthen, on a lofty hill, about two hundred yards distant from Offa's Dyke, near Ruabon ; and of a third, at the extremity of the elevated ridge, overlooking the Vale of Gresford, in a field called the Rofts. In the parish of St. George, on the summit of a hill called Pen y parc, are vestiges of the camp occupied by Owain Gwynedd, after his retreat from Cil Owain. In the parish of Llanarmon are numerous remarkable sepulchral tumuli, or barrows, of different forms, composed of stones and earth, covered with sods, and enclosing cinders, fragments of bones, and urns containing ashes.

At the time of the Reformation there were, at Denbigh, a house of Carmelite friars ; at Ruthin, a college of regular priests ; and at Llanegwest, a Cistercian abbey, called *De Valle Crucis* : the remains of the last form an interesting and romantic object. The most remarkable churches are those of Gresford, Llanrhaiadr, Ruabon, Ruthin, and Wrexham, which latter is one of the most beautiful specimens of ecclesiastical architecture in the principality. That of Hênllan, too, is rendered worthy of notice by the peculiarity of its tower standing on a lofty rock, while the body of the edifice is situated in the vale below. There yet exist picturesque ruins of the castles of Castell Dinas Brân, near Llangollen ; Denbigh ; Holt ; and Ruthin : Chirk Castle is now the large and ancient mansion of Robert Myddelton Bidulph, Esq., having been awarded by the Court of Chancery to his mother, as one of the coheiresses of the Myddelton family. Near the village of Llanarmon, on a remarkably large artificial mount, called Tommen y Vaerdre, may be traced the foundations of



a square fort. The principal modern residences in the county are, Acton Hall, the seat of Sir Foster Cunliffe, Bart.; Bathavern Park, that of Thomas Downward, Esq.; Brynkinalt, that of Viscount Dungannon; Dyfryn Aled, that of P. Wynne Yorke, Esq.; Erddig, that of Simon Yorke, Esq.; Eyarth, that of Richard Miles Wynne, Esq.; Galtvaenon, that of J. Lloyd Salusbury, Esq.; Glanywern, that of John Madocks, Esq.; Gresford Lodge, that of Mrs. W. Egerton; Gwersyllt, that of John Williams, Esq.; Kimmel, that of Lord Dinorben; Llanbedr Hall, that of Joseph Ablett, Esq.; Llanerch, that of Mrs. Allinson; Llangedwin, that of the Rt. Hon. Charles Williams Wynn; Llŷs Meirchion, that of the Rev. Robert Chambres; Pen y Lan, that of Ed. Lloyd Williams, Esq.; Penbedw, that of Thos. Molineux Williams, Esq.; Plâs Heaton, that of John Heaton, Esq.; Plâs Power, that of Thomas Fitzhugh, Esq.; Pool Park, that of Lord Bagot; Ruthin Castle, that of the Hon. Frederick West; Trêvallyn, that of John Townshend, Esq.; and Wynnstay, the princely residence of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart. Though the farm-houses and offices are, in numerous instances upon modern and improved plans, yet the greater number is of an inferior kind. In the vicinity of the slate hills the fences are commonly walls of flat stones; but modern fences are most frequently made of hawthorn sets, of which great quantities are raised by nurserymen in this county. In those parts of Denbighshire bordering on Cheshire servants hired for the year commence their term of service on the 1st of January; but in the rest of the county, on the 1st of May. During the hay and corn harvest, the farmers of the Vale of Clwyd and its vicinity go every morning to the cross, or market-place, of any of the towns of Wrexham, Ruthin, or Denbigh, to hire workmen for that day only; the latter being there assembled for the purpose, with their scythes and hooks. From time immemorial it has been customary for men, of from forty to sixty years of age, to come down, during the winter season, into the lowlands of this county, from Merionethshire and other mountainous districts, as professed feeders of cattle: they are commonly called "cow-men." The farmers of the lower parts of Denbighshire excel those of most other parts of North Wales in the quality of their bread, beef, bacon, cheese, and ale, which constitute the main support of the labouring classes; but advancing thence into the more mountainous tracts, the wheaten bread is found mixed with different proportions of rye and barley, or wholly superseded by oatmeal cake. There are springs of ancient celebrity, for their medicinal qualities, in the parish of St. George; at the foot of an eminence, called Gwladus' Chair, to the north-west of the church of Llanrhaiaadr; and near the church of Llandegla. A lofty precipice on the sea-shore to the west of Abergele, called Cevn Ogo, is pierced by several caverns, washed by the waves at high water: the largest of these, by way of distinction, is called Yr Ogo, or "The Cavern," and has its roof and sides decorated with stalactites, in various fanciful forms. The most remarkable waterfalls are, two upon the river Aled, near its source; and that of Pistyll-Rhaiaadr, near Llanrhaiaadr yn Môchnant.

DENIO. (DENEIO), a parish in the hundred of GAFLOGION, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, including the town of Pwllheli, and containing 2091

inhabitants. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Llannor, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Beuno, is situated about half a mile to the north of Pwllheli; but being very small and in a state of great dilapidation, it is in contemplation shortly to erect a new church at that town, where all ecclesiastical rites, except that of burial, will be performed: the present ancient structure is built somewhat in the form of the Roman letter L. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor, including those of the town of Pwllheli, amounts to £511. 11. See PWLLHELI.

DERWEN, or DERWEN-YNIAL, a parish in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (S.W. by S.) from Ruthin, containing 522 inhabitants. The village is situated near the source of the river Clwyd, and abounds with springs of excellent water, one of which, called Fynnon Sarah, was in great repute for its efficacy in the cure of cancer. About a mile from the village is a quarry of stone, which is soft and of peculiarly fine grain, and is much esteemed for sharpening the finest instruments, being found nowhere else in this country: great quantities are sent to London, and some of it has been exported to America. A fair is held on February 11th. The living is a rectory, in the diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £10. 15., and in the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small but interesting edifice, in the decorated style of English architecture, containing much beautiful screen-work, and ornamented with an elegant east window. In the churchyard there is a richly sculptured stone cross, in the same style of architecture, seventeen feet high, ornamented in alto relievo with a device of the Crucifixion, and with emblematic figures of Justice, Mercy, and Faith, in richly canopied niches. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. On the river Clwyd is a mill for spinning woollen yarn, which was purchased with the amount of several charitable bequests, and produces at present a rental of £7 per annum; and in 1828, Godfrey Roberts, of Richmond, gave a rent-charge of £7, on an estate called Tŷ Cerrig, for the benefit of the poor: both these sums are distributed annually at Christmas. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £238. 4.

DERWLWYN, a township in the parish of CARNO, lower division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 12 miles (W. N. W.) from Newtown. The population is returned with the parish, but in 1821 it was included in the return for the township of Trawscoed. The names of these townships denote that they formerly abounded with wood, though little of that article is observable at present, they being for the most part rugged and mountainous.

DERWYDD, a joint hamlet with Garn, in the parish of LLANDEBIE, upper division of the hundred of ISCENEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 3¼ miles (S. S. W.) from Llandilo-Vawr. The population is returned with the parish. The name of this place signifies that it formerly appertained to a Druid, and several appearances in the neighbourhood indicate that it was anciently the resort of some of that class. It is situated near the south bank of the river Cennen, and is partially wooded.



DEVYNOC (DEVYNOG), a parish in the hundred of DEVYNOC, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (W.) from Brecknock, comprising the hamlets of Cray, Glyn, Maescar, and Senni, each of which maintains its own poor, and containing 2031 inhabitants. The name of this extensive parish, which anciently formed part of the great forest of Devynock, is, according to the historian of Brecknockshire, derived from the same British root as that of the English county of Devon, both names being equally descriptive of the face of the country, which is every where varied by deep valleys and extensive hills. By other writers, and perhaps upon equally good authority, the name is derived from the dedication of its church to St. Dyfnog, an eminent British saint, who flourished towards the close of the sixth century. The whole of the parish, which is bounded on the north by the river Usk, is comprehended within the lordship or manor of Devynock, which was held as a fief under the crown by the lords marcher of Brecknock, and was subject to the arbitrary operation of the forest laws, which were enforced with unrelenting rigour under the lords marcher and their successors. This extensive district was designated the "Manor of the Great Forest," or of the "Great Forest of Devynock," within the county of Brecknock; and the whole, or at least a considerable part of it, having been acquired by the successors of Bernard Newmarch in the lordship of Brecknock, formed no part of the lordship marcher, but was held by them separately under the crown of England. Under the feudal laws all the tenants of the manor were compelled to bring their corn to be ground at the lord's mills, of which, within the limits of the manor, there were, within the last twenty-five years, no less than seven remaining; four of them were in this parish, and situated respectively at Devynock, Cray, Glyn-Tawe, and Senni: this custom, however, is not now observed with the same strictness as formerly. On the banks of the river Senni was anciently a small castle, from which the farm on which it stood is still called *Castell Dú*, or "the Black Castle:" this fortress, which was of Norman origin, is supposed to have been the residence of the constable of the forest, an office held at one time by a descendant of Sir Reginald Aubrey, one of the companions of Bernard Newmarch, serving also as a keep, or prison, for the confinement of mountain robbers, who frequently made predatory incursions into the vale, and also for the punishment of offenders against the forest laws. During the insurrection of Owain Glyndwr against Henry IV., that monarch, on visiting the principality, is said to have staid for some time at this castle, where he caused a proclamation of pardon to be drawn up, which received the royal signature at Devynock, September 15th, 1403, and is still extant. Upon the attainder of the last Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, in the reign of Henry VIII., this extensive district was subdivided into the manor of the Great Forest of Devynock, and that of the Little Forest, both of which, at no remote period, were held by different tenures under the crown; and, with the exception of the lands of the latter division, which, reserving the manor, have been sold to different purchasers, within the last twenty-five years, are now the property of Sir Charles Morgan, Bart., of Tredegar. The present appearance of this district forms a striking commentary upon the tenour of an ancient

document of the 9th of Elizabeth, reserving "all wild beasts and fallow deer, all woods, underwoods, and timber trees, &c.," in this now desolate tract of country, where for miles not a single tree of any kind is to be seen, where even the fences are of stone, and where the only animals to be found are a few mountain sheep, ponies, and small hardy cattle.

The village is pleasantly situated at the extremity of the Vale of Senni, and is intersected by the river of that name, which flows through the parish, and empties itself into the river Usk near Rhŷd y Briw. It is sheltered by some abrupt eminences, two of which, being richly clothed with wood, add greatly to the beauty of its appearance. The surrounding scenery is agreeably diversified, and in many places highly picturesque; and the views from the higher grounds comprehend many interesting features, and much variety of character. Coal, culm, and limestone are found in abundance in the southern part of the parish and the adjacent district; and a tram-road from Gwain Clawdd, in the parish of Ystradgynlais, intersecting an extensive limestone district, traverses it from south to north, and terminates near Rhŷd y Briw, in the Vale of Usk. This road, which was constructed at the expense of John Christie, Esq., of London, connects those parts of this and the adjoining parishes which border upon Glyn-Tawe, being the chief seat of the mineral works in this part of Brecknockshire, with the centre of the same county. The great road from London to Milford passes through the northern part of the parish, running nearly parallel with the course of the Usk. Fairs are held on April 16th, May 9th, August 12th, October 6th, and December 5th.

The living is a vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Ystradvelltey annexed, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £14. 14. 4½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Gloucester, who is impropiator of one-third of the great and small tithes, under the charter, as is supposed, of Bernard Newmarch, by whom they were granted to the abbey of St. Peter, in that city, the church of which, on the foundation of the bishoprick, was made the cathedral church. Another third, which was anciently the property of the priory of St. John, in Brecknock, now belongs to Penry Williams, Esq., and the remaining third belongs to the vicar, who is patron of the three perpetual curacies of Llan Iliid, Llan Illtyd, and Callwen. The church, dedicated to St. Dyfnog, and situated at the northern extremity of the village, where it forms an interesting and prominent feature in the view, is a spacious and venerable structure, principally in the later style of English architecture, with a well-built tower at the western end, having on its south-western angle an inscription in ancient Saxon characters, which has not been satisfactorily decyphered: the body consists of a nave, chancel, and south aisle; the nave has been thoroughly repaired, if not entirely rebuilt, and the whole of the interior is appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service. A curious custom prevails here, by which the parish clerk is entitled, on the death of any inhabitant, to certain garments of the deceased, which is more fully detailed in the account of the parish of Llywel, where it is also observed. There are two places of worship each for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. A free school for the gra-



tuitous instruction of all children of this parish and of the hamlet of Ysclydach, in the parish of Llywel, and five almshouses in the village of Devynock, were founded by Sir John Davy, of Aldermanbury, in the city of London, who, in 1624, bequeathed for their support £40 per annum, charged upon his advowson of Abernant, in the county of Carmarthen: the almshouses and school-room, with a house for the master, were erected in 1626, and have regularly, since that period, been appropriated to the purposes of the founder's will. Of the £40 per annum left for their endowment, £13. 6. 8. is paid to the schoolmaster, who has also a house and garden rent-free; £10 is annually given in equal portions towards apprenticing three of the scholars; £10 is divided in equal shares among the five inmates of the almshouses, and the remainder is reserved for the necessary repairs of the premises. The concerns of this charity are under the superintendence of twelve trustees, consisting of the vicar and eleven of the most respectable inhabitants of the parish. The Rev. Mr. Watkins, who died about ten years ago, bequeathed £3 per annum for the augmentation of the schoolmaster's salary; and the rent of a farm called Pathegau, in the hamlet of Glyn, bequeathed by an unknown benefactor, and now producing about £20 per annum, is distributed among the poor of the parish. Lewis Havard, by will in 1716, charged two tenements in Glyn Tawe, with the annual payment of ten shillings to the poor of the hamlet of Maescar, and the like sum to the poor of the hamlet of Senni. David Gwalter, of Maesgwalter, in the year 1723, bequeathed £3 per annum, to be paid out of the tenement of Maesgwalter, for apprenticing two poor children of the hamlet of Senni, or, in default thereof, of the parish at large, not participating in Sir John Davy's charity, and to be nominated by the occupier of Bailiau farm. The same benefactor also left five houses and gardens, adjoining Maesgwalter, one of which was to be divided into two, for six poor persons of the hamlet of Senni, or, in default of such, for poor persons of the parish at large: these houses having been suffered to fall down from neglect, the ground has been taken possession of, and built upon; and the intention of the testator has thus been frustrated.

On the mountain adjoining Llywel, on the western confines of the parish, were formerly two monuments of supposed Druidical origin, one of which, now destroyed, consisted of seven stones, said to have been arranged according to the configuration of the Pleiades, and called *Meini'r pedair Gawres*, "the memorial stones of the four heroines;" but to whom these monuments were erected is not known, neither has any traditionary account of them been preserved; they have been incorporated in the wall of a sheepfold. The other monument, which still remains, near the road from Trêcastle to Tavern y garrig, is called *Cerigduon*, or the "Black Stones:" they are arranged in the form of a circle, and are said to resemble the stones called the Hurlers, in the parish of St. Clare, in the county of Cornwall. Two Roman roads traversed this parish: one passed by its northern confines, from the Camlais to the Senni, in its course from *Bannium*, near the present Brecknock, to *Maridunum*, the modern Carmarthen: the other, called the Sarn Helen, anciently forming the great road from *Deva*, now Chester, to *Nidus* at Neath, entered this parish from the

Vale of Senni, proceeded in a direction across the forest to a great stone called "Maen Llia," and thence declined into the Vale of Ystradvelltey. Maen Llia, which is about eleven feet high, is by some antiquaries supposed to have been a Roman milliary, but by others to have been erected as a guide to travellers in traversing the forest: it is situated at the distance of a few hundred yards from the present turnpike road leading from Brecknock, over the Great Forest, to Neath, and within fifty yards of the old Roman road. Numerous *carneddau*, or heaps of sepulchral stones, are scattered over the hilly parts of the parish; and barrows are frequently found in the valleys. A golden angel, of the time of Henry VII., was dug up about twenty-five years ago, in the north-eastern extremity of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the whole parish amounts to £827. 7.

DIHEWYD, a parish partly in the hundred of TROED-YRAUR, and partly in that of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (N. W. by W.) from Lampeter, containing 533 inhabitants. This parish is situated near the pleasant Vale of Aëron, and not far from the river Mydur; the scenery is beautifully diversified, and towards the vale becomes highly picturesque. A fair is held at Llanwyddalys, within its limits, annually on the 9th of May. It constitutes the endowment of a prebend, formerly in the college of Llandewy-Brevi, but now in the collegiate church of Brecknock, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a perpetual curacy, consolidated with that of Llanychaëron, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty. The church, dedicated to St. Vitalis, was rebuilt within the last five years, and is a neat edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. On the summit of a lofty hill, called Moel Dihewyd, are the remains of an ancient encampment, of the origin and history of which nothing is known. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £96. 17.

DINAS, a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N. E. by E.) from Fishguard, containing 741 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the coast of St. George's channel, and intersected by the turnpike road from Fishguard to Newport, is of small extent, and probably owes its name, which signifies "fortress," or "city," to the bold promontory of Dinas Head, which forms one side of Fishguard bay, and was fortified on the land side by an agger, now nearly demolished. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8, and in the patronage of Thomas Lloyd, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Brynach, occupies a remarkable situation on the beach, and at spring tides the walls of the churchyard are washed by the sea: but it is probable that this was not the site of the original structure, from a place called *Brÿn Henllan*, "old church hill," in the vicinity. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic Methodists. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £106. 2.





Seal and Arms.

**DINASMOWDDWY**, an incorporated market town and township in that part of the parish of MALLWYD which is in the hundred of TAL Y BONT and MOWDDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 10 miles (E. by S.) from Dôl-gelley, and 202 (W. N. W.) from London. The population is returned with the parish. This place is

disreputably distinguished in the Welsh annals as having become, soon after the termination of the war between the houses of York and Lancaster, the resort of numerous felons and outlaws, from whom sprang a race of lawless banditti, principally divided into *Gwylliaid y Dugoed*, "the banditti of the Black Wood," and *Gwylliaid Cochion Mowddwy*, "the red-haired banditti of Mowddwy," who for some time set the laws at defiance, and perpetrated the most frightful outrages, filling with terror the minds of the peaceable inhabitants of the district; who, rather than hazard their lives and property by proceeding along the regular roads to Shrewsbury and other places, were accustomed to pass over the mountains, and, to protect themselves from being surprised in the night, placed scythes in the chimneys of their houses, some of which singular defences were remaining so late as the close of the last century. To put an end to such acts of robbery and bloodshed, a commission was granted to John Wynn ab Meredydd, of Gwydir, Esq., and Lewis Owen, of Llwyn near Dôl-gelley, Esq., Vice-Chamberlain and Baron of the Exchequer of North Wales, who, by virtue of this authority, raised a body of strong men, and on Christmas eve made prisoners of about eighty of the depredators, upon whom they proceeded to hold trial, punishing them according to the extent of their crimes. Among these were two young men, whose mother urgently entreated Owen to spare one of them, which being denied, she, with all the vindictiveness of malignant fury, vowed that revenge should be taken by her remaining offspring upon the baron, who, on his journey to the assizes at Montgomery, in 1555, was waylaid among the thick woods of Dugoed Mowddwy, by a band of desperadoes, who blocked up the road with several long trees, which they had felled, and, after discharging a shower of arrows, rushed upon their victim, whom they assassinated, and left his body covered with upwards of thirty wounds: the scene of this tragical event is now called *Llidiart y Barwn*, "the Baron's Gate." This act of atrocity against one of the king's justiciaries drew down upon the proscribed bandits that punishment which a long series of merciless outrages demanded: vigorous measures were adopted for their extirpation: many of them, having been apprehended, were tried and executed, and the rest obliged to abandon their haunts, so that security and tranquillity were restored throughout the district. Bwlch oer Ddrws, "the Cold Door Pass," which is gained from this town by ascending a steep hill on the road to Dôl-gelley, is noted as having been one of the three places where the most powerful individuals of certain districts met, and entered into a compact for enforcing the strict dispensation of justice for all wrongs

done prior and subsequently to the war brought on by the ambitious proceedings of Owain Glyndwr, whereby each individual who had been deprived of property was to have it restored to him without lawsuit, and various regulations for restoring the government of the country were resolved upon.

The town is pleasantly situated on the shelf of a rock, called Craig y Dinas, near the margin of the small river Cerist, at its conflux with the Dovey, and on the road from Dôl-gelley to Mallwyd, at the junction of three vales, each of which is enclosed by lofty mountains: it consists principally of one street of meanly built houses. There are some deserted lead-works on the road to Dôl-gelley, in which a kind of blueish ochre is found; this the shepherds wet and pound in a mortar, and then form into balls, which they use in marking their sheep. The market is on Saturday, but it has almost fallen into disuse. Fairs are held on the Friday before Palm-Sunday, June 2nd, September 10th, October 22nd, and November 13th. Dinasmowddwy was anciently a place of much greater importance than it is at present, and is said to have been a fortified city, and the residence of a chieftain: it still retains its corporate privileges, and is the capital of a lordship, which includes the whole of the parishes of Mallwyd and Llanymowddwy (except the township of Caer Einion Vechan in the former), over which also the jurisdiction of the corporation extends. The corporation consists of a mayor, recorder, and burgesses: the mayor, who was formerly elected annually, is now chosen only triennially: he is a justice of the peace, and possesses the power of trying criminals, but seldom exercises it, except in cases for which the punishment of the stocks, or confinement in the *veg vawr*, or "great fetter," is assigned, or in such cases as the duties of a magistrate ordinarily embrace. The recorder determines all actions regarding property, not exceeding forty shillings, and also holds a court leet twice a year, in May and November. The freedom is inherited by birth by the sons of freemen, on the decease of the father. The corporation are entitled to the exclusive right of licensing victuallers within the lordship, and although they have lost much of their ancient authority, they still retain its insignia, consisting principally of a mace, standard measure, stocks, and the *veg vawr*, or "great fetter." The county magistrates exercise concurrent jurisdiction within the borough and lordship, and hold petty sessions once a month. There is a place of worship for Independents.

**DISCOED**, a chapelry in that part of the parish and newly-created borough of PRESTEIGN which is locally in the hundred of Radnor, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. by N.) from Presteign, containing 116 inhabitants. The chapel is dedicated to St. Michael. It is situated in a pleasant valley, a short distance south of the river Lug, on the road between Presteign and Cascob. Offa's Dyke passes within half a mile north-west of the village. There is a separate assessment for the maintenance of the poor, the average annual expenditure for which amounts to £17.7.

**DISERTH**, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES.—See LLANSANTFRAID GLAN CONWAY.

**DISSERTH (DISERTH)**, a parish in the hundred of COLWYN, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles



(N.) from Builth, comprising the townships of Disserth and Tre'r Coed, each of which separately supports its own poor, and containing 610 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the banks of the river Wye, which is not navigable in this part of its course; and is intersected by the turnpike roads from Builth, in the county of Brecknock, to Newtown, in Montgomeryshire, and to Aberystwith, in the county of Cardigan. A place called Llêchryd, situated within its limits, has generally been considered the scene of the celebrated victory, gained by Rhys ab Tewdwr, the rightful prince of South Wales, at the head of his Irish forces, over the usurping princes of Powys, the three sons of Bleddyn ab Cynvyn; but this event may, with greater probability, be referred to Llêchryd near Cardigan, on the banks of the river Teivy. The general surface of the parish is gently undulating, with the exception of a range of hills called Carneddau, which rise to a considerable height, and command an extensive and interesting prospect over the northern parts of the county of Brecknock, and a considerable portion of that of Radnor. The soil is in general fertile; and the lands, which are for the greater part enclosed, are in a good state of cultivation. The scenery of the parish is pleasingly varied, but not particularly striking; and as, with the exception of the Carneddau, there are few hills of any height, the views of the surrounding country are rather confined. The Carneddau hills afford good pasturage to numerous flocks of sheep, of which the wool is of very superior quality and highly esteemed. Fairs were annually held, on Hawey common, on the Saturdays before the 11th of February, the 11th of May, and the 11th of November, chiefly for the sale of live stock, but they have fallen into disuse. The living is a rectory, with the perpetual curacy of Bettws-Disserth annexed, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £16, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Cewydd, is a spacious and venerable structure, consisting of a nave, chancel, and a lofty tower, crowned with turrets, which, from being white-washed, forms a conspicuous object in the distant view, but loses much of its original character upon nearer inspection. The rectory-house was burnt down, and has not been rebuilt; there is only half an acre of glebe. A charity school is supported by the subscriptions of a few benevolent individuals: it is in contemplation to erect a school-room, and to increase the number of children, who will be taught on the National plan. Ezekiel Williams, in 1762, bequeathed £40 to the poor not receiving parochial relief. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £372. 15., of which sum the portion raised by the township of Disserth is £187. 9.

DOGMAEL'S, ST. (ST. DOGVAEL'S), a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (W.) from Cardigan, containing 2109 inhabitants. This place is of considerable antiquity, and is connected with some events of importance during the earlier periods of the history of the principality. In 987, the Danes, who had effected a landing on this part of the coast, after ravaging and laying waste the surrounding country, plundered and burnt the church of this place. In the reign of William Rufus, Llewelyn and Einon, sons of Cadivor ab Collwyn, and Einon ab Collwyn, their uncle, formed a conspiracy

against Rhys ab Tewdwr, Prince of South Wales; and having prevailed upon Gruffydd ab Meredydd, another nobleman of that country, to join them, advanced with their united forces to St. Dogmael's, where Rhys at that time resided, hoping to attack him by surprise. But Rhys was fully prepared for the encounter, and a severe and well-contested battle took place near the village, in which, after much slaughter on both sides, the confederates were totally defeated. Llewelyn and Einon were both killed in the engagement, and Gruffydd ab Meredydd was taken prisoner after the battle and beheaded, as a traitor to his country. Einon ab Collwyn, the only leader who escaped, fled for refuge to Iestyn ab Gwrgan, lord of Morganwg, who was at that time at enmity with Rhys; and, suggesting to him the fatal expedient of having recourse to Norman auxiliaries, introduced into that part of the country a power which afterwards displayed itself in violent acts of aggression, and in the rapacious seizure of territory, by finally depriving Iestyn of his dominions, which were distributed among the Norman knights. A monastery of the order of Tirone was begun here by Martin de Tours, who forcibly obtained possession of the district of Kemmes, in the reign of William the Conqueror, and was completed by his son, Robert Fitz-Martin, in the reign of Henry I., and dedicated to St. Mary: its revenue, at the time of the dissolution, was estimated at £96. 0. 2., at which period it was granted to John Bradshaw, who lies buried beneath the chancel, under a tombstone bearing the following inscription:—"Hic jacet Johannes Bradshaw, Armiger, qui obiit ultimo die Maii, A. D. 1588:" of this family was Bradshaw, who presided at the trial of Charles I. The buildings, which were in the early style of English architecture, appear to have been substantial and on a considerable scale: the remains consist of part of the choir and transept of the church, and the refectory, which has been converted into a barn. The village is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Teivy, and is intersected by a small rivulet, across which, and serving as a foot bridge, was a Roman monumental stone, about five feet and a half in length, bearing the inscription "ACRANI FILI: CVNOTAMI:" it has, however, been removed, and is now placed in the corner of a wall near the church. The surrounding scenery is pleasant, and in some instances picturesque; and the view, embracing the course of the river Teivy from its influx into the sea, with the town of Cardigan and its ancient bridge, is exceedingly interesting. The lands are all enclosed and in a good state of cultivation, and the soil is fertile and productive. A salmon fishery is advantageously carried on during the summer, and a herring fishery in the autumn and winter, affording employment to such of the inhabitants as are not engaged in agricultural pursuits. A small portion of the town of Cardigan, called Bridge-End, which has been very recently built, extends into the hamlet of Bridge-End, in this parish, and has, by the late Boundary Act, been included within the enlarged limits of that borough: one of the Cardigan fairs is held here, and the principal proprietor intends to erect some more new houses along the banks of the river and up the road. The living is a discharged vicarage, with those of Llantyd and Monington annexed, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 13. 4., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £600 royal bounty,



and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church is dedicated to St. Thomas. There are places of worship for Baptists and Independents. A Sunday school, which is said to be the oldest in the principality, is supported by subscription. The sum of £2 per annum, chargeable on the farm of Rhôs y Moeliad, and some other trifling donations, are annually distributed among the poor. There is a strong chalybeate spring in the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £601. 17.

DOGWELL'S, ST. (ST. DOGVAEL'S), a parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (N.) from Haverfordwest, on the road from that town to Fishguard, containing 514 inhabitants. This parish is noted, on traditional authority, as the birthplace and place of burial of that distinguished patriot and chieftain, Owain Glyndwr, who is said to have been born at Little Trêfgarn, and to have been interred at the small village of Wolf's Castle, both situated within its limits. The manor of St. Dogwell's was granted to the upper chapter of St. David's by Sir Richard Symmond, Knt., in 1328, for the maintenance of two priests in the cathedral church of that place, to say mass for the benefit of his soul and that of his wife: the rectorial tithes of the parish had been given to the same body by Bishop Thomas Wallensis, in the year 1254. Little Trêfgarn was originally annexed by Bishop Iorwerth to the precentorship in the cathedral church of St. David's, on the foundation of that dignity, but was subsequently resumed by Bishop Gower, and an annual stipend of twenty marks allowed in its stead: it does not appear at what time it was re-appropriated, but it is now held on lease of the precentor by William Edwardes Tucker, Esq., of Sealy Ham, as representative of the family of Edwardes, of Little Trêfgarn, in which it has been vested for upwards of two hundred years. Sealy Ham is an elegant modernized mansion on the bank of a small stream, called the Sealy, and has been in the possession of the same family since the reign of Edward III.: it is now the property and residence of W. E. Tucker, Esq., by marriage of William Edwardes, Esq., of Little Trêfgarn, with the heiress of that house. Slate of good quality is found in this parish, and is worked upon a limited scale. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 16. 0½., and in the patronage of the Upper Chapter in the Cathedral Church of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Dogvael, is a plain building of considerable antiquity, without either tower or spire: the nave is separated from the south aisle by low Norman arches. The sum of £7. 10. per annum is paid to the poor of this parish by Major Harries of Trêvacoön, under the will of the late John Edwardes, Esq., of Trêfgarn. Within the limits of the parish are, a cromlech, and other remains of antiquity, some of which, supposed to have been Druidical altars, are at present little more than an indiscriminate heap of stones: there are also slight remains of three ancient encampments, probably of Danish origin, and in a more perfect state than the relics above mentioned; of these, one, near which are three tumuli, is situated at Wolf's Castle, and the two others, within one of which there is a rocking-stone, are within the demesne

of Sealy Ham. The annual average expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £105.

DÔLBENMAEN (DÔL-BEN-MAEN), a parish in the hundred of EIVIONYDD, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N.W. by W.) from Trêmadoc, on the road from Carnarvon, containing 355 inhabitants. There are some considerable veins of copper-ore in this parish, but no spirited efforts have ever been made to work them; and the higher, or mountainous, part of it contains an abundance of manganese. Numerous quartz crystals, in the form of regular prisms of six, eight, and ten sides, terminating at one extremity in an obtuse point, and of considerable magnitude, have been found here, deeply imbedded in a species of black vegetable soil. A fair is held annually on August 26th. The living is rectorial and is consolidated with the rectory of Penmorva, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Beuno, is a small structure, in the later style of English architecture, built in 1432, and now in a very ruinous and neglected state. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. Not far from the church is a circular artificial mound of earth, on which was a castle, apparently built to guard the pass of the valley, and probably of British origin; but no remains of the building are now in existence. At Ystum Cegid, not far from the site of the castle, are three vast cromlechs, situated near each other and of very rude construction. A rent-charge of £2. 10. was bequeathed to the poor of this parish by an unknown benefactor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £111. 7.

DÔLGELLEY (DÔLGELLAU, or DÔLGELLEU), a market town and parish in the hundred of TAL Y BONT and MOWDDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 18 miles (S.W.) from Bala, 20 (S.E.) from Harlech, and 211 (W.N.W.) from London, containing 4087 inhabitants. This place derives its name (which is compounded of *Dôl* "a dale," and *Celli*, "a grove of hazel trees,") from being situated in a vale abounding with hazels. During the insurrection headed by Owain Glyndwr, that aspiring chieftain assembled a parliament at this town, in 1404, whence he despatched his chancellor, Griffith Yonge, L.L.D., archdeacon of Merioneth, and his kinsman, John Hanmer, ambassadors to the French court, whose credentials, beginning "*Owinus Dei gratid princeps Wallie*," were dated thus:—"Datum apud Doleguelli 10 die mensis Maii, MCCCC quarto, et principatus nostri quarto." During the war between Charles I. and the parliament, Dôlgelley was occupied by a small garrison for the latter, and was besieged by about one hundred of the king's troops, who, however, were dispersed by Mr. Edward Vaughan, and their captain made prisoner.

The town is justly regarded as the provincial metropolis of Merionethshire, being by far the most populous and centrally situated of any within its limits. It occupies a delightful situation on the road from Welshpool to Barmouth, in a fertile and picturesque vale, bounded by lofty mountains, the sides of which are, in many places, richly clothed with wood, and which is adorned with numerous genteel residences, and watered by the river Wnion, or Gwynion, which unites with the Maw, or Mawddâch, near Llanelltyd,



about two miles lower down, and thence, under the latter name, flows into Cardigan bay at Barmouth. The streets are irregularly formed, and the houses mostly ill-built; but a good line of houses was begun on the 4th of June, 1830, by Sir R. W. Vaughan, Bart., called, in respect for the venerable nobleman of that name, Eldon Row; and many other parts of the town have recently experienced, or are now undergoing, considerable improvement. The river Wnion is here crossed by a stone bridge of seven arches, erected in 1638, which was some years ago enlarged and repaired. A book society has been formed, which consists of several highly respectable members. The parish is about sixteen miles in length and from three to four in breadth: nearly the whole of it is rocky mountainous land, consisting of sheep-walks and turbaries, in the latter of which a considerable quantity of peat is obtained; and the proportion of arable and meadow land exceeds little more than one-fortieth part of its superficial extent: upwards of six thousand acres of waste land were enclosed by act of parliament in 1811. A great quantity of peat is brought up the river Maw from an extensive turbarry near Barmouth, at which place the coal used by the inhabitants is imported. Dôlgeley and its vicinity have long been noted for the manufacture of a sort of coarse woollen cloth, or flannel, called "webs," or "Welsh plains," in which about one thousand four hundred persons are at present employed: the number of pieces made annually amounts to about thirty thousand, averaging one hundred and ten yards each, which are chiefly sent to Liverpool, and thence shipped to Charlestown, South Carolina. This material is likewise manufactured in two other small districts, one in Montgomeryshire, and the other in Denbighshire; but the quantity produced in Dôlgeley and its environs is by far the greatest. The manufacture of "webs" in this town is of remote origin, as appears by acts of parliament of the first and third of James I., and by two orders for its regulation from the Privy Council of Charles I., which are further noticed in the article on the county of Merioneth. The warp is now composed of the fleece wool of the country; while the woof is a mixture, containing about one-third, and sometimes one-half, of lambs' wool. The "webs" of Dôlgeley, in common with those of Machynlleth in Montgomeryshire, are called by the drapers "strong cloth," to distinguish them from those of the Glyn district, near Oswestry, which are termed "small cloth," because the pieces are about one-eighth of a yard narrower, though of the same length. Until towards the close of the last century, the only market for them was one held weekly, on Thursday, at Shrewsbury, in the hall belonging to the drapers of that town, where no buyers but of that particular guild were admitted, and an injurious monopoly consequently prevailed; but agents are now employed by the merchants of Liverpool and Shrewsbury, to collect them at the place of their manufacture. In the last century they were chiefly sold directly from the loom; but fulling-mills have since been erected upon the banks of the streams in the neighbourhood, and bleaching-grounds formed along the sides of the hills. Much business is done in the dressing of native lamb-skins and foreign lamb and kid skins, upwards of one hundred thousand of the

former being sent annually to Worcester and Chester, and a few to London: tanning is also carried on to a considerable extent, and in some of the adjacent parishes are mines of copper and lead. During the period of about ten years which intervened between the close of the American war and the commencement of the great European struggle, the web-manufacturers of Dôlgeley established a warehouse at the port of Barmouth, and thence conveyed about one-third of their manufactures by sea to London, the small vessels employed taking each about three hundred webs, each consisting of two pieces, over a ballast of slate or paving stones; and the total number of yards annually exported amounted to about twenty-five thousand. This maritime trade, however, ceased in 1793, when it became necessary to return to the old method of land carriage, which was five times more expensive, and, conjointly with other circumstances, caused such a decline in the prosperity of the trade, that many of the weavers were compelled to seek other employment. At present the webs, skins, &c., are carried by land, in waggons, to Shrewsbury, and thence distributed to different parts of the kingdom. The town is principally supplied from Liverpool with groceries, which are brought to Barmouth, and thence conveyed up the river Maw, in boats varying from ten to twenty tons' burden, to a place near Llanelltyd bridge, within two miles of Dôlgeley. There are two weekly markets, on Tuesday and Saturday; and fairs, chiefly for the sale of horned cattle, horses, cheese, butter, &c., are held on February 20th, April 21st, May 11th, June 27th, August 13th, September 20th, October 9th, November 22nd, and December 16th. The summer assizes, and the Easter and Michaelmas quarter sessions, for the county are held at Dôlgeley; but seldom more than two or three prisoners are tried at the former, and frequently none at all. The county court, for the recovery of debts under forty shillings, is also most commonly held here, though sometimes at Bala; and petty sessions are held here for the division. The county hall, which is situated near the river Wnion, is a neat stone edifice of mixed architecture, erected in 1825, at an expense of £3000: the length of the front is seventy-two feet eight inches: the court-room is handsomely fitted up with necessary accommodations for the officers of justice, and measures forty-three feet nine inches by thirty feet: on the right of it are, a retiring-room for the judges, an apartment for the petty jury, and the record office; and on the left are a grand jury room and an armoury for the county. The county gaol, situated at the outskirts of the town, is a semicircular edifice of stone, built in 1811, at an expense of nearly £5000: it includes also the house of correction, and comprises three day-rooms and four airing-yards, and will admit of a classification of the prisoners into five divisions.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £13. 1. 8., and in the patronage of the Crown. There is no parsonage-house, nor was there any land attached to the living prior to the enclosure of waste land in the year 1811, when five acres, lying about three miles from the town, were assigned to the rector out of the allotment due to the crown. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a neat structure, principally of Grecian archi-



ture, with a square embattled tower, containing an excellent peal of eight bells: the interior exhibits a singularity in the seats, which are simply forms, or benches, with backs to them. There is an ancient monument to the memory of Meiric Vychan ab Ynwr Vychan, fifth in descent from Prince Cadwgan, son of Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, who resided at the neighbouring house of Nannau, which still continues in the possession of his descendants: he is represented as clad in close mail, wearing a helmet and neck guard, with a sword in his hand, and a dog at his feet: his shield bears a lion passant gardant, with the inscription "*Hic jacet Mauric filius Ynwr Vychan.*" A handsome modern monument has also been erected to the memory of the late Lord Chief Baron Richards, who was a native of this parish. An ancient chapel, called Ysppyty Gwanas, was formerly situated on the road to Dinasmowddwy, about four miles distant, the site of which is now marked by a few yew trees. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, with a Sunday school attached to each. The free grammar school was founded in 1665, by John Ellis, D.D., incumbent of this parish, who bequeathed a tenement called Penrhyn, in the parish of Llanaber, in this county, for the instruction of twelve poor boys: it was further endowed by the Rev. Ellis Lewis, of this place, by will dated August 21st, 1727, with a tenement called Cilgwyn, in the parish of Llandrillo yn Rhôs, Denbighshire, and with £50 for the erection of a school-room; also with £300 in the three per cent. consols., by the Rev. Mr. Tamberlain, a late incumbent: the present income, arising from these and some minor donations, is about £40 per annum: the master, who is appointed by the rector of Dôlgelley, must be a graduate of either Oxford or Cambridge, and is not allowed to accept church preferment, without resigning his situation. A National school, in which about one hundred children of both sexes are at present instructed, was established in 1827, and is supported by subscription. John Rowlands, Esq., of London, left the sum of £4 per annum for apprenticing poor boys: and a few other small benefactions have been made for the poor of this place, the principal of which is a farm, called Vaenol, in the parish of Towyn, producing about £15. 15. per annum, for distribution at the discretion of the rector.

Part of the building in which a parliament was held by Owain Glyndwr is still standing among a group of old houses near the Ship Inn, and is called *Cwrt Plâs yn y drêw*, "the town-hall court." The Roman *Via Occidentalis* is supposed to have taken its course from *Menapia* (St. David's) to *Segontium* (Carnarvon) by this town, between which and Trawsvynydd, at a place called Pen y Strÿd, or "the head of the street," part of it may yet be traced. Close to the town, near a well called Fynnon Vair, "St. Mary's Well," the water of which was formerly considered efficacious in the cure of rheumatic diseases, a few Roman coins have been discovered. A golden torques (a baldric worn as a badge of distinction by some of the Roman conquerors of Britain, and by such of the ancient British chieftains as were their allies) was found in a turbarry, on the 2nd of September, 1823, on the margin of Llŷn Gwernan, near the northern cliffs of Cader Idris, by James P. Hughes, Esq., who discovered it whilst shooting, and, ignorant of its value as a very rare relic of antiquity,

offered it for sale to a friend for five shillings, but the offer being rejected, he presented it to David Jones, Esq., one of the clerks of the ingrossments of the House of Commons, by whom it has been discovered to be a torques: it is forty-two inches in length, weighs eight oz. and eight dwts., and the intrinsic value of the metal is about £36. In the grounds of Nannau, in this parish, there are the remains of a British fortification, called *Moel Orthrum*, "the hill of oppression," or *Moel Ofrwm*, "the hill of sacrifice:" it is formed by the summit of a high rock, encircled by a rampart of loose stones. The mansion of Nannau, situated about two miles from Dôlgelley, is a handsome substantial structure, rebuilt on a more eligible site by its present owner, Sir R. W. Vaughan, Bart.; it stands on very high ground, and is surrounded by thick woods and plantations, which hold a high rank among the beauties of the Vale of Dôlgelley. In the reign of Henry IV., the estate of Nannau belonged to Howel Sele, a warm partisan of the house of Lancaster, and the bitter enemy of Owain Glyndwr, his first cousin. To reconcile the kinsmen, the abbot of Cymmer contrived a meeting at this place, and apparently succeeded in his design; but whilst walking out, Owain, observing a doe feeding, pointed it out as a fine mark to Howel, who was considered the most skilful archer of that period, and the latter bent his bow, and pretended to take aim, but suddenly turning round, let fly at Owain, who, however, being protected by armour which he wore under his clothes, received no injury. Owain immediately seized his treacherous kinsman, and burnt his mansion of Nannau to the ground. Howel was conveyed to some place of imprisonment, and was never afterwards heard of alive; but, about forty years after this event, the skeleton of a man, supposed to be his, was discovered in the hollow trunk of a huge oak, in which he had probably been confined by Owain.

The Vale of Dôlgelley is remarkable for the number and variety of rich prospects which it affords; and the scenery of the surrounding country is characterized by a surpassing grandeur, richness, and diversity of aspect: there is, probably, no place in the principality whence so many interesting excursions may be made, as from Dôlgelley; in consequence of which tourists usually station themselves here for some days. Among the principal objects claiming notice is the towering Cader Idris, "the seat of Idris," situated in this parish, the summit of which is two thousand eight hundred and fifty feet above the level of Dôlgelley green, being exceeded in height only by two other mountains in Wales: its south-western ascent commences on the sea-shore, close to the æstuary of the small river Dysyni, about a mile from Towyn, and proceeds almost uninterruptedly, first northward for three miles, and then for ten miles east-north-eastward, with a branch, nearly three miles long, extending in a south-westerly direction parallel to the main ridge. The ascent from Dôlgelley, which usually occupies nearly three hours, commences about a mile and a half from the town, on the road to Towyn: this performed, and the highest summit, called Pen y Gader, once attained, a richly diversified scene of vast extent, having a circumference of at least five hundred miles, and of almost indescribable grandeur, presents itself. To the north the prospect is terminated by Snowdon, with its dependent mountains; on the west, by the bay of Cardigan, bounded by the Carnarvonshire hills; on the south, by the Radnorshire



hills and Plinlimmon mountain, with a partial glimpse between them of the bay of Swansea and the Bristol channel, together with the conspicuous summits of the Brecknockshire hills; and on the east by the lake of Bala, the two Arenig mountains, the two Arans, and the long chain of the Berwyn mountains, with the Breidden and Wrekin hills, and even Blackstone Edge, on the border of Lancashire: occasionally also some of the Irish mountains are visible. Within the limits of these interesting boundaries numberless objects of romantic beauty, including mountains of different forms and elevations, valleys, lakes, harbours, towns, and villages, combine to form a picturesque and diversified landscape, rarely excelled for richness and variety. The mountain is steep and craggy on every side, but especially on the south, to the border of Tal y Llyn lake, where the descent is almost perpendicular. Its breadth bears only a small proportion to its length; a line passing along its base and intersecting the summit would hardly measure four miles and a half; while in other parts the breadth of the base seldom exceeds one mile. At a place called Rhiwgredydd, within a few yards of the path along which the ascent is generally made, in the side of the mountain, a sort of mineral, much resembling English amber, was discovered in 1831, of which several tons have already been procured: the vein extends horizontally between two rocks, and is about three-quarters of a yard in breadth. The cataracts in the vicinity are also of surpassing interest and transcendent beauty. Of these, the nearest is Rhaiadr dû, or "the Black Cascade," more commonly called Dôl y Melynllŷn Cascade, situated a little beyond the fifth milestone, on the road to Trawsvynydd: it is approached by a path leading from the left of the road up a tolerably steep woody ascent, whence the river Camlan is seen pouring its waters over a rocky precipice full forty feet in perpendicular height, in two principal sheets, and through some lateral gulches into a bed of dark-coloured disjointed rocks, through which it rushes with foaming fury, and is speedily engulfed in the darkness of the adjacent woods. A view of its further progress is obtained by means of a steep and intricate path, which leads to the foot of the cascade, where a grand and beautiful prospect opens: an additional waterfall, nearly thirty feet in height, appears immediately in front; to the left, the former cataract tumbles furiously over the rocks, which in many places are covered with a pure white lichen, and to the right rises a perpendicular mass of rocks, crowned with trees. About two miles to the north-east of these falls, in a deep, narrow, and thickly wooded valley, are the cascades of Pistyll Cain and Pistyll Mawddâch, situated within a short distance of each other: the former is generally approached over a rude alpine bridge, formed by the trunk of an oak thrown from rock to rock across a dark narrow chasm, through which the river Cayne rushes with noisy and impetuous rage; after which, descending to the bottom of the fall, the river is seen rolling its foaming waters over a rugged ledge of rocks, about two hundred feet in height, nearly perpendicular, and, falling upon rocks of a light dun colour, has worn them into hollows of great depth and grotesque form. Pistyll Mawddâch consists of three falls, the first forming a sheet of water, about twenty feet broad, and nearly as many in height, which is received into a kind of natural basin, about thirty feet in

diameter: hence the river glides over the second precipice, by a fall of about thirty feet, into a second basin, larger than the former; and from this, contracting itself, it is precipitated over the third ledge, by a fall of twenty feet, into a capacious pool, from which, issuing with boiling fury, it foams among the rocky fragments that interrupt its course, and proceeds onward to its junction with the Cayne. The small mountain river Clywedog, which rises on Cader Idris, is in this parish, and, in its course of about two miles, forms numerous waterfalls, some of which are fifty feet in height. This river winds pleasantly through the grounds of I. H. Lewis, R. Richards, and J. Edwards, Esqrs., at whose expense an excellent gravel walk has been constructed along each of its banks, with others branching off, so as to afford a better view of the falls; and its waters, after heavy rains, descend with great velocity and noise over the huge rocks: its banks are well wooded, and the whole forms a scene highly picturesque and romantic. The road to Dinasmowddwy commands a fine view of the vale, with the town of Dôlgelley, and the lofty Cader Idris; and from Twrglâs, near Garthynghared, are seen the bay of Cardigan, Bardsey Island, the coast of Carnarvon, and the town of Barmouth, at the mouth of the Mawddâch, with that river winding westward through the vale, which is bounded by the two Arans: the fore ground is delightfully varied by the picturesque road from Dôlgelley to Barmouth, and the lofty rugged mountains and well-wooded fertile valleys which intervene. Lewis Owen, Esq., Vice-Chamberlain and Baron of the Exchequer for North Wales, who was barbarously murdered by a gang of lawless banditti, near Dinasmowddwy, whilst on his journey to the assizes at Montgomery, in 1555, resided at Llwyn, near this town. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £1343. 3.

**DÔLGWDEN (DÔL-GWDEN)**, a township in the parish of TRÊVEGLWYS, upper division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. W.) from Llanidloes. The population is returned with the parish. It is situated in a vale near the junction of the Bâchau stream with the river Clywedog, on the road from Machynlleth to Llanidloes. There are a few agreeable residences, though the general aspect of the surrounding district is wild and mountainous.

**DÔLWYDDELAN (DÔL-WEDDELAN)**, a parish in the hundred of NANTCONWAY, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (S. S. W.) from Llanrwst, containing 601 inhabitants. This parish is situated near the south-eastern extremity of the county, bordering upon Merionethshire, by which it is bounded on the south, and extending on the west to the mountains of Snowdon, which are partly within its limits. It is intersected by the small river Ledan, which receives several streams that descend from the neighbouring hills, and, taking an easterly course through the parish, falls into the Conway near Capel Garmon. The surface is abruptly broken, rising in many places into lofty eminences; and, with the exception of the valleys, which are fertile and well cultivated, the lands are for the greater part mountainous and barren. The surrounding scenery is marked with features of romantic grandeur, and distinguished rather for striking boldness of character than for picturesque beauty. Fairs, prin-



cipally for the sale of cattle, are held here annually on April 16th, August 15th, and September 20th. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Lord Willoughby de Eresby. The church, dedicated to St. Gwyvelan, is not remarkable for any architectural details. Elinor Thomas, in 1735, bequeathed £60 for the benefit of the poor, the interest of which is annually distributed among them. In this parish are the remains of the ancient castle of Dôlwyddelan, built probably by some of the princes of North Wales, though the original founder, and the time of its erection, are unknown. Iorwerth Drwndwn made this castle his residence, and his son Llewelyn the Great is said to have been born at this place. In the reign of Henry VII., Meredydd ab Ievan, ancestor of the Wynns of Gwydir, purchased the castle and its dependencies from the executors of Sir Ralph Berkenet, and made it his principal residence, while employed in reducing to order this part of the principality, which was at that time infested with banditti. For this purpose he kept an armed force here, which attended him on all occasions, and by his courage and perseverance succeeded in restoring order and tranquillity. The castle occupied the summit of a precipitous rock, and consisted of two square towers, between which was the castle yard; it was built of the stone of the country, and was a place of considerable strength. About a mile distant from it was the strong house called Penamnaen, built by Meredydd ab Ievan, of which some vestiges are still discernible. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £146. 7.

**DÔL Y GARROG**, a township in the parish of LLANBEDR, hundred of LLÊCHWEDD-ISÂV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N. N. W.) from Llanrwst. The population is returned with the township of Arddr. This place is situated on the turnpike road between Aberconway and Llanrwst, where the scenery of the beautiful vale of the river Conway assumes its most diversified and picturesque character. A stream, issuing from Llŷn Cawlwyd, a lake on the lofty mountains to the south, and, rushing down with great force between steep banks, forming many pleasing cascades in its course, crosses the road here, and falls into the Conway. Over it is a lofty bridge of one arch, from which the varied scenery of the surrounding district is seen to much advantage.

**DONATT'S (ST.)**, a parish in the hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6½ miles (S. W.) from Cowbridge, containing 151 inhabitants. This place is distinguished as the site of an ancient castle, formerly of great strength and magnificence, which was one of the twelve fortresses erected by the Norman knights who attended Fitz-Hamon in his conquest of this part of the principality. The lordship of St. Donatt's was given by Fitz-Hamon to Sir William le Esterling, or Stradling, in the possession of whose descendants it continued without interruption for more than seven hundred years, and on the decease of Sir Edward Stradling, Bart., who died at Montpellier, in 1738, it passed, with the castle, to Mr. Fontaine Tyrwhitt, and both are now the property of Thomas Tyrwhitt Drake, Esq., grandnephew of that gentleman. The castle is situated on the sea-coast, and is an extensive

pile of building, occupying a spacious quadrangle, over the gate leading into which are the arms of the Stradlings: part of it is now habitable, and in the later style of English architecture. The park lies to the west of it, and the gardens are on the south, between the walls of the castle and the sea, and are constructed on terraces descending to the shore of the Bristol channel, of which they command a fine view. Within the park is a quadrangular watch-tower of lofty elevation and picturesque appearance, which, according to local tradition, was erected for observing vessels in distress, not for the purpose of rendering assistance, but with a view to take immediate possession of the wreck, which became the property of the lord of the manor. In the neighbourhood there is a cave of considerable extent and grandeur, accessible only at low water, which in the summer time is much visited by parties, who, after having been gratified with a view of the romantic beauties of the place, usually dine upon the rocks. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £3. 14. 4½., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Thomas Tyrwhitt Drake, Esq. The church is beautifully situated beneath the castle, in a romantic dell, abounding with valuable timber, and contains, in a small sepulchral chapel belonging to the owner of the castle, some handsome monuments of the Stradlings, and an elegant sarcophagus of white marble to the memory of the last of that name, who died abroad; there are also several paintings of the fifteenth century, commemorating different members of that family. In the churchyard stands an elegant cross, of elaborate design and execution. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £90. 3.

**DONATT'S (WELSH ST.)**, a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (E. N. E.) from Cowbridge, containing 304 inhabitants. This place was formerly annexed to the parish of Llanblethian, from which it has been separated, and is now a parish of itself. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Llanblethian, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf. The church possesses no claim to architectural notice. Miss Leysons, about the year 1774, bequeathed a rent-charge of £5 for distribution among the poor of this parish. Caercady, the property of John Thomas Jones, Esq. R. N., is a genteel mansion, built by the late Colonel Jenkins, one of the auditors of the public accounts, from whom it came by marriage to its present proprietor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £127.

**DOTHIE-CAMDDWR (DEUTU-CAMDDWR)**, a township in the parish of LLANDEWY-BREVI, upper division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 14½ miles (E. N. E.) from Lampeter, containing 150 inhabitants. This place takes its name from the river Camddwr, which falls into the Towy at the junction of the counties of Cardigan, Brecknock, and Carmarthen. In 1074, a sanguinary battle was fought here, between Rhŷs ab Owain and Rhydderch ab Caradog, princes of South Wales, on the one side, and Gronw and Llewelyn, the sons of Cadwgan ab Bleddyn, on the other, to avenge the murder of the late prince, their grandfather, in which the



latter were victorious, and Rhydderch was slain, but Owain was, nevertheless, allowed to retain the sovereignty of South Wales. On the western bank of the river Camddwr there is an ancient military work, called Castell, constructed by Owain and Rhydderch on this occasion; and the place where Gronw and Llewelyn crossed the river by a ford is still named Rhŷd y meirch, "the ford of the cavalry." The ground in the neighbourhood of this place is rugged and mountainous. The township separately supports its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £44. 7.

**DOTHIE-PYSCOTTWR (DEUTU-PYSGOTWR)**, a township in the parish of **LLANDEWY-BREVI**, upper division of the hundred of **PENARTH**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. E. by E.) from Lampeter, containing 132 inhabitants. This township is situated near the source of the Piscottwr stream, which unites with the Dothie, previously to the latter joining the river Towy on the border of Carmarthenshire. It separately maintains its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £24. 15.

**DREMERCHION**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**. — See **TREMERCHION**.

**DREWERN (TREWERN)**, a township in the parish of **GLÂSCOMB**, hundred of **COLWYN**, county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**, 7 miles (N. E. by E.) from Builth, containing 203 inhabitants. This place is situated in a valley in the upper part of the parish, near the source of the river Edwy. It comprises one-half of the parish, of which the township of Vainor forms the other. In some places the scenery is of a pleasing character, agreeably contrasting with the contiguous mountains. The mineral springs called Blaen Edwy Wells are situated in this township. A bridge crosses the Edwy here on the road from New Radnor to Builth.

**DUTTON-DIFIETH (DUTTON-DIFFAITH)**, a township in the parochial chapelry of **ISCOED**, hundred of **BROMFIELD**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. by S.) from Wrexham, containing 161 inhabitants. It is separately assessed for the support of its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £53. 19.

**DUTTON Y BRÂN (DUTTON Y BRAIN)**, a township in the parochial chapelry of **ISCOED**, hundred of **BROMFIELD**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 4 miles (E. N. E.) from Wrexham, containing 58 inhabitants. This township is very small, but is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor: the average annual expenditure is £50. 4.

**DWYGYVYLCHI (DWY-GYVYLCHI)**, a parish in the hundred of **LLÊCHWEDD-UCHÂV**, county of **CARNARVON**, **NORTH WALES**, 4 miles (W.) from Aberconway, on the road from Liverpool to Holyhead, containing 444 inhabitants. This parish is situated in the mountainous district of Carnarvonshire, and is bounded on the east by the æstuary of the river Conway, which here falls into the Irish sea. In altering and improving the line of road from Liverpool to Holyhead, in 1826, a new route was formed through it from Aberconway, nearly four miles in extent, at an expense exceeding £20,000: it passes through the immense rocky mountain of Penmaen Bâch, which here projects into the sea, and, being carried immediately above the sea, is impassable during

the winter from the heavy gales which prevail, in consequence of which the mail and other coaches are compelled to travel along the old line of road through the mountain pass of Sychnant. The village is small, and consists only of a few scattered houses irregularly built. Copper-ore and manganese have been found in the parish, in small quantities, and pyrites in large masses; but the copper mines only are now worked, and that upon a limited scale. There is also an abundance of feldspar, but the works have been nearly discontinued. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of I. Wynne Eyton, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Tegonwy, is a small neat edifice, pleasantly situated beneath the lofty mountain of Penmaen Bâch, and is appropriately fitted up for the accommodation of the parishioners. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The produce of several charitable donations and bequests, amounting in the aggregate to £76. 14. per annum, is annually distributed among the poor on St. Thomas's day. On the mountains within the parish are numerous ancient encampments and fortresses, of which those to the south of Penmaen Bâch are the most extensive and singular in their construction. The principal of these occupies a very spacious area, enclosed by a strong stone wall of rude construction, much of which, with its facing of uncemented stones, is still remaining entire. Near it are seven smaller circular enclosures, about fifteen feet in diameter, formed of large upright stones, and in the centre of some of them stands a single upright stone. To the south of these are no less than twenty-six circular enclosures of similar construction, varying from twelve to twenty-two feet in diameter; and upon a rocky promontory facing Deganwy is a very deep narrow fosse, surrounding a wall of loose stones. The whole of this range of hills appears to have been anciently occupied, the foundations of several buildings being spread around on all sides; upright stones and carneddau are scattered in various places, and at a short distance stands a large upright stone of rude form, called Maen y Campiau, or "stone of the games," for the celebration of which, and also for the holding of the great Eisteddvodau, or meetings of the bards, these and similar places appear to have been appropriated during the earlier ages of the Britons. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £92. 17.

**DYFRYN**, a parcel in the parish of **LLANGYNIDR**, hundred of **CRICKHOWEL**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**, 9 miles (W. S. W.) from Crickhowel, containing 934 inhabitants. The Blaen Romney iron-works are situated here, near the source of that river, which rises in the southern extremity of the parish, on the border of Glamorganshire. Several tram-roads traverse the district, the principal of which is the Brŷn-Oer tram-road, terminating at the Brecknock canal. Coal is procured here; and the hills, on which are some few scattered carneddau, abound with limestone. Traces of an ancient Roman causeway, or vicinal road, from Caerphilly to Bedwelty in Monmouthshire, and through the iron mines of Brŷn-Oer to the Roman iron forges at Llanvrynach, in the Vale of Usk, may still be traced on the Trevil Glâs mountain, in this hamlet; and a celt was picked up on this hill some years since. A large natural cavern, called



Stabl Vawr, or "the great stable," above which is a large heap of stones, evidently a beacon, as no deposit was found beneath it, is still visible on this mountain. Near the source of the Romney is a ford termed Rhŷd y Milwyr, or "the soldiers' ford," of the origin of which there is no tradition. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment: the average annual expenditure amounts to £143. 1.

DYFRYN, a hamlet in the parish of LLANTHETTY, hundred of PENCELLE, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (S. E.) from Brecknock, containing 248 inhabitants. The parochial church is situated in this hamlet, which is bounded on the south by the Crawnnon brook, and on the north-east by the river Usk. It is also traversed by the Brecknock canal, to which a tram-road leads, conveying lime from the Llangattock hills, and coal from the banks of the river Romney, in the same parish: this hamlet is extremely well wooded.

DYFRYN, a hamlet in the parish of VAINOR, hundred of PENCELLE, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 145 inhabitants. It is situated on the left bank of the Tâf Vawr river: the lower part of the hamlet is well wooded. There are several carneddau scattered on the hills in this neighbourhood. The village of Coedycummer was formerly situated in this hamlet, but it is now a separate hamlet.

DYFRYN-CLYDACH, a hamlet in the parish of CADOXTON juxta NEATH, hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (N. W.) from Neath, containing 936 inhabitants. This hamlet is intersected by the turnpike road from Neath to Swansea, and is bounded by the little river Clydach, which falls into the Neath about half a mile lower down: it abounds with iron and coal, and there are copper-works on an extensive scale, which afford employment to a considerable proportion of the inhabitants. A rail-road proceeds south from the coal mines in the northern part of the hamlet, until it joins the Neath river, crossing the Briton-Ferry canal, which is conveyed over the lower part of the Clydach stream. Within its limits are the interesting ruins of Neath abbey, of which an account is given in the article on the parish of Cadoxton. On Drymmeu, or Trumau, mountain, which bounds it on the west, there are some intrenchments and a kistvaen, of which no authentic particulars have been recorded. This hamlet separately maintains its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £286. 14.

DYFRYN-CYDRICH (DYFRYN-CYDRYCH), a hamlet in the parish of LLANGADOCK, lower division of the hundred of PERVETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (S. by W.) from Llangadock, containing 828 inhabitants. This hamlet is situated between the rivers Towy and Sawdde, and is in general well cultivated and tolerably well wooded: the road from Llangadock to Llandilo-Vawr passes through it. On the top of Trichrŷg, a very long and elevated mountain, are three carneddau, which are very conspicuous at a considerable distance. A separate assessment is made for the maintenance of the poor: the average annual expenditure amounts to £346. 14.

DYFRYN-ELLAN (DYFRYN-ELAIN), a township in the parish of CWM-TOYDDWR, hundred of RHAIDR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S. W.) from

Rhaiadr, containing 360 inhabitants. This township takes its name from the river Elain, the vale of which abounds with romantic scenery, composed of lofty mountains and rugged and precipitous rocks, which are finely contrasted with the verdant meadows and cultivated enclosures on the banks of the river. Cwm Ellan, a neat modern structure, situated on a bend of the river, became the residence of Thomas Grove, Esq., on his purchasing about ten thousand acres of land in this vicinity, with the lordship of the Grange, which by judicious improvement has, from a barren waste, been converted into a fertile and flourishing tract, thus softening the wildness of the mountain scenery which characterizes this secluded spot: this beautiful and romantic seat is now the property of Robert Peel, Esq. At Nant Wylt, four miles from the mother church, on the left bank of the river Clarwen, is a chapel of ease, a small neat edifice, built in 1772, and in the gift of the vicar; and at Coed y Mynach, or "the Monk's Wood," on the banks of the Elain, about halfway to the mother church, are the remains of an ancient chapel, called Capel Madoc, which is supposed to have been attached to the abbey of Strata Florida, in Cardiganshire, as the vestiges of an ancient road, which connected the two places, are still visible on the lofty hills in this district. There are lead mines in this township, but they are not worked at present.

DYFRYN-GWY, a township in the parish of CWM-TOYDDWR, partly within the new limits of the borough of RHAIDR, and partly in the hundred of RHAIDR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (N. W.) from Rhaiadr, containing 507 inhabitants. The road from Rhaiadr to Aberystwith passes through this township, running, in the upper part of its course, along the left bank of the river Elain, which has its rise here in Llŷn Gwingy, on the border of Cardiganshire; and the river Wye flows on the north-eastern side of it: there are two manufactories for flannel. Within the limits of the township are several cairns, the most remarkable of which is Tommen sant Fraid, said to cover the remains of the patron saint of the parish church, which is situated in this township. On the banks of the Wye, nearly opposite to the site on which Rhaiadr castle stood, are traces of an encampment: though a part of the intrenchments were demolished last year, an artificial mount still remains, probably the site of the keep of an ancient castle, which it is said communicated with the former one by a passage beneath the river Wye.

DYFRYN-HONDDŪ, a chapelry composed of the Upper and Lower divisions, in the parish and hundred of MERTHYR-CYNOG, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N. by W.) from Brecknock, containing 386 inhabitants, of which number, 205 are in the Upper, and 181 in the Lower, division. The name of this place describes its situation in the Vale of HonddŪ, which abounds with pleasingly picturesque and highly romantic scenery. The surface is finely undulated: some of the hills are richly clothed with wood, and others afford good pasturage for the sheep which feed on their declivities; the lower grounds are partly arable and partly meadow land; and the views from the higher grounds combine many objects of interest and features of beauty. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese



of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Merthyr-Cynog. The chapel, which was anciently a chapel of ease to Merthyr-Cynog, is situated in a winding and romantic part of the valley, near the source of the rapid river Honddŷ, and on the mountain road from Brecknock to Builth, about two miles eastward from the mother church, and is sometimes called Capel Uchâ, or "the upper chapel," to distinguish it from the chapel of Llanvihangel-Vechan, in the parish of Llandeavillog-Vâch, lower down in the vale. On the right bank of the Honddŷ, a little above the chapel, stands Mynachtŷ, once a residence for the monks from Malvern priory, who were employed to superintend the temporal concerns and collect the dues of that religious house, in this parish: it is now a mean dwelling, with a small farm attached, apparently retaining not the least vestige of the original building. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the Upper division is £96, and that for the Lower division £114. 11.

DYLAS (DULAS) HIGHER, a hamlet in the parish of CADOXTON juxta NEATH, hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. N. E.) from Neath, containing 299 inhabitants. This hamlet derives its name from the small stream Dylas, which falls into the Neath in the lower hamlet of the same name: it contains a chapel of ease, called Crynant chapel, which is dedicated to St. Margaret. Fairs are held annually on Whit-Monday, September 29th, and November 20th. The Roman *Via Helena*, otherwise Sarn Helen, passed over the mountains in this hamlet: it diverged from the *Julia Strata Maritima* at Neath, and connected that station with the military post *Bannium*, or *Caer Bannau*, three miles from the town of Brecknock. This hamlet separately maintains its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £130. 19.

DYLAS (DULAS) LOWER, a hamlet in the parish of CADOXTON juxta NEATH, hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. E.) from Neath, containing 197 inhabitants. It is situated at the junction of the river Dylas with the Neath, and is intersected by the turnpike road from Neath into Brecknockshire through the Vale of Neath. At the distance of about one hundred yards from the road there is a very picturesque fall of the Dylas, over a ledge of rock which forms its bed for a considerable distance: a huge mass of rock, as if separated by some violent convulsion, occupies the middle of the channel, and, together with the two projections of the ledge, gives an additional effect to the scene. The scenery of the neighbourhood is particularly interesting, and in proceeding up the vale its beauty improves at every opening. The Neath canal here receives the Swansea and Neath junction canal, which is conveyed over the river by means of a handsome aqueduct. The Aber-Dylas railway, extending from the limestone quarries at Cwm Dylas, communicates with the western branch of this canal. This hamlet separately maintains its own poor: the average annual expenditure is £141. 3.

DYNHYNLLA-ISÂ (DIN-HENLLE), a township in the parish of RUABON, hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 1 mile (S. E.) from Ruabon, containing 489 inhabitants. Wynnstay,

the noble residence of Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., occupies the principal portion of this township, and is described in the article on the parish.

DYNHYNLLA-UCHÂ (DIN-HENLLE), a township in the parish of RUABON, hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (S. W.) from Ruabon. The population is returned with the township of Christyonydd. Wynnstay Park forms a portion of this township; and Offa's Dyke passes through it, in a line nearly parallel with the road from Ruabon to Chirk. There are some other respectable residences observable in different parts of the township.

DYSERTH (DISERTH), a parish, partly within the limits of the borough of RHUDDLAN, partly in the hundred of RHUDDLAN, and partly in that of PRESTATYN, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. N. E.) from Rhuddlan, containing 714 inhabitants. This place was anciently distinguished for its castle, of which mention occurs in various records, under the several appellations of Din Colyn, Castell y Failon, and Castell Gerri. Of its original foundation nothing certain is known: it was probably of Welsh origin, and is supposed to have formed the last of a chain of British posts on the Clwydian hills. This castle was fortified by Henry III., about the year 1241; but, within less than twenty years after, it was razed to the ground, together with the castle of Deganwy, by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd. During the siege of this place, Einon, son of Ririd Vlaidd, was slain, and a cross was erected to his memory on the spot, the shaft of which, ornamented with rude sculpture, was subsequently made to form part of a stile into the churchyard. The parish is bounded on the north-west by the Irish sea; and the turnpike road from Holywell, through Newmarket, to Rhuddlan, passes through the village. In a part of the parish, included in the Bishop of St. Asaph's manor of Rhuddlan, is an extensive lead mine, which is worked by the Talar Gôch Company, and of the produce of which the Bishop of St. Asaph receives the usual proportion, as lord of the manor. A part of the mine also extends into the parish of Meliden, and the produce, in the procuring of which two hundred persons on an average are employed, is shipped off from Rhuddlan to Flint, where it is principally smelted. This parish is the head of an archdeaconry, now annexed to the bishoprick of St. Asaph; and in the village was once an ancient mansion, in which the archdeacons formerly, and some of the bishops subsequently, resided, of which latter Bishop Parry died here in 1623. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, and in the patronage of the Bishop, as archdeacon, who, as such, is also impropiator of the tithes. The church, dedicated to St. Bridget, is a small neat edifice, without either tower or spire, but embellished with a fine window of painted glass, removed from Basingwerk abbey, near Holywell, at the time of the dissolution: within the church are some ancient grave-stones of Knights Templar; and in the churchyard, which is ornamented with several fine yew trees, are two singular tombstones, with a bow sculptured upon each, and an ancient pillar, or weeping stone, from which the primitive chiefs and princes are said to have dispensed their judgments. The ancient mansion in which the archdeacons resided was rebuilt in 1799,



for the parsonage-house, and has been since enlarged by the present incumbent, who has also repaired the church. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A day school is supported chiefly by the curate; and there is a Sunday school for adults, as well as children. The charitable bequests are few and small: the principal is an annual sum of £1. 10., arising from the Bôdryddan estate in the neighbourhood, which is distributed among the poor. The small remains of the ancient castle, consisting only of a few fragments, occupy the summit of a limestone rock about half a mile from the village: from this spot is an extensive view of the Irish sea and part of the Vale of Clwyd. Near the church was formerly a beautiful cascade, formed by a stream from Fynnon Asaph, in the parish of Cwm; but it is now almost destroyed by the diversion of the stream to the mines. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £272. 10.

## E.

EDERN (EDEYRN), a parish in the hundred of DINLLAEN, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (W.N.W.) from Pwllheli, containing 563 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the shore of Carnarvon bay, and has an excellent harbour, called Porthinllaen, whence two vessels sail regularly for Liverpool with pigs, poultry, and eggs, bringing back coal for the supply of the neighbourhood. A new line of road from Merionethshire was made to this port by the late Mr. Madocks, with the view of its becoming the station for the Irish mail packets; but, since Holyhead has obtained the preference, the road and the port have been neglected. That gentleman also greatly improved the pier at Porthinllaen, the construction of which was commenced in the reign of George I., who gave £600 towards defraying the expense. The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacies of Pistill and Carngiwch annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £8. 5. 10., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Edeyrn, is a small edifice, displaying some features in the early style of English architecture, and is lighted by one window only, at the east end, consisting of three lancet-shaped lights. At Groesfordd, a short distance from Edern, is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. There are some trifling charitable donations and bequests for distribution among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £131. 15.

EDNOL (EDNAWL), a chapelry in the parish of OLD RADNOR, within the liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N.E. by N.) from New Radnor, containing 45 inhabitants. This chapelry is situated on the eastern side of the tract called the Forest of Radnor, but divine service is not often performed in the chapel, owing to its proximity to the church of New Radnor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £10. 11.

EDREN'S, ST. (ST. EDEYRN'S), a parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 10 miles (N. N. W.) from Haverfordwest,

containing 113 inhabitants. This parish, which is of very small extent, is for the most part enclosed and cultivated. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Precentor and Upper Chapter in the Cathedral Church of St. David's. The grass in the churchyard is asserted by many residents in the vicinity to be a specific for preserving both men and cattle from the effects of the bite of a mad dog: by the former it is eaten with bread and butter, and the latter are turned in to graze upon it; and in those which in that condition have eaten it no symptoms of madness have afterwards appeared, while, on the contrary, such as would not have uniformly died in a short time: the grass is the perquisite of the parish clerk, and in the wall of the chancel is a cavity, into which is put whatever persons choose to pay for eating it. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £24.

EDWINSFORD, a joint hamlet with Glyn, in the parish of LLANSAWEL, lower division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 8½ miles (N.) from Llandilo-Vawr. The population is returned with the parish. This hamlet is situated in an agreeable and well-wooded vale, on the right bank of the river Cothy, and on the road from Llandilo-Vawr to Lampeter. The seat of Sir James Hamlyn Williams, Bart., forms a fine object fronting the road, with an ample demesne to the left, on the other side of the river, which flows here at the northern foot of a very elevated hill, called Moelvre. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor, including those of the hamlet of Glyn, amounts to £162. 11.

EGERMONT, otherwise EGREMONT, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N. by W.) from Narberth, containing 139 inhabitants. This parish, which borders on the county of Pembroke, and is pleasantly situated on the eastern branch of the river Cleddau, is about two miles and a half in length, and, in the widest part, about two miles in breadth: the surrounding scenery, though pleasingly varied, is not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature. Stone of very good quality for building is found here, and some quarries are now being worked. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Rowley Eddingbrooke Mansel, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is not distinguished by any peculiar architectural feature. There are some vestiges of an ancient encampment in the parish, but nothing has been recorded concerning its history. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £27. 17.

EGLWYSAEL, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES.  
—See LLANGADWALADR.

EGLWYS-BÂCH (EGLWYS-VÂCH), a parish chiefly in the hundred of ISDULAS, county of DENBIGH, but comprising also the township of Maenan, which separately supports its own poor, in the hundred of LLÊCHWEDD-ISÂV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (N.) from Llanrwst, on the road to Aberconway, and containing 1108 inhabitants. Its length from north to south is seven miles, and its breadth, in



a transverse direction, four: the surface is very hilly, which circumstance causes a great variety of soil, some being extremely barren, and some, on the contrary, tolerably fertile, yielding good crops of corn. The village is situated in a pleasing and fertile vale watered by the river Conway, and the vicinity abounds with agreeable and richly varied scenery. Near the north-western extremity of the parish is Bodnod, the head of a township of that name, and the residence of William Hanmer, Esq., to whom it passed by marriage with the heiress of the family of Lloyd, who appear to have held this property in the reign of James I. The old mansion was taken down by the late John Forbes, Esq., and a new one erected on its site, in 1792, which was considerably enlarged and improved by the present proprietor, in 1829: it is a handsome edifice, pleasantly situated, and commanding extensive and richly diversified views over the Vale of Conway to the Snowdonian mountains. Here are also two other mansions, *viz.*, Pennant Ereithlyn, belonging to the family of Edwards, and Maenan, to that of Lenthal. Though the Conway is navigable the entire length of the parish, Eglwys-Bâch possesses neither manufactures nor trade. At Tal y Cavn, within its limits, is a ferry across that river, communicating with the Carnarvonshire coast; and near this point the navigation of the river is in some degree obstructed by the Arw, or Arrow rocks, which prevent vessels from approaching nearer to the village. Fairs are held on February 24th, May 11th, August 24th, and November 24th. A court leet and a court baron are held annually, in April, for the manor of Maenan, which extends over the whole of that portion of the parish which is within the county of Carnarvon, and claims all the privileges anciently enjoyed by the abbots of the monastery which formerly existed there. The rectorial tithes were appropriated by Sir John Wynne, Bart., to the endowment of a hospital and grammar school at Llanrwst, founded by him about the year 1610. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Martin, was entirely rebuilt in 1782: it is a neat and spacious edifice, with a low square tower. There are two places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, one in the township of Cevn y Coed, and the other in that of Bodnod; and there is one for Wesleyan Methodists, situated in the village. In 1821, a school for the gratuitous instruction of children, supported by Mrs. Bevan's charity, was held in the church; and the inhabitants of Eglwys-Bâch are supposed to have an interest in the endowed school of Sir John Wynne, of Gwydir, at Llanrwst. In that portion of the parish which is in the county of Carnarvon anciently stood Maenan abbey, said by some historians to have been founded in the reign of Richard I.: but no authentic notice of it is found prior to the year 1283, when Edward I., by the authority of Pope Nicholas, removed to it the Cistercian monks of Aberconway, when he fortified that town against the Welsh: on establishing them at Maenan, the English monarch confirmed all the privileges which they had enjoyed in their former habitation, and added materially to their possessions. The abbey continued to flourish till the dissolution, at which time its revenue was £179. 10. 10. Queen Elizabeth,

in 1563, granted it and the township in which it stood to Elizeus Wynne, who took down the greater part of the abbey buildings, and with the materials built a mansion not far from the spot: of the ancient structure only one small arch at present remains. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor of the whole parish amounts to £809. 3., of which sum, £578. 16. is raised for that portion which is situated in the county of Denbigh.

EGLWYS-BREWIS, a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S. by E.) from Cowbridge, containing 19 inhabitants. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £3. 18. 6½., and in the patronage of L. W. Dillwyn, Esq., who is proprietor of the greater part of this small parish. The church is a very small edifice, dedicated to St. Brise, and presents no architectural feature worthy of especial notice. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £15. 4.

EGLWYS-CUMMIN (EGLWYS-CYMMYN), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (W. by N.) from Laugharne, on the road to Narberth, containing 373 inhabitants. This parish, which is of considerable antiquity, derives some degree of celebrity, from an allusion made to it by Sir John Pryce, in his history of the Welsh wars, as the place in which a peace was once concluded; and a memorial of this event is preserved in the name of "Peace Park," given to the spot on which the negotiations were transacted. The parish is of great extent, and a considerable portion of it is at present uncultivated: it is intersected by two streams, which, after pursuing a subterraneous course for a considerable distance, discharge their waters into the bay of Carmarthen. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, contains a monument to the memory of Sir John Perrot, who was the first sheriff of the county of Pembroke; and on the chalice of the communion plate is inscribed, in old letters, *Poculum Ecclesiæ de Eglos Skymine*, with the date 1574: the word *Skymine*, signifying "bleak," is supposed to allude to the situation of the church on a lofty unsheltered eminence. Zacharias Thomas, in 1682, bequeathed to the poor not receiving parochial relief a rent-charge of £1. 6. 8. There are some vestiges of an ancient military earthwork in a field, which, from that circumstance, has obtained the appellation of "Castell Park." The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £105. 11.

EGLWYSILAN (EGLWYS-ILAN), a parish in the hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, on the road from Cardiff to Merthyr-Tydvil, comprising the market town of Caerphilly, and containing 2818 inhabitants. This parish is bounded on the east by the river Romney, and on the west by the Tâf, and is computed to comprise about fifteen thousand acres: it formerly contained several ancient family mansions, of which, Energlyn, or Genau 'r Glyn, the property of Thomas Goodrich, Esq., alone remains, and even this is now uninhabited. That called the Vann, which was for ages the seat of the family of Lewis, ancestors



of the Earl of Plymouth, to whom it now belongs, still forms an interesting object in descending the hill towards the town of Caerphilly. The surface of the parish is partly hilly and partly flat: the prevailing soils are gravelly clay and peat. The parish is rich in mineral wealth, especially coal, which is worked to great advantage: iron-ore is raised at its south-western extremity, under Castell Côch, where are also some excellent stone quarries. At Newbridge, the largest village within its limits, are situated the original works of Messrs. Brown and Co., for the manufacture of chain cables, the iron work of suspension bridges, &c.: the suspension bridge over the Thames at Hammersmith, one over the Tweed, another over the Usk, and the chain pier at Brighton, were made at these works, which afford employment to about one hundred persons, and manufacture annually from ten to twelve hundred tons of iron. The Glamorganshire canal traverses the whole extent of the parish, and opens a cheap and expeditious communication between the mines and Cardiff, where the produce of the works is shipped. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Llanvabon annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 1½., and in the patronage of the Archdeacon and Chapter of Llandaf. The church, dedicated to St. Helen, is situated on the brow of a lofty hill, at a considerable distance from any habitation but the vicar's and the clerk's, and is almost inaccessible, during some weeks in the winter, to the majority of the parishioners. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Mrs. Aldworth, of Bristol, by will dated in 1729, left certain lands in the parishes of Eglwysilan and Llandaf, in this county, and Bedwas, in the county of Monmouth, to endow a school for the education of poor girls, natives of the parishes of Eglwysilan and Bedwas: the property produces about £140 per annum, the greater part of which is appropriated to the support of three schools, *viz.*, one at Newbridge, to which a salary of £27 per annum is attached; another at Caerphilly, with a salary of £35 per annum; and the third at Bedwas, with a salary of £25. 10. Within the parish are situated two picturesque and interesting ruins, *viz.*, Caerphilly Castle, described in the account of that place, and Castell Côch, or "the Red Castle," at the south-western extremity of the parish. The latter is so called from the colour of the stone used in its erection, which is ascribed to Ivor Bâch, who, having succeeded in compelling Robert Earl of Gloucester, and lord of Glamorgan, to restore the ancient laws of the Welsh to his native vassals in this part of the principality, placed in it a garrison of two hundred men, to command the pass of two valleys, which here converge. The situation of these ruins is very striking, and commands a magnificent prospect of the rich Vale of Glamorgan, with the sea, and the distant hills on the English coast. They consist principally of two circular bastions of unequal sizes: in front is a steep precipice, and behind, a wide and deep fosse, excavated in the solid rock, which rises to a considerable height above it. About a mile higher up the river, on its eastern bank, is a celebrated spring, called Fynnon Tâf, or "the well of Tâf," the water of which is justly held in high estimation for its efficacy in the cure of rheumatic disorders: it is sometimes called Fynnon Dwym, or "the tepid

well," and is the only thermal spring in South Wales: an extraordinary flood, in the year 1799, is said to have laid bare some Roman masonry adjoining this well, which was covered again by subsequent inundations of the Tâf. There are some other springs, the waters of which are considered serviceable in the cure of pulmonary diseases. William Edwards, the self-taught architect of Pont y Prydd, who rose gradually by his own talents to be the most celebrated bridge-builder in this part of the kingdom, to which he added also the profession of a Dissenting minister, and the business of a farmer, was born in this parish, in 1719, and was the youngest son of a farmer: his remains were interred in the churchyard: three of his sons practised the same branch of architecture as their father, and greatly distinguished themselves in it. The average annual expenditure of the whole of the parish, including the town of Caerphilly, for the support of the poor, amounts to £664. 12.

EGLWYS-NEWYDD, or LLANVIHANGEL Y CREIDDYN-UCHÂV, a chapelry in the parish of LLANVIHANGEL Y CREIDDYN, hundred of ILAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 14 miles (S. E.) from Aberystwith, containing 1027 inhabitants. This place derives the latter of these names from its relative situation in the parish, and the former from the erection of a church, in 1803, by the late Thomas Johnes, Esq., on the site of a former edifice originally built here in 1620, by the Herberts of Havôd, for the convenience of the family, and the accommodation of the miners employed in the adjoining district of Cwm Ystwith. Havôd, the seat of the late Mr. Johnes, was originally the residence of a branch of the Herbert family, who, embarking in the mining adventures of the neighbourhood, built a house here, which, from the nature of the ground and the badness of the roads, being inaccessible except during the summer, obtained the appellation of "Havôd," signifying a summer residence. From the Herberts the estate passed, by marriage with the daughter and heiress of the last male representative of that family, to Thomas Johnes, Esq., ancestor of the late Mr. Johnes, who in 1783 made it his principal residence, and, perceiving the vast improvement of which the spot was susceptible, projected and executed those extensive and magnificent embellishments, which have rendered it one of the most attractive and admired seats in the principality. Mr. Johnes commenced his improvements by taking down the old house, and erecting on its site an elegant mansion of light and beautiful character, in the later style of English architecture, comprising, upon a moderate scale, a suite of apartments adapted in every respect to the elegant accommodation of his family, with a magnificent library, in which was deposited a rare and valuable collection of books and manuscripts, which with great labour and expense he had formed in every department of literature: adjoining the library he built a conservatory, one hundred and sixty feet in length, stored with every species of exotic plants, and communicating with the library by folding-doors panelled with plate glass. The whole of the interior of this mansion was destroyed in 1807, during the absence of Mr. Johnes, by an accidental fire which broke out early in the morning; and, with the exception of a very small portion of the books, rescued from the flames by the intrepidity of Mrs. Johnes, the whole of the library,



consisting of many thousand volumes, several of the paintings, and nearly all the splendid furniture of the house, were consumed. The conservatory only was saved, and the walls of the house were alone left standing: the mansion was soon rebuilt, nearly in the same style, and, with some slight alterations, the internal arrangements are the same: another library has been formed, comprehending the Pesaro collection, purchased by Mr. Johnes in Italy, and which was on its way to Havôd at the time of the fire; many valuable works in the French, Spanish, and Italian languages; some scarce editions of the classics; and almost all the productions of the Aldine press. The principal of the pictures saved from the fire, and some other works of art, are arranged in the apartments of the present mansion. In the octagonal library are the busts of Mrs. and Miss Johnes, by Banks, a bust of Mr. Johnes by Chantrey, and a bust of the late Duke of Bedford by Nollkens. Over the mantel-piece is an old picture of the prophet Elijah fed by the ravens, which anciently belonged to the abbey of Talley, in the county of Carmarthen, and was, on the dissolution of that establishment, given by the superior to an ancestor of Mr. Johnes. In the long library is a beautiful piece of sculpture by Banks, representing Thetis dipping Achilles in the river Styx; and near the entrance from this room into the dining-room is a fine painting, by Reubens, of Decius Mus receiving the benediction of the Pontifex Maximus, on his devoting himself for the safety of his country. Among numerous pictures by eminent masters are, a portrait of Mr. Johnes of Llanvair, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; of Robert Liston, Esq., by Wickstead; of Richard Gorges, Esq., of Eye, in the county of Hereford; and of Viganoni; a fine copy of Guido's Cupid Sleeping, landscapes by Both and Berghem, a fine painting of the ruined Alchymist by Salvator Rosa, and other subjects by different masters. In the drawing-room are, Hogarth's celebrated picture of Southwark Fair, a Descent from the Cross by Vandyke, an "Ecce Homo" by Moralez, two landscapes by Claude, a procession of the Doge of Venice by Canaletti; an Assumption by Bernardo Lonino, pupil of Leonardo da Vinci, which was originally an altarpiece at Lugano; a Holy Family by Reubens, a portrait of Lord Chancellor Thurlow by Gardener, and some beautiful miniatures by the late Miss Johnes. The hall is paved with Mona marble, and is embellished with a Grecian statue of Bacchus; and with six paintings of subjects from Froissart, in imitation of basso relievo, by Stothard. The grounds, which are very extensive, and are laid out with exquisite taste and judgment, comprehend a rich and diversified assemblage of every thing that is beautiful in picturesque, and impressive in romantic, scenery. The natural advantages of the spot have been improved by every variety of embellishment, and numerous walks have been formed through the grounds, in such directions as to bring successively into view the various beautiful features with which the scenery abounds, and the many objects of natural grandeur with which they are powerfully contrasted. The river, in its course through the grounds, frequently obstructed by lofty masses of rock impending over its stream, forms a succession of beautiful cataracts, which are seen from several points of view with peculiar effect: the beautiful church of Eglwys-Newydd forms an interesting feature in the landscape; and on the brow of

a hill is an obelisk, erected to the memory of the late Duke of Bedford, with an inscription commemorative of the services which that nobleman rendered to the agriculture of the country. Independently of the mansion and grounds of Havôd, Mr. Johnes bestowed extraordinary attention and unlimited expense in improving the agriculture of the surrounding district, which from a barren desert he changed into a highly cultivated and richly wooded tract: the face of the country has been materially altered by extensive and thriving plantations; and the lands have been brought into good cultivation and are to the utmost as productive as the nature of the soil will allow. Crops of wheat, barley, rye, and potatoes, have been raised with great success on lands which were previously thought to be incapable of producing them; and even some of the high and most exposed portions of land have been progressively advancing into a state of fertility. Numerous cottages of pleasing and comfortable appearance have been built for the labourers employed in cultivating the farms; and a very considerable number of the inhabitants of the hamlet of Llanvihangel y Creiddyn Uchâv, and its vicinity, have found employment upon Mr. Johnes' estate. According to Mr. Malkin, four hundred thousand larch trees, of which very few failed, fifty thousand alders, and two hundred thousand other trees, chiefly elm, beech, birch, and the common and the mountain ash, were planted by Mr. Johnes in the year ending June 1797; from October 1797 to October 1798, ten thousand oak trees of one and two feet in height; and from October 1798 to April 1799, fifty-five acres were set with acorns, and, during the same period, twenty-five thousand ash trees, of which number not more than five hundred died, and four hundred thousand larch trees, which all thrive, were planted on the Havôd estate. The whole number of trees planted from 1796 to 1801 was two millions and sixty-five thousand, and since that period the plantations have been increased by the addition of nearly two hundred thousand trees every year for many years.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Thomas Johnes, Esq. The stipend of the incumbent is derived partly from the tithes, and partly from a rate upon the lands, estimated according to an old survey. The chapel, erected at the sole expense of Mr. Johnes, from a design by Mr. Wyatt, and situated within the precincts of the Havôd grounds, is an elegant cruciform structure, in the later style of English architecture, with a square tower at the west end. In the centre of the cross is a richly ornamented font of artificial stone, supported on an octagonal shaft; one side of the basin bears a shield charged with the arms of the family of Johnes, and the faces of the shaft are embellished with figures representing the cardinal virtues. A fine painting, by Fuseli, of Christ and the two disciples of Emmaus ornaments the northern transept, and the window of the southern is wholly of ancient stained glass, which formerly ornamented one of the Dutch churches, from which it was removed during the French Revolution, at the close of the last century. Several of the Herberts of Havôd are buried in the chapel, to whom monumental tablets have been erected; and a splendid monument, by Chan-



treys, has been erected to the memory of the late Miss Johnes, on which are finely sculptured figures of herself and her weeping parents. Schools for the gratuitous instruction of poor children are supported by the family at Havôd.

**EGLWYS - RHÔS, LLAN-RHÔS, or LLANVAIR YN RHÔS**, a parish in the hundred of CREUDDYN, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. by E.) from Aberconway, containing 568 inhabitants. This parish is celebrated as having been at a very early period the residence of the sovereigns of North Wales: it contained the ancient royal palace of Deganwy, commonly called Gannock by the English invaders of North Wales, situated about a mile to the west of the church, on a hill commanding the river Conway, and which, for ages prior to the entire subjugation of the principality, formed the military station most earnestly contended for by the native Welsh and their Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Norman invaders. Deganwy is mistakenly supposed by Camden to have been the Roman station called in the *Itineraries Dictum*: it appears, however, from the testimony of the Welsh historians, that a city certainly existed here at a very remote period; and by some it is stated that the castle of Deganwy was erected in 550, by Caswallon Law-hîr, the first sovereign of North Wales, who made this the seat of government, previous to the removal of his court to Aberfraw, in Anglesey. He nevertheless left his son and successor Maelgwyn, surnamed Gwynedd, resident in this castle, from which that prince subsequently removed to a place called Penrhyn, in this parish, where he had built a palace, called "Llys Maelgwyn Gwynedd," in which he resided until the period when the pestilence called Vad Velen, or "the yellow fever," nearly depopulated this part of the country; on which occasion he sought refuge from the plague in the parish church of Eglwys-Rhôs, but, notwithstanding, fell a victim to it, as had been predicted, and was there interred. The successors of this prince usually resided either at Deganwy, or at Caer Segont, adjacent to the modern Carnarvon: the former city is said to have been destroyed by lightning, in the year 810, when it ceased to be a royal residence. The Welsh appear subsequently, however, to have erected here a fortress, which aided in defending the great rampart of the Snowdonian mountains against the repeated attempts made to pass it by the Anglo-Saxons. In the latter part of the eleventh century, when Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, overran nearly the whole of North Wales, this castle was rebuilt by that nobleman's zealous officer, Robert of Rhuddlan, who, in 1088, encamped a considerable army near its walls. In the same year, Gruffydd ab Cynan is said to have entered the Conway with three ships, and, landing under the castle at high water, left his vessels on shore at the recess of the tide, and proceeded to ravage the neighbouring country. Returning from his predatory incursion, and driving before him a large booty of men and cattle towards his ships, Robert, who witnessed the spectacle with indignation, descended from his fortress, attended only by a single soldier, and without any defensive armour but his shield. The Welsh attacked him with missiles, and, having filled his shield so full of darts that it fell under their weight, rushed upon him in a body, and, striking off his head, fastened it to the mast of one of their ships, and sailed away in triumph. Llewelyn the Great afterwards destroyed this castle, which

was rebuilt by Ranulph de Blundeville, Earl of Chester, in 1210. In the following year, the English monarch, John, led his army to the castle of Deganwy, where he posted it for some time; but Llewelyn so infested the roads with his light parties, that John and his forces were reduced to the greatest extremities of distress. Their supplies of provisions from England being intercepted, they were compelled to feed upon the flesh of their horses; and the soldiers, whenever they stirred from the camp, were liable to be cut in pieces; the Welsh, from their knowledge of the country, and the use which they made of it, having usually the advantage in every skirmish. After thus sustaining severe losses, the English king, stung with disgrace, and breathing vengeance against the valiant natives, was compelled to break up his camp and retreat into England. In 1212, an unsuccessful attack was made on this fortress by the Welsh prince, Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, to whom it was surrendered two years afterwards, and appears to have been dismantled. Henry III., in his invasion of North Wales, in 1245, halted with his army on the eastern bank of the estuary of the Conway, not daring to pass that river, and enter into the mountainous recesses of the country, while the enemy vigilantly hovered around him in detached parties. Finding on the point of a promontory of this parish, which projects into the Conway, the ruins of the castle of Deganwy, and determined that his expedition should not be entirely fruitless, he began to rebuild this fortress, that its garrison might be able to intercept the enemy's incursions into that part of the principality of which the English had already secured possession. During the ten weeks which Henry employed in erecting this castle, his army, which was encamped in the open field, was exposed to many dangers and difficulties. The weather becoming exceedingly cold towards the close of the summer, the soldiers suffered much by being thinly clad, and by having no other covering than tents made of linen; while at the same time they were occasionally reduced to great distress by a scarcity of provisions, receiving only a precarious supply from Chester and Ireland. They were also much harassed, and their numbers reduced, by the incessant attempts made by the Welsh to cut off their straggling parties, and storm their camp in the night: from one of these conflicts, however, the English, having had the advantage, brought in triumph to their camp the heads of nearly one hundred Welshmen. Henry having, in spite of all the efforts of the Welsh, at length completed this important fortress, placed in it a numerous garrison, with abundant supplies of military stores, and returned into England, at the end of October, with the wasted remnant of his army. In 1257, the castle of Deganwy was vigorously besieged by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, who, however, was soon compelled by the approach of the English army, led by Henry III. in person, to abandon his enterprise. Henry advanced to this place, where, by the aid of a fleet belonging to the Cinque-Ports, he was enabled to maintain his army until Michaelmas, when he once more retired into his own dominions. The advantages afforded to the English invaders of North Wales by the castle of Deganwy were of incalculable importance: situated on the coast, it was open to receive continual supplies; commanding one of the principal passes into the country of Snowdon, across



the æstuary of the Conway, its numerous garrison was enabled to cut off the excursive parties of the Welsh; and being likewise a place of great strength, both in situation and structure, it afforded to the English a secure retreat upon any disaster. But the strength of the fortress did not suffice to prevent its being taken and finally destroyed, in the year 1260, by the Welsh prince Llewelyn; and it appears to have been never subsequently rebuilt.

The village of Eglwys-Rhôs is situated in a small valley, surrounded on all sides by hills, on the summits and acclivities of which are extensive woods of full-grown oak, and in the vicinity of the river Conway, which forms the western boundary of the parish. Near it is Bôdscallen, a seat of the Mostyn family, an ancient mansion embosomed in rich woods, and commanding, from an elevated terrace, a beautiful view, over the tops of the trees which grow beneath it, of the town of Aberconway, of part of the river Conway, and of the vast mountains which form the back ground of this interesting picture. Gloddaeth, another seat belonging to the same family, is beautifully situated on the acclivity of an extensive hill, richly decorated with plantations of trees of every description and variety; the upper grounds command some of the most extensive and interesting views in the principality, which present themselves in varied forms and in new combinations at almost every step: among the interesting features composing them may be noticed the windings of the river Conway, towards Llanrwst, and the lofty towers of the castle and the ancient walls of the town of Aberconway, beyond which are the lofty mountains of Moel Siabod, the Drûm, Carnedd Llewelyn, and Carnedd Dayydd. At a greater elevation in the grounds is seen the influx of the river into the sea, the view being bounded on the left by the smaller Penmaen mountain, and on the right by Great Orme's Head, or Llandudno rocks, between which may be discerned the fine bay of Beaumaris, the vast promontory of Penmaen Mawr, the Isle of Anglesey, and the insulated rock of Priestholme. A great part of the mansion of Gloddaeth was built in the reign of Elizabeth, with whose arms and those of the Earl of Leicester the great hall is decorated. A handsome modern structure has recently been erected, by Lord Kirkwall, under the hill on which the ruins of Deganwy castle are situated: from the summit of this hill a fine view is obtained of the castle, town, and bridge of Aberconway. The ruins of Marle, the seat of Owen Williams, Esq., which was accidentally destroyed by fire, in 1750, are seen through the venerable oaks by which this mansion was surrounded. In the neighbouring parish of Llandudno are several copper mines, in which a considerable portion of the inhabitants of this parish obtain employment; and even within the limits of the latter some spirited attempts have been made, and are still in progress, for the discovery of lead-ore, which is supposed to be abundant here; but a sufficient quantity has not yet been found to remunerate the adventurers. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Hilary, is a small, but ancient and venerable, cruciform structure, having an east window of good proportion filled with modern stained glass, which

was put up in 1820, at the expense of Mrs. F. Mostyn: the window of the south transept is ornamented with some ancient stained glass of great brilliancy. This church has for many years been the place of sepulture for the Mostyn family, of which the last male heir, Sir Thomas Mostyn, Bart., was buried here, in May 1831. Midway between the village and the town of Aberconway there is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school, for the instruction of the children of this and the adjoining parishes, was founded and endowed with £1000 by Mrs. Frances Mostyn, in 1822; and a spacious and handsome building, including school-rooms and a house for the master, has been erected for it, principally at the expense of that lady: in this school, which is conducted on the National system, one hundred and four children are gratuitously instructed. Mr. Lewis Owen, in 1623, bequeathed the rectorial tithes of the parish of Aberconway, in trust, to be divided between the vicar of that parish and the poor of the parishes of Aberconway, Eglwys-Rhôs, Llangwstenyn, and Llandudno; the portion of that grant which is assigned to this parish amounts to £16 per annum, and is distributed in clothing to the poor on the festival of St. Thomas. Since the destruction of the castle of Deganwy by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, in the year 1260, this fortress has formed only a heap of ruins, among which are still traceable a few of the outworks; and at a short distance are some small remains of a circular tower, or half-moon battery, apparently of a later date than the ruins of Deganwy. The latter occupy the summits of two low hills near the river Conway: the walls, of which only a few fragments now remain, appear to have crossed the space between them, and to have been continued up their acclivities. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £443. 8.

EGLWYSVÂCH, or LLANVIHANGEL-CAPEL-EDWIN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES.—See SCYBOR Y COED.

EGLWYS VAIR Y CHYRIG (EGLWYS VAIR A CHURIG), a chapelry in the parish of HÊNLLAN-AMGOED, lower division of the hundred of DERLLÛS, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (N. W. by N.) from St. Clear's, containing 257 inhabitants. It is situated in the upper part of the vale of the river Tâf, and on the border of Pembrokeshire, which bounds it to the north. The greater part is enclosed and well cultivated, and there are a few respectable residences. The chapel, dedicated to St. David, is a chapel of ease to the rectory of Hênllan-Amgoed. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £89. 9.

EGLWYS-WEN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES.—See WHITECHURCH.

EGLWYSWRW (EGLWYS-EIRW), a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. S. W.) from Cardigan, on the road to Haverfordwest, containing 563 inhabitants. This parish anciently formed an inferior lordship, dependent on the superior one of Kemmes: it is intersected by the river Nevern, and is included in a very mountainous district, of which the most remarkable summit is that called Percelly, forming the centre of a long range extending across the county in a direction from east to west. The summit of this mountain commands a prospect of vast extent over the adjacent country; and over this elevated range passed the ancient *Via Flandrica*, or "Flemish



Way," a Roman road which has obtained this appellation from the erroneous supposition of its having been constructed by the Flemings, who settled in this part of the principality in the reigns of Henry I and II. The parish is almost entirely enclosed and under cultivation, and the soil is in general fertile. The village, which is situated near the base of the Percelley mountains, is one of the most pleasing and extensive in this part of the country, and contains a good inn and several respectable houses. The scenery in the neighbourhood is bold, but finely varied, and the hills are richly clothed with wood. Berllan, the seat of the Rev. J. Griffith, is an elegant mansion, beautifully situated in grounds which are tastefully laid out, and adorned with luxuriant plantations. A fair is held on the Monday before November 22nd. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 13. 4., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church is dedicated to St. Eirw; and in the time of Elizabeth there was a chantry chapel in the churchyard, said to have contained the tomb of this saint. Near the church is a large tumulus. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £114. 13.

EIDDA (EIDDE), a township in the parish of YSPYTTY-IVAN, partly in the hundred of NANTCONWAY, county of CARNARVON, and partly in that of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S. W. by W.) from Pentre-Voelas, containing 394 inhabitants. The river Conway, which flows from a lake not far distant, runs through this township, and separates the two counties of Carnarvon and Denbigh. Here is an almshouse for six poor persons, which was built and endowed with the proceeds of £200, given by Capt. Richard Vaughan, in 1700, and with £14 per annum by Catherine Vaughan, but the funds have not for many years been available to the use of the charity. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £198. 12.

EIREAS (EIRIOES), a township forming that part of the parish of LLANDRILLO YN RHÔS which is in the hundred of CREUDDYN, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. E.) from Aberconway, containing 262 inhabitants. A small stream, bounding this township on the east, separates the county from Denbighshire. The celebrated well, called *Fynnon Eilian*, in this township, is still visited by hundreds of people annually, for the purpose of venting maledictions against any person who has unfortunately incurred their displeasure. The usual ceremony attending this unchristian practice is, for the person who owns the well, after having read certain passages from the sacred scriptures, to hand some of the water of the spring to the applicant, who drinks a part and throws the remainder over his head, at the same time cursing his victim in whatever words he pleases, which ceremony is repeated three times. The township is separately assessed for the support of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £114. 3.

ELERCH (ELEIRCH), a township in that part of the parish of LLANBADARN-VAWR which is in the upper division of the hundred of GENEU 'R GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $8\frac{1}{4}$  miles (E. N. E.) from Aberystwith, containing 179 inhabitants. The average

annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £41. 10.

ELVIS (ST.), a parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (E. by S.) from St. David's, containing 44 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the shore of St. Bride's bay in St. George's channel, and near the road from Haverfordwest to St. David's, is one of the smallest in the principality, containing only two farms, which do not comprise together more than two hundred acres. An attempt to procure silver was once made here, but the success with which it was attended was not sufficient to encourage the adventurers to establish any permanent works. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £2. 10. 10., endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Teilaw, is a small edifice, possessing no architectural features deserving notice: there is no enclosed churchyard, the funerals of deceased inhabitants being generally solemnized in the adjoining parishes of Brawdy and Whitchurch. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £5. 16.

ENERGLYN (GENAU 'R GLYN), a hamlet in the parish of EGLWYSILAN, hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mile (N. W.) from Caerphilly, containing, with the town of Caerphilly, which is situated within its limits, 882 inhabitants. The mansion of Energlyn, the grounds of which are well wooded, is situated on the southern declivity of a lofty elevation, which commands a fine view of the plain and castle of Caerphilly, on the south-east, and is skirted at its base by a stream, which winds round to its conflux with the Romney at Pont y Pandy, a short distance to the north of Caerphilly, and on the southern bank of which are some iron-works: on the summit of the hill above-mentioned are several tumuli.

ERBISTOCK, a parish partly in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, and partly in that of MAELOR, county of FLINT, 5 miles (N. N. W.) from Ellesmere, containing 398 inhabitants. This parish, which by tradition is said to have been originally an appendage to the ancient monastery of Bangor, is situated on the river Dee, which is navigable about four miles below it, and comprises but a moderate portion of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The soil in general is fertile: the surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and in some places highly picturesque; and the river Dee, which for a considerable distance forms the boundary of the parish, pursues a winding course through the adjoining tract, and adds greatly to the beauty of the scenery. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £7. 14.  $9\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Hilary, is a neat modern edifice, in the Grecian style of architecture, beautifully situated on the bank of the river. A parochial school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children has been established by the rector, who is now erecting for its use an appropriate building, for the reception of about forty boys and forty girls. Some small charitable donations, amounting in the aggregate to £60, have been left by various benefactors, the in-



terest of which sum is annually distributed among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £195. 5.

**ERDDIG**, a township in that part of the parish of **GRESFORD** which is in the hundred of **BROMFIELD**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (S. W. by S.) from **Wrexham**, containing 141 inhabitants. It is surrounded on all sides by the parish of **Wrexham**, except the east, where it joins that of **Marchiel**, and is intersected by **Wat's Dyke**, an ancient boundary between **England** and **Wales**. On this rampart, which may be distinctly traced, stands **Erddig Hall**, the seat of **Simon Yorke, Esq.**, whose father, **Philip Yorke, Esq.**, was author of the "**Royal Tribes of Wales**." This mansion is beautifully situated between two small vales, watered by a winding stream, and fringed with hanging woods, in one of which are the remains of an ancient camp, almost entire, placed at the junction of two mountain torrents, and defended by deep and strong intrenchments. At the point of land impending over these streams is an elevated mount, inaccessible on every side, except that towards the camp; and on the northern side of the latter is an entrance, which appears to have been defended by a strong gate. This work is supposed by the inhabitants of the neighbourhood to be of Roman origin, but no Roman antiquities have been found to corroborate that opinion, and the only remains of mural defences consist of a few stones cemented with mortar. In the mansion are many paintings by eminent masters, among which is a full-length portrait of the notorious Judge **Jeffreys**, in his robes, by **Sir Godfrey Kneller**.

**ERDDRENIOG (YR DDREINIOG)**, a township in that part of the parish of **TREGAYAN** which is in the hundred of **TYNDAETHWY**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**, 4 miles (N.) from **Llangevni**. The population is included in the return for the parish.

**ERLAS (ERLYS)**, a township in that part of the parish of **GRESFORD** which is in the hundred of **BROMFIELD**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, containing 69 inhabitants, who are exclusively employed in agriculture.

**ERYRYS (ERW YRYS)**, a township in the parish of **LLANARMON**, hundred of **YALE**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E.) from **Ruthin**. The population is included in the return for the parish. This township, which takes its name from **Yr Hên Gyrys o Iâl**, a collector of Welsh proverbs in the eleventh century, forms the northern portion of the parish, and is situated in a narrow valley through which the river **Alyn** flows: it is bounded on the western side by the lofty **Clwydian** mountains, which separate it from the **Vale of Clwyd**, and on the eastern by a range of hills, nearly equal in height, separating it from **Flintshire**. The latter exhibit several projections of limestone rock, highly impregnated with lead-ore, the mines of which were productive for many years, but are now only partially worked, in consequence of the low price of that metal. In 1828, however, a very powerful steam-engine was erected, for pumping out the water, and great benefit has been anticipated from the success of this project, by affording employment to many of the inhabitants. The road from **Caergwre** to **Ruthin** passes through the township, nearly parallel with the river **Alyn**, which is here crossed by a bridge, and then continues its course towards the

latter town between two lofty mountains, called **Moe Venlli** and **Moel y Cyw**, each upwards of one thousand seven hundred and fifteen feet above the level of the sea: this gap is called **Bwlch Agricola**, from an opinion that it was traversed by that Roman general on his route to **Mona**. On an artificial mound near the foot of the former stood the castle of **Iâl**, built by **Owain Gwynedd**, in 1148, of which the only remains consist of the rampart and fosse surrounding it.

**ESCLUSHAM ABOVE**, a township in that part of the parish of **WREXHAM** which is in the hundred of **BROMFIELD**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 3 miles (S. W. by W.) from **Wrexham**, containing 349 inhabitants. This township takes the adjunct to its name from its situation with reference to that great work of the Saxons, called **Offa's Dyke**, which separates it from the township of **Esclusham Below**, and which is here in a tolerably perfect state. It comprises a tract of elevated ground in the south-western part of the parish. There are coal mines within its limits, though the inhabitants are principally employed in agriculture. It is now separately assessed for the maintenance of the poor, according to an arrangement made in March 1830.

**ESCLUSHAM BELOW**, a township in that part of the parish of **WREXHAM** which is in the hundred of **BROMFIELD**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 2 miles (S. W.) from **Wrexham**, containing 570 inhabitants. **Offa's Dyke** forms a prominent object in this township, separating it on the west from that of **Esclusham Above**, and hence the adjuncts to the respective names. On this celebrated line of British and Saxon demarcation stands **Pentre Bychan**, the residence of the **Meredith** family since 1002; on levelling the dyke, for the purpose of rebuilding the house, in 1824, several Saxon coins were found. The rampart then takes a direction to **Cadwgan Hall**, a large old mansion also situated upon it, which was formerly in the possession of **Edward Jones, Esq.**, who suffered in London, in September 1586, as one of the confederates in the **Babington** conspiracy against **Queen Elizabeth**: near this house was discovered, in 1804, buried in a mound, more than a cart-load of armour, which is now deposited in **Chirk Castle**. **Offa's Dyke** hence proceeds in a northern course to **Plâs Power**, formerly an appendage of **Chirk Castle**, and in the park there is discovered in its most perfect state, with its deep and wide fosse on the Welsh side. It next extends to **Adwy y Clawdd**, or "the pass on the Dyke," where it is crossed by the road from **Ruthin** to **Wrexham**, and thence enters the township of **Broughton**. A small isolated portion of this township, on which stood part of the town of **Wrexham**, has recently been included within the limits of that new borough. This place is separately assessed for the support of its poor, according to an arrangement made in March 1830.

**ESGAIR-GEILIOG**, a township in the parish of **MOUGHTREY**, upper division of the hundred of **MONTGOMERY**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 4 miles (S. W.) from **Newtown**. The population is returned with the parish. This township forms the upper portion of the parish, being situated among the mountains bordering on **Radnorshire**. The unenclosed part of those hills, which exhibit many singular chasms, is allotted as sheepwalks to the different contiguous farms,



under an enclosure act passed in 1797, for the adjacent parish of Kerry. The road from Newtown to Knighton and Builth passes through the eastern extremity of the township.

**ESKEIRETH (ESGEIRIAU)**, a township in the parish of TRÊVEGLWYS, upper division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (N.N.W.) from Llanidloes. The population is returned with the parish. Several of the inhabitants are employed in the manufacture of flannel.

**EVENECHTYD (Y VYNEICHDYD)**, a parish in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (S. by W.) from Ruthin, containing 242 inhabitants. This place, of which the name is said to be derived from Mynach, "a monk," and tyd, "land," was probably an appendage, or farm, of some religious house, of which no particular mention occurs. The village is beautifully situated in a sequestered vale abounding with pleasing scenery. The living is a discharged rectory, rated in the king's books at £6. 1. 5½., and in the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a small neat edifice, and contains a curious wooden font rudely carved from one solid block of oak, and ornamented with panelling. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. The proceeds of some small charitable bequests are annually distributed among the poor of this parish. On the summit of an eminence above the village are the remains of an encampment, called Pen y gaer; and in the churchyard is a very large stone, called Carreg Gamp, or "the stone of the games," formerly used in the rustic sports of the village. Dr. William Lloyd, Bishop of Norwich, was for some years rector of this parish, to the church of which he presented a splendid service of communion plate in 1710. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £89. 10.

**EVENJOB**, a joint township with Newcastle, in the parish of OLD RADNOR, liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 3½ miles (E. by N.) from New Radnor. The population is returned with Bareland. It is situated at the intersection of two cross roads, one leading from New Radnor to Presteign, and the other from Discoed to Old Radnor. Offa's Dyke crosses the brow of the hill about half a mile distant to the eastward, near which are vestiges of an ancient camp. This place is assessed jointly with Bareland for the support of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £228. 12.

**EWENNY (Y WENNI)**, a parish in the hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, on the banks of the Wenny, and on the road from Cardiff to Swansea, 2 miles (S.E. by S.) from Bridgend, containing 239 inhabitants. The manufacture of brown earthenware was extensively carried on here at a very remote period, it being alluded to in the writings of the Welsh bards upwards of three centuries ago; and from the shape of the vessels here made, being similar to those of ancient Roman earthenware found in other places, it has been boldly conjectured to have existed ever since the dominion of that people in Britain. Since the commencement of the present century, seven kilns were kept in full operation, supplying a great

part of South Wales with this species of pottery. The clay from which it was chiefly manufactured was procured upon the spot, from a bed varying from ten to fourteen feet in thickness, resting on a substratum of reddish sand, and occupying a tract about three-quarters of a mile in length and half a mile in breadth: the works were likewise conveniently situated for fuel, being only four miles distant from the Bryn Cethin colliery. The living is a donative, in the patronage of Richard Turberville Turberville, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a fine old building, in the Norman style of architecture, consisting of a nave, chancel, and one transept, forming part of the remains of the conventual church of a Benedictine priory, founded here, soon after the Conquest, by Thomas de Londres, lord of Ogmere, and made by Maurice de Londres, in 1141, a cell to St. Peter's abbey at Gloucester: its revenue, in the 26th of Henry VIII., was estimated at £78. 0. 8., and it was granted in the 37th of the same reign, as part of the possessions of that abbey, to Sir Edward Carne, an eminent civilian, from whose family it was transferred to the Turbervilles. Divine service is performed in the nave: the chancel has been used as the family burial-place of the proprietors since the Reformation, and contains some interesting monuments, among which are, one to the memory of Maurice de Londres, a splendid altar-tomb to one of the family of Carne, and an elegant mural monument to the last proprietor, Richard Picton Turberville, Esq., by whom the adjacent family seat was modernized. This mansion stands within the fortifications of the monastic edifice, which were all in the English style of architecture, and is a plain substantial structure, containing numerous elegant and excellent apartments, being exceeded in the comforts of its internal arrangements by few houses in the county. Of the ancient conventual buildings three towers with gateways still remain, mantled with ivy in a picturesque manner: under the tower of the south gate there was a deep dungeon, only six feet in diameter, the entrance covered by a strong iron grating, through which prisoners were let down: the whole forms an interesting group, and may be considered one of the most perfect relics of ecclesiastical architecture in the principality. The seal of Isabel, daughter of William Earl of Gloucester, who had for her dower the lordship of Glamorgan, and was married, first to Prince John, a younger son of Henry II., afterwards to the Earl of Essex, and lastly to Hubert de Burgh, was lately found here: together with her own titles, it is inscribed with that of Countess of Moreton, which she derived from her first husband, who was Earl of Moreton. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £136. 2.

**EWLOE**, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES. — See COED-EULO.

**EYTON**, a township in that part of the parish of BANGOR which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 3½ miles (S. by E.) from Wrexham, containing 303 inhabitants, who are almost exclusively employed in agriculture. It is situated near the road from Wrexham to Overton, on the left bank of the river Dee, and contains two respectable mansions pleasantly situated. It is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £149. 19.



## F.

**FAGAN'S (ST.)**, a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (W.N.W.) from Cardiff, containing 446 inhabitants. This parish takes its name from the saint to whom its church is dedicated, and who, according to all testimony on this subject, arrived in Britain about the year 180, to preach the doctrines of the Christian religion, and founded the church of this place, which may be consequently regarded as one of the earliest Christian establishments in the island. St. Fagan's is celebrated as the scene of a sanguinary battle, which took place during the protectorate of Cromwell, between the recreant leaders of the parliamentary forces in the principality, and Colonel Horton, who was sent by the protector, with a small army, to enforce the order for disbanding them. The former, among whom were Major-Generals Stradling and Laugharne, having embraced the cause of royalty, contrived to keep their forces under arms, and to augment their number by fresh recruits of such as were favourable to the cause of royalty; and having increased their army to eight thousand men, they confidently advanced to meet Colonel Horton, who had stationed his forces at St. Fagan's. The battle was fought on the 8th of May, 1648, and terminated in the defeat of the Welsh troops with great slaughter, and the capture of many of their principal officers. Among the slain, on the part of the Welsh, were sixty-five of this parish alone; and in the ensuing harvest, so great was the scarcity of labourers, that the crops were chiefly cut and gathered by women. This victory was considered by the parliament to be of such importance, that a day of public thanksgiving was appointed on the occasion. The village, which is situated on the river Ely, a stream abounding with trout and other fish, has a very prepossessing appearance; it lies on a substratum of limestone, and is abundantly supplied with excellent water: plenty of coal is found within five miles of the place, and is supplied at a moderate price to the lime-works in the parish. The living is a rectory, with Llanilterne annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £14. 9. 7., and in the patronage of the Earl of Plymouth. The church is a very neat edifice, in excellent repair. The Rev. John Cooke, in 1729, gave £50, producing £2. 10. per annum, and secured on the Cardiff turnpike trust, for the instruction of three children of this parish, and two of the chapelry of Llanilterne; and there are some small charitable bequests for distribution among the poor. Here is an ancient castellated mansion, formerly belonging to the family of Lewis, the heiress of which has conveyed it by marriage, together with a large estate in this county, to the Earl of Plymouth: it is still habitable, and is now in the occupation of a tenant under the present proprietor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £327. 13.

**FARRINGTON**, a lordship in the parish, and partly within the borough and partly in the hundred of KNIGHTON, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 1½ mile (S. E.) from Knighton. The population is returned with the township of Cwmgilla. It is situated between the roads which branch off from Knighton to Ludlow and Pres-

teign, and comprises a district on the southern bank of the river Teme, lying between the counties of Salop and Hereford. Offa's Dyke passes on the west between it and the township of Cwmgilla.

**FERRY-SIDE**, a village in the parish of St. ISHMAEL's, hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 7½ miles (S. by W.) from Carmarthen. The population is returned with the parish. This small village, from its situation on the south-eastern bank of the river Towy, near its influx into Carmarthen bay, has recently risen into notice and esteem as a watering-place, and, from its proximity to Carmarthen, promises to become in a short time a valuable appendage to that rapidly improving town. The sands are remarkably fine, affording delightful walks along the margin of the sea: the air is pure and salubrious; and the surrounding scenery abounds with objects of picturesque and romantic beauty. These advantages, united with the facilities for sea-bathing which the place affords, and the accommodations which have been provided for visitors who frequent it for that purpose, have already raised it to a degree of importance among the places of similar resort on this part of the coast, which is every day increasing. It contains several genteel private dwellings and respectable lodging-houses for visitors; and the neighbourhood affords a variety of interesting excursions. The view directly from the village embraces the tastefully ornamented lawns of Llanstephan Place, the seat of George Mears, Esq., with the mansion, and the luxuriant plantations above it; on one side the venerable and picturesque ruins of Llanstephan castle, and on the other the village church half embosomed in trees, with the noble stream of the Towy, which is here a mile in breadth, in the foreground. At the suggestion of Dr. Burgess, late Bishop of St. David's, a church has been erected by subscription, aided by a grant from the Incorporated Society for building and enlarging churches and chapels, in consideration of which assistance, one hundred and ninety-two seats have been reserved for the free accommodation of the poor. This church, which is dedicated to St. Thomas, was opened for divine service in 1828: it is a neat and appropriate structure, in every respect adapted to the accommodation of the inhabitants. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, and in the patronage of the Rev. Edward Pieton, by whom it has been endowed with £4 per annum, to which has been added £600 royal bounty. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists.

**FESTINIOG**, a parish in the hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 2½ miles (E. N. E.) from Tan y Bwlch, containing 1648 inhabitants. The village is pleasantly situated on an eminence between the rivers Dwyrdd and Cynvael, on the road from the western coast to Ysppyty-Ivan and Bala, and commands a delightful prospect down the Vale of Festiniog towards Maentwrog, Tan y Bwlch, and Traeth Bach. This beautiful vale, which is partly included in this parish, and partly in that of Maentwrog, was first celebrated by Lord Lyttelton, about the year 1756, since which time it has been visited by numerous tourists, who have described its pictorial beauties in terms of merited eulogy. It is encompassed by lofty hills, the slopes of which are, in many places,



well clothed with wood, finely varied with projecting rocks and verdant sward, and contrasted with the rich corn-fields and meadows skirting the margin of the Dwyryd, which winds pleasingly through the centre of the vale, at the lower extremity of which it meets the tide, and expands into a broad æstuary, called Traeth Bychan, which opens to the sea in the northern part of Cardigan bay: this river here separates the parishes of Festiniog and Maentwrog, and receives in its course in the vicinity the tributary streams of the Cymmerau, Cynvael, Llychryd, and Felenrhôd. Tan y Bwlch Hall, a handsome mansion, is charmingly situated on the declivity of a mountain, at the north-western extremity of the vale, embosomed in full-grown plantations, the luxuriant foliage of which fringes verdantly the steep rocky side of the mountain above it. The summits of the Moelwyn mountains, which are in this parish, not only command a pleasing home view of the interesting beauties of the vale, but embrace a wide and varied prospect of the surrounding country. There are various small alpine lakes in the vicinity, the principal of which are Llŷn Morwynion, Llŷn Gammell, and Llŷn Mannod, all much frequented by anglers, particularly the first, the trout caught in them possessing the most delicious flavour. Near the village are two interesting cataracts, called the Falls of the Cynvael: the upper is composed of three steep rocky precipices, over which the waters of the Cynvael are impelled into a deep dark basin, overshadowed by flanking rocks. About three hundred yards below this the river is crossed by a rustic stone bridge, and at an equal distance lower occurs the other cataract, consisting of a broad sheet of water sweeping over a slightly shelving rock, about forty feet high, from the bottom of which it rushes with murmuring impetuosity through a narrow chasm, glistening among the loose fragments of rock which oppose its progress, and, falling from slope to slope, at length gains a smoother channel, and winds placidly through the vale to its junction with the Dwyryd. Between this and the bridge, a tall columnar rock, called Pulpit Hugh Llwyd Cynvael, or "Hugh Lloyd of Cynvael's Pulpit," resting upon a broad base, rises from the bed of the river, detached from those which form its wood-fringed sides. The Hugh Lloyd from whom it takes its name was a reputed sorcerer in the time of James I., and is said to have delivered his incantations from the summit of this isolated rocky pillar, for which dark purpose its situation in a deep umbrageous glen was well calculated. There is a great variety of picturesque and romantic scenery in the vicinity of a spot called Cwm Cymmorthau, near which there are four small lakes, named Llŷn Cymmorthau, Llŷn Dû Bâch, Llŷn Trwstyllon, and Llŷn Conglog. On the road to Bala is a place where, after heavy rains, the waters descend from the mountains with tumultuous rapidity, and form a stupendous waterfall. The extreme length of this parish is about ten miles, and its breadth nearly six: the hilly parts are stony, and have a thin sterile soil; the lower are light and gravelly, but fertile: the vale is liable to frequent inundations, which, when the land floods and tide meet, overspread a considerable portion of its surface; but their injurious effects have been partially obviated by the construction of embankments. Four slate quarries are profitably and actively worked here; and their produce,

in beauty and goodness, is equal to that of any in the principality. The slate rock lies in strata like coal, and its precipitous escarpments form vast walls, extending from north to south, or from north-east to south-west: when the superincumbent earth is removed, it is split into portable blocks by means of wedges and levers, or, when these instruments are insufficient, by the application of gunpowder: these pieces are then conveyed to an open space, and divided with a hammer and wedge into thin laminæ, or plates of various sizes. The largest and best shaped are called "queens," the next in size "duchesses," the next "countesses" and "ladies," and the smaller "doubles:" all these are generally sold by the thousand, and the rough heavy ones, called "ton slates," by weight. The labourers in these quarries, called "blasters," "borers," &c., are several hundred in number, and often work in very dangerous situations, standing on ledges projecting over immense precipices, and descending to their stations with the aid of a rope tied round the waist. When a blast, or explosion of gunpowder, takes place, timely notice is given, by loudly calling out "War;" and the echo of these explosions, which are sometimes heard to the distance of five or six miles, reverberating from cliff to cliff, is indescribably grand and appalling. The splitting and dressing of slates, which is performed by men exclusively called "quarry-men," is an operation requiring great skill and much practice. A copper mine is worked at Cwm Cynvael; and a lead mine at Gam-allt: copper-ore is also found at Bwlch y Plwm, near the Traeth Mawr, and peat is obtained within the limits of the parish. Festiniog is a place much resorted to during the summer months by tourists, on account of the beauty of the surrounding scenery; and for their accommodation it has a good inn, with a boarding-house attached. Fairs are held on March 7th, May 24th, the first Friday after Trinity, June 30th, August 21st, September 26th, October 23rd, and November 13th. Petty sessions for the district are held at the inn at Tan y Bwlch, on the first Monday in every month.

The living is a rectory, with that of Maentwrog annexed, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £10. 4. 2., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is in the ancient style of English architecture: in 1829, a gallery was erected at the west end, containing seventy-two free sittings, towards defraying the expense of which the Incorporated Society for building and enlarging churches and chapels granted £13. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists, with Sunday schools attached. A National school for both boys and girls was established in 1830, for the parishes of Festiniog and Maentwrog, for which a neat building of English architecture has been erected near the village, by subscription among the inhabitants, aided by a grant of £62 from the parent society in London. In this parish, near a tumulus called Tommen y Môr, is the site of the Roman station *Heriri Mons*. Two Roman roads are said to have intersected each other within its limits, one leading from *Segontium*, near the present Carnarvon, to *Mediolanum*, in Montgomeryshire; and the other from *Conovium*, at Caerhên, near Aberconway, to *Loventium*, at Llanio, in Cardiganshire. Within the parish one of these



roads, now called Rhŷd yr Halen, more properly Rhŷd Helen, or Fordd Helen, signifying "Helen's Way," may yet be distinctly traced, though for the most part covered with turf: it is said to have been constructed by Helena, daughter of Octavius, and consort of the emperor Maximus; but this presumption is founded only on its present appellation, which is most probably a corruption from *Fordd Lleon*, signifying the "Legionary Way." Near it are the remains of Beddau Gwyr Ardudwy, "the graves of the men of Ardudwy," which are about six feet long, and were formerly marked at each end by two upright stones, from two to three feet high, and one broad, long since removed. These graves, and some Druidical circles adjacent, denote this to have been the scene of some unrecorded conflict: the tradition connected with them is, that the men of Ardudwy, in order to people their territory, entered the Vale of Clwyd, and forcibly bore off several of its fair inhabitants; but they were pursued by the men of Clwyd, and overtaken at this place, where a sharp conflict ensued, in which the former were defeated and slain: they nevertheless appear to have secured the affections of the females, who, rather than return home, are said to have rushed into an adjacent piece of water, called from this circumstance *Llyn y Morwynion*, or "the Maidens' Lake," and there to have perished. A silver seal, now in the possession of W. Oakeley, Esq., of Glân William, was found near the mountain of Moelwyn, in 1831: it bears the inscription "S. LUDOWICI EPI. BANGOREN. AD CAUSAS," having been the seal of Lewis, Bishop of Bangor, whose identity, prior to this discovery, had not been satisfactorily ascertained: he lived in the reign of Henry IV., and, having taken part in the insurrection of Owain Glyndwr, was apprehended in Yorkshire, and deprived of his bishoprick: in old chronicles he is simply called "the Bishop of Bangor." The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £309. 10.

FISHGUARD (ABER-GWAIN), a market town and parish, in two divisions, the Upper and Lower, in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 16 miles (N.) from Haverfordwest, 26½ (N.) from Pembroke, and 249 (W. by N.) from London, containing 1990 inhabitants. The origin of the present town is of comparatively recent date, but the parish in many respects affords striking indications of very remote antiquity. The numerous Druidical relics which abound in the immediate vicinity prove it to have been a resort of the votaries of that ancient religion, for the solemnization of their sacred rites; and the extensive remains of foundations of ancient buildings still existing in a district within the parish, called *Caerau*, or "the Fortifications," in which, though it has been for ages under cultivation, they still occasionally obstruct the progress of the plough, are strong evidences of its having contained a numerous population at a very early period. According to Mr. Fenton, the historian of Pembrokeshire, this district was inhabited by an ancient race long before the invasion of Britain by the Romans, whom he supposes to have subsequently had a settlement in this place, in which opinion he is confirmed, in some degree, by the discovery, near the spot, of Roman coins, chiefly of the Lower Empire. In the early part of the fifth century, St. Dubricius is said by Bale to have lived in retirement at this place, and to have had a

school, which was numerous attended by the inhabitants of the surrounding country, for some time prior to his elevation to the archiepiscopal see of Caerlleon. Pwll Dyvrig, a spot in the romantic Vale of Gwayn, within this parish, which derived its name from that circumstance, is still pointed out as the place of his retreat; and, within the memory of man, games in honour of that saint were annually celebrated on his festival. At the time of the Norman Conquest of England, this place was a small and unimportant fishing village, which, from its situation at the mouth of the river Gwayn, was called, by the Welsh, *Aber-Gwain*. Soon after that period, an Anglo-Norman leader, named Martin de Tours, or de Turribus, whose services under the Conqueror had been rewarded by a grant of lands in Devonshire, on the coast of the Bristol channel, being desirous of extending the limits of his possessions, fitted out an expedition to act against such part of the Welsh coast as he should find least prepared for defence; and having sailed round the south-western extremity of the county, he succeeded with little difficulty in landing his troops at this place, and in subduing the territory, which subsequently formed the ancient lordship of Kemmes, within the limits of which it was included, and one of the lordships marcher. In the subsequent partition of the conquered territories among his followers, Martin assigned the town of "Aber-Gwain," and nearly the whole of the district which is at present comprehended within the parish, to Jordan de Cantington, who introduced into his newly acquired possessions an English colony, by which the name of the town was changed to *Fish-Garth*, the latter word signifying in the Anglo-Saxon language a "wear;" and of this name its modern appellation of *Fishguard* is only a slight modification. Jordan, after repeated attempts to excite in his Welsh and English subjects sentiments of reciprocal conciliation, and peaceable subjection to his authority, in which endeavours he was invariably frustrated by their mutual dissensions, finally gave the whole to the abbey of St. Dogmael's, which had been founded by his patron, Martin de Tours, in the vicinity, and in the possession of which it remained till the period of the general dissolution of religious houses. The origin of the present town, or at least its elevation from an obscure and inconsiderable fishing village to some degree of importance, may be referred to the sixteenth century, when Newport, the head of the barony of Kemmes, being visited with a desolating pestilence, the inhabitants were driven from it and compelled to seek safety in all directions. Many of them, attracted by the open situation of this place, and the purity of its air, established themselves at Fishguard, which, from these advantages of its situation, had entirely escaped the contagion; and to this circumstance are usually ascribed the first increase and the present prosperity of the town, which, however, only obtained the privilege of a market towards the close of the last century, through the exertions of the late William Knox, Esq. In the year 1797, a French force of about eleven hundred men, under the conduct of General Tate, effected a landing on this coast, within a few miles of the town; but after committing some ravages in the neighbourhood, they were made prisoners by the troops under Lord Cawdor. This event, though generally referred to Fishguard, took place in the adjoining parish of Llanwnda.



The town is beautifully situated on the river Gwayn, near its influx into St. George's channel, and is divided into the Upper and Lower town, the former crowning the summit of a hill commanding an extensive and beautiful marine view, and the latter occupying the banks of the river, over which there is a neat stone bridge of five arches. The Upper Town includes the principal portion, containing the church, market-place, and principal shops, and consists chiefly of three streets, diverging from a common centre, partially paved, and consisting of houses irregularly built and of indifferent appearance. Some improvements, however, have recently taken place, and a better style of building and greater regularity prevail in the houses of more modern erection. The inhabitants are abundantly supplied with water of excellent quality, and the springs are so numerous that, wherever the ground is opened, water is found at a small distance below the surface. The neighbouring lands are, with a trifling exception, enclosed, and the greater portion is in a superior state of cultivation: the soil is tolerably fertile. The surrounding scenery is finely diversified, assuming in some parts a striking boldness of character, and in others a pleasing combination of picturesque features and romantic beauty. The situation of the town upon a small bay in St. George's channel, to which it gives name, and the shores of which are distinguished for the beauty of their scenery; the salubrity of its atmosphere; the abundance and cheapness of the commodities brought to its markets; and the facility for sea-bathing, contribute to render Fishguard desirable as a place of residence, and attract to it numerous visitors during the summer. As a proof of its salubrity, the number of aged inhabitants is, perhaps, greater than in any other place of equal population in the kingdom: from a return of the bills of mortality made by the vicar, in compliance with an order from government, from 1813 to 1830 inclusive, it was found that in every year of the above period there was a majority of persons from seventy to ninety, and often to one hundred, years of age. Fishguard bay extends a distance of three miles in a direction from east to west, and about a mile and three-quarters from north to south, varying in depth of water from thirty to seventy feet, in proportion to the distance from the fine bold shore by which it is enclosed. The bottom is firm, affording good anchorage to ships of the largest size, which may ride in safety in all parts of the bay during the prevalence of gales from any point of the compass, except north and north-east. According to a survey made by Mr. Spence, in 1790, by order of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, this bay is reported to be the only place, between Milford Haven and St. Tudwal's roads, which is seventeen leagues farther north, where large vessels navigating the Irish channel can put in for shelter. The harbour, which is capacious and easy of access, is situated on the western side of the bay; it is irregular in form, being about two thousand four hundred feet in length, and about one thousand one hundred and sixty feet wide at the entrance, which is free from obstruction either from rocks or a bar. The erection of a pier, which was strongly recommended by the engineer who surveyed the bay, would greatly tend to improve it; and, according to an estimate delivered by the engineer, it might be completed, for the accommodation of one hundred

sail of merchant vessels of the usual class, at an expense of £14,785. The harbour was again surveyed, under the direction of the Lords of the Admiralty, by the late Mr. Rennie, who confirmed the preceding report, and recommended, in addition to the proposed pier from Fort Point, the construction of a breakwater from Cow and Calf Point. The expense of both these works, according to Mr. Rennie's estimate, would not exceed the sum of £80,000, and their construction would render the harbour one of the safest and most commodious on the coast for vessels of almost all descriptions. But in consequence of neither of the above plans having been carried into effect, and no public man in the county interesting himself with government towards the attainment of so desirable an object, the prosperity of the place has been greatly retarded, and, owing to the very indifferent state of repair of the present small pier, Fishguard is daily becoming more impoverished; as not only its own shipping, but vessels from other ports, were accustomed to put in and remain here, while the pier was in a state of good repair, for a greater or less period, making Milford their port as a matter of necessity. The trade of this place, notwithstanding the many local advantages which it possesses, and the spaciousness of its harbour, is consequently very inconsiderable: it consists chiefly of the exportation of corn and butter to Bristol and Liverpool, and the importation of shop goods, coal and culm (from Milford and Swansea), coal (from Newport, Cardiff, &c.), limestone (from Milford), and timber. Some of the largest vessels belonging to the port are engaged in the general carrying trade from Bristol, Liverpool, Milford, and London, to Ireland, &c. The Irish packets often put in here, when driven by stress of weather. The herring fishery, which formerly afforded employment to a considerable number of the inhabitants, became latterly unproductive, and has been discontinued, with the exception of procuring a supply for the immediate neighbourhood only. Lead-ore has been recently found within the parish, but not of sufficient quantity, nor of quality rich enough, to encourage any attempts to work it. Slate of very good quality abounds in the neighbourhood, and iron-ore has been found near the town. The market is on Thursday, and is well supplied with grain, and with provisions of every kind. The fairs are on February 5th, Easter-Monday, Whit-Monday, July 23rd, and November 17th. Fishguard is thought to have been anciently an incorporated borough, and is traditionally reported to have possessed a charter, granted by King John, which was lost during the great civil war of the seventeenth century: there is a district in the parish still known by the name of "The Borough." By the late act for amending the representation of the people it has been constituted a contributory borough with Haverfordwest and Narberth, in the return of a representative to parliament: the right of election is vested in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the present number of tenements of this value within the limits of the borough, which are given in the Appendix to this work, is fifty-five: the sheriff of Haverfordwest is the returning officer. It has also been made



one of the polling-places in the election of a knight for the shire.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 0. 5., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The vicar receives one-third of the whole tithes of that portion of the parish which is situated to the west of the river Gwayn, and the impropriator all the remainder. The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is pleasantly situated in the Upper Town : it has recently been repaired, and is a neat small edifice, but not distinguished by any peculiarity of architecture. A handsome vicarage-house, called Vicar's Park, from the name of the plot of glebe on which it stands, has been erected by the present incumbent, the Rev. Samuel Fenton, M. A., which has much improved the entrance into the town from Haverfordwest. The town, previously to the erection of the present church, is said to have comprised two distinct parishes, now forming only one ; and the ruins of three ancient chapels, called respectively Llan-Vihangel, Llan-Vartin, and Llan-Ist, may still be traced : of these, two probably were parish churches, and the third a chapel of ease to one of them. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic Methodists. The hills in this parish, which enclose the romantic Vale of Gwayn, were formerly thickly strewed with Druidical relics, of which several vestiges may still be traced ; and near the site which was formerly occupied by the ancient town called *Caerau*, three Roman urns have been found, containing numerous coins, chiefly of Gallienus, Posthumus, Claudius, and some other emperors ; but they were melted down soon after their discovery. In various parts of the parish are numerous tumuli, some of which have been found to contain relics of the rudest ages, urns of various forms and of the coarsest workmanship, implements of stone, bones, ashes, and curiously wrought stones. Near the town are several tumuli, or artificial mounds, intrenched, as if for military purposes, and called *Castellau*, or "the Castles," probably from that circumstance : these Mr. Fenton supposes to be sepulchral monuments of a very remote age, and to have been reduced to their present form, which is that of a truncated cone, and probably surmounted by forts, during the wars between the Welsh and the invading Saxons. On the bank of the river Gwayn, in a secluded and romantic situation, stands the neat mansion of the late Richard Fenton, Esq., barrister-at-law, and author of a "Historical Tour through Pembrokeshire ;" it is pleasantly embosomed in a thick grove of trees, and is now the property and residence of his eldest son. A mineral spring in the parish was formerly in high estimation for its efficacy in the cure of numbedness of the limbs and other complaints. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £480. 11.

FLEMINGSTON, otherwise FLIMSTON, a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S.E. by S.) from Cowbridge, containing 73 inhabitants. This place is said to have derived its name from the descendants of Sir John Fleming, one of Fitz-Hamon's knights, who was settled at St. George's on the river Ely ; and there are some remains, near the churchyard, of a castellated mansion in

which they resided. The village is pleasantly situated upon an elevated part of the fertile Vale of Glamorgan, and its appearance bears evident marks of antiquity. An extensive tract of country hitherto totally unproductive, called Flimston Moors, is now undergoing the process of draining, and, from the improvement which has already taken place, is likely to prove an advantageous speculation to the enterprising agriculturist. The living is a discharged rectory, annexed to that of Llanmihangel, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £4. 18. 9. A Sunday school is conducted by the incumbent. Edward Williams, commonly called "Edward Williams, the bard," was a native of this village, in which he resided till his death, at the advanced age of eighty : he was by trade a stone-mason, and laboured at that employment whilst his strength permitted him : his first attempts at poetry were in the Welsh language ; his literary acquirements, considering his station in life, were extensive, and his knowledge of the antiquities of his country was profound. Mr. Malkin, speaking of this self-educated genius, observes that, "had his talents been noticed in early life, the public would probably have gained an eminent architect, or sculptor, without losing a valuable antiquary : " during the last thirty years of his life he is said never to have lain down in bed, being greatly afflicted with asthma. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £37. 11.

FLINT, a borough, market-town and sea-port, and a parochial chapelry, in the parish of NORTHOP, and in the Northop division of the hundred of COLESHILL, county of FLINT (of which it is the ancient capital), NORTH WALES, 6 miles (N.) from Mold, 5 (E. S. E.) from Holywell, 13 (W. N. W.) from Chester, and 204 (N. W.) from London, containing 2216 inhabitants. The name of this place, though not occurring in Domesday-book, is undoubtedly Saxon ; but its derivation has not yet been satisfactorily ascertained, not being in any way deducible from the nature of its soil or substrata, in which is found neither silex nor petrosilex. The origin of the town, though undoubtedly remote, is involved in the greatest obscurity. Although it cannot be identified with any Roman station mentioned in the Itineraries, it was nevertheless either of Roman or Roman British origin, as is proved by the circumstance of its even now occupying a rectangular intrenched area, like that of a Roman place of defence, and by the discovery, at various times, both here and in the neighbourhood, of a vast quantity of Roman coins, fibulæ, &c. ; while at the same time it is still traditionally related that a very large town existed here at an early period. The Roman remains were chiefly found in the "old washes," as the miners term the spots where they separate ore from ancient scoria, from the abundance of which at this place, and in its immediate vicinity, it has been reasonably supposed that the process of smelting was carried on here to a great extent by the Roman conquerors of Britain, who constituted it a port for the exportation of the metal, and placed here a small garrison to protect the works and enforce the payment of the duties. It is conjectured by Mr. Pennant that this place is identical with that noticed in the Norman Survey as "*tenementum de Coleselt*," comprising one hide of taxable land, and forming part of the possessions of Robert de Rhuddlan, of whom it was held by one Edwin, a free man, and



with that included among the benefactions enumerated in the charter of Davydd ab Llewelyn to the abbey of Basingwerk, under the designation of "*Capella de Colsul*." Flint and its immediate vicinity have at different periods been the scene of important and interesting historical events. In the division of his dominions made by Roderic the Great, sovereign of all Wales, among his three sons, it was ordained, that if any quarrel should arise between the princes of North Wales and Powys, a meeting of the parties was to be held at Morva Rhianedd, on the banks of the Dee, near the site of the present town of Flint, in which the Prince of South Wales was to determine the controversy. Ranulph Earl of Chester, invading North Wales, in the year 1150, was met at Counsylvllt, Cynsylvllt, or Coleshill, to the west of this town, by Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, who totally defeated his forces with great slaughter, few escaping death except the prisoners and the leaders of the invading army, the latter of whom saved themselves by the swiftness of their horses. On the invasion of North Wales by Henry II., in 1157, after a party of his troops had been defeated at Coed-Euloe, near Hawarden, this monarch advanced at the head of his army along the shores of the Dee to the town of Flint, a little beyond which, at the place where the Earl of Chester had been defeated by Owain Gwynedd, he received a severe check from this prince's forces. Giraldus Cambrensis, in his Itinerary of the journey made through Wales by Archbishop Baldwin and himself, in 1188, for the purpose of preaching the crusades, mentions the fact of their resting one night at "Coleshulle, or the hill of coal," undoubtedly the same place as that identified by the respectable antiquary above-named with the present town of Flint. Much doubt prevails as to the period of the first erection of the castle of Flint, which, from the thirteenth century until the termination of the civil war of the seventeenth, holds a distinguished place in the Welsh annals. Camden, who is followed by Lord Lyttelton, asserts that it was begun by Henry II. and completed by Edward I.: Leland, however, adduces the authority of an ancient writer, who attributes even its foundation to the latter monarch, in the year 1275, when, being encamped on Saltney marsh, near Chester, preparing for an invasion of North Wales, he certainly either originally erected or rebuilt this fortress, to secure, together with Rhuddlan castle, the country which he had already subdued, and to afford his army a safe retreat, in case he should meet with any disaster. Although Henry, after his partial defeat at Counsylvllt, might probably construct some slight fortification here, for the protection of his discomfited forces, yet the certainty of Edward's being the original founder of the present castle is proved by a petition of the inhabitants of Flint, in the year 1281, in which they state, amongst other grievances, that the king had built the castle upon their soil, by which means numbers of persons were injured, and, although the justiciary had received a royal mandate to grant them a specified remuneration of land, equal in quantity and quality, they had been despoiled of their property, and had received in lieu neither land nor money.

Previously to this, in 1277, the men of Flint obtained an order for the proclamation of a market at this town. In 1280, an order was issued for the custody of the gate of the castle, at which time probably the place was

first garrisoned. In 1292, this fortress was besieged and taken by the forces of Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, and his brother Davydd; being then, besides Rhuddlan, the only fortress in North Wales in the possession of the English. In the following year, Edward resided for some time in this castle, and made the town a free borough; empowering the inhabitants, by his charter, dated from the castle on the 8th of September, to cut down timber in the woods of Northop, Leadbrook, Keldreston, Wolfynton, Weppre, and Sutton, for the smelting of their lead-ore; also granting them a right of pasture in these woods. The same monarch, in 1290, issued an order for superintending the works of the castles of Flint, Rhuddlan, and Chester, which places were of the first importance, as commanding a free entrance into his newly-conquered dominion of North Wales. Edward II. resided for some time in this castle, in which he received with exulting pleasure his banished favourite, Piers Gaveston, who had landed from Ireland at Carnarvon. The castle and town of Flint appear almost always, when in the possession of the English, to have belonged to the earldom of Chester, with which they were granted by Edward III., in the seventh year of his reign, to his son Edward, surnamed the Black Prince, to whom he issued an order, two years afterwards, to take the castles of Flint and Rhuddlan into his custody, to furnish them with provisions, and to place in them sufficient garrisons, as had been done in the same prince's castles of Beeston and Chester. The castle of Flint has, in like manner, been always enumerated in the charters investing the eldest sons of succeeding kings of England with the earldom of Chester, when they were created princes of Wales. From a schedule of the 50th of Edward III. it appears, that the town of Flint then yielded to the Earls of Chester a revenue of £56; and that of "Colshul," of which there is a separate entry, £4.7.10. But in a later account the profits arising from the former appear to have greatly decreased, while those from the latter have increased, to an amount nearly equal to the original estimate of those derived from Flint. In 1385, the castle was bestowed by Richard II., with the office of chief justice of Chester, on Robert de Vere, Earl of Oxford, and subsequently, in 1399, on Percy, Earl of Northumberland, who, in the following year, on the return of this unfortunate monarch from his Irish expedition, inveigled him to this fortress, for the purpose of delivering him into the power of the usurping Bolingbroke, who was afterwards advanced to the throne, under the title of Henry IV. Having decoyed him from among his friends at Aberconway, Percy conducted him to Flint castle, under an escort of Bolingbroke's soldiers, who had met them on the road: here the unfortunate Richard was at first received with every outward sign of respect by his rival and his attendants, who, however, on the following day commenced treating him with indignity, and he was conveyed a virtual prisoner to Chester. During the insurrection of the Welsh under Owain Glyndwr, in the reign of Henry IV., that monarch garrisoned the castle of Flint against the men of this borough, who had joined their revolted countrymen, and were making frequent attempts to gain possession of it. But the garrison resisted every assault, and kept possession of the fortress till the insurrection was quelled, upon which event Henry, Prince of Wales, procured



from his father a free pardon for all the burgesses of Flint who had joined the standard of the insurgents. Soon after the commencement of the civil war in the reign of Charles I., the castle was repaired and garrisoned for the king by Sir Roger Mostyn, Bart., who had raised a force of one thousand five hundred men, equipped and maintained at his sole expense. Sir Roger was appointed governor of the castle of Flint, which, in 1643, was vigorously besieged by the parliamentary forces under Sir William Brereton and Sir Thomas Myddelton: though closely pressed, the garrison made an obstinate and protracted defence, till reduced by want of provisions to feed on the flesh of their horses; and this resource also failing, and being entirely hopeless of relief, they at length surrendered upon honourable terms. The castle was afterwards retaken by the royalists, under the command of Sir William Vaughan, in September 1645, and was reinforced in the November following by the garrison of Beeston, which, after a gallant but unsuccessful resistance to the parliamentary forces, was allowed by the terms of their capitulation to march to this place with all the honours of war. After receiving this accession of force, the castle remained unmolested till August 1646, when it was finally surrendered to Major-General Mytton, and in the following year was dismantled by order of the parliament.

The town is situated on the shore of the æstuary of the river Dee, which sometimes flows close to it, occasionally receding, and approaching it again, opposite to Parkgate in Cheshire, from which place it is distant five miles, and consists of four principal streets, intersecting each other at right angles, with many smaller ones, dividing it into squares, and exhibiting, with little deviation, the regular plan of an ancient Roman city: the buildings are, notwithstanding, very inferior in appearance to what might be expected from the regularity with which the streets are disposed; and, with the exception of its convenient situation for sea-bathing, which attracts a considerable resort of company during the summer months, the town possesses few recommendations as a place of residence. For the accommodation of persons who visit it for the benefit of the waters hot baths have been constructed on an extensive scale, and are provided with every requisite accommodation. The neighbourhood abounds with pleasing walks and rides through a tract of country rich in picturesque beauty and finely varied scenery. The principal branch of trade is the smelting of lead-ore, for which purpose very extensive works have been erected on the site of the ancient Roman hearths, the proprietors of which, by investing a large capital in the lead and coal works, the formation of wharfs, and other improvements, have materially increased the trade and added to the importance of the town. In these works, erected by Geo. Roskill and Co., in 1812, in which is a very extensive reverberating furnace, six thousand tons of lead are annually smelted, from which nearly forty thousand ounces of fine silver are extracted. In 1824, a tower, one hundred and forty feet high and forty-two feet in diameter, was added to the works, for the purpose of collecting the sulphur from the different flues in this extensive concern, in conducting the various departments of which one hundred and twenty persons are constantly employed. The

making of boilers for steam-engines has also been lately introduced, and is carried on to a limited extent; and close to the town are extensive collieries, in which eight hundred men are constantly employed, and one thousand five hundred tons of coal are raised weekly: rail-roads have been constructed to convey the coal from the works to the wharfs, whence it is sent coastwise to Chester and to various parts of North Wales. The principal exports, in addition to the vast quantity of coal, are the produce of the lead-works, consisting of lead in pigs, bars, sheets, and patent pipes, and red lead, litharge, and silver. The æstuary of the river Dee is navigable for vessels of two hundred and fifty, or three hundred, tons' burden, which can at any time approach the quay; and the various wharfs, piers, and embankments which have been constructed, for the accommodation of the works above mentioned, afford every facility to the commerce of the town, which is rapidly improving. The market has fallen into disuse: fairs are held on the first Monday in February, July 3rd, and November 3rd.

This town was first made a free borough by Edward I., who, in 1283, granted the inhabitants a charter of privileges, which is said to have been confirmed by Edward II., and extended by Edward III. The latter monarch bestowed both the town and castle, together with several others, upon his son Edward the Black Prince, whom he created Earl of Chester, to which earldom the town and county of Flint are still appended. Prince Edward gave the inhabitants a charter of incorporation, and ordained that the constable of the castle for the time being should be mayor of the borough. Their charter was confirmed in the 2nd and 3rd of Philip and Mary, and subsequently in the 12th of William III. The government is vested in a mayor (the constable of the castle), appointed by letters patent, two bailiffs, a recorder, and twelve capital burgesses, assisted by a mace-bearer and other officers elected annually, on the 29th of September, from among the burgesses at large. The revenue of the borough has been greatly diminished by an act which was obtained in 1816, for enclosing the waste lands in the parish, by which the burgesses have been deprived of the greater portion of the lands assigned to them by the charter of Prince Edward, exceeding six hundred acres in extent. The elective franchise was first granted to this borough, as the shire town, in the 27th of Henry VIII., since which period it has constantly returned one member to parliament, in conjunction with the contributory boroughs of Caergwrle, Caerwys, Overton, and Rhuddlan: the right of election in this, as in each of the contributory boroughs, is vested in all the resident householders paying scot and lot, in number at present four hundred and forty-nine: the bailiffs are the returning officers; and the nomination and election of the member both for the county and the boroughs take place in this town. The late act for amending the representation of the people added the towns of St. Asaph, Holywell, and Mold to the former district of contributory boroughs, but did not alter the constituency of the latter, owing to its scot and lot character, except by subjecting each individual voter to the registry, in common with the £10 householders in other boroughs. The limits of the borough, which remain unaltered by the late act, include not only the whole



chapelry of Flint, but also the township of Coleshill-Vawr, in the adjacent parish of Holywell, the latter of which, on account of its ancient importance, has given name to the hundred in which the whole is locally situated. None of the members of the corporation exercise magisterial authority, the town being under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, who hold petty sessions here; but though it is the ancient provincial metropolis of Flintshire, the assizes and quarter sessions for the county have for many years been held at Mold. The county court, for the recovery of debts under forty shillings, is held here, on the first Wednesday in every month, by the under sheriff. The guildhall, erected in the reign of Elizabeth, is in a very dilapidated state, and is used only at the annual election of the officers of the corporation. The county gaol, erected on part of the site of the ancient castle, in 1785, is small and inconvenient, not admitting of a due classification of the prisoners: the expense of its erection was partly defrayed by subscription, but chiefly by the county, as is expressed by a neat inscription over the entrance gateway, written by Thomas Pennant, Esq., the antiquary and naturalist, who was a great promoter of the work from benevolent motives, the former gaol having become quite unfit for human residence: even the present edifice is about to be taken down, and a building better adapted to the purpose is to be erected at Mold.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Northop: the two last incumbents were, however, presented by the Bishop of St. Asaph. The chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small but neat edifice, having some portions in the early style of English architecture. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school was built here in 1820, by the subscriptions of a few individuals, by whom it is supported; one hundred and twenty children are gratuitously instructed in it. Twelve almshouses were built by the corporation, for the accommodation of poor burghesses; but, from the alienation of the lands of that body, by the late enclosure act, they have no endowment. There are some small charitable bequests and donations for distribution among the poor. At a short distance to the east of the town are the remains of the castle, occupying the summit of a rock of freestone, which is washed by the tide at high water: this extensive pile comprised within its outer walls a quadrangular area, at each of three angles of which was a strong circular tower, and at the fourth a similar bastion of much greater dimensions, erected by Edward I., and called the double tower, from its inner enclosure being surrounded by an outer concentric wall, forming a circular gallery, from which four arched openings afforded entrance to the inner and central area, twenty-two feet in diameter. This tower, which was the "donjon," or keep, communicated with the quadrangle by a drawbridge across an intervening moat, which isolated it from the rest of the works, and, from the prodigious thickness of the walls, and the completeness of its fortifications, was considered impregnable. From it Richard II. descended to meet Bolingbroke, on being betrayed into his power by the Earl of Northumberland. The principal remains of this ancient fortress are the towers and the east and north walls, which are

fast going to decay: the foundations of the eastern tower are undermined by the sea, which, in high tides, dashes with great violence against its base; and a considerable portion of this interesting and once important structure was taken down in 1785, for the purpose of erecting the county gaol. It is still nominally under the government of a constable, appointed by the crown, who receives a fee of £10: it has also a porter, who receives a fee of £6. 1. 8. About a mile from the town, on the lower road to Chester, formerly stood an ancient cross, from which the hundred of Atiscross, noticed in the Norman survey as comprising nearly all the country between the rivers Dee and Conway, took its name: the shaft of this cross is still preserved, and the ground around it is called *Croes Ati*: tradition states that a large town once existed here, and the foundations of buildings have been turned up by the plough. This is one of the places at which the scoria and Roman antiquities above noticed have been found: the scoria contained such quantities of lead as to induce the washers of ore to farm these spots, and to smelt it over again, by which means many tons of metal have been obtained: in removing it for that purpose, coins of the emperors Nero and Vespasian were found in a state of high preservation, together with a variety of ancient instruments and ornaments of Roman construction. Among the interesting remains thus discovered may be noticed a rich ornament of gold, elegantly formed of twisted wire, studded with globular beads of solid gold, which appears to have belonged to a bracelet, or necklace, of gold links, ornamented with pieces of blue glass, of which a part only was found; a small head of brass affixed to iron; a *stylus*, or instrument for writing on the *ceratæ tabellæ*, or waxen tablets; a species of narrow spoon used to collect tears for the lachrymatory; instruments of sacrifice; golden *bullæ*, or amulets; two *fibulæ*, or brooches; various species of buttons; instruments for dressing lamps, keys, rings, &c. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £325. 13.

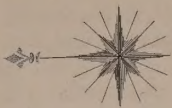
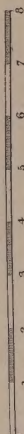
FLINTSHIRE, a maritime county of NORTH WALES, the main body of which is bounded on the south, south-west, and west, by Denbighshire; on the north, by the Irish sea; on the north-east, by the estuary of the river Dee; and on the east, by the English county of Cheshire: but the chief part of the hundred of Maelor lies detached from the rest of the county, about seven miles to the south-east, and is bounded on the north by Cheshire, on the east and south by Shropshire, and on the west by Denbighshire. The whole county, exclusively of the detached portion, lies between 53° 2" and 53° 22" (N. Lat.), and 2° 55" and 3° 31" (W. Lon.) The detached portion of the hundred of Maelor is about nine miles long, and three and a half broad: the whole county, according to Evans' Map of North Wales, contains one hundred and seventy-two thousand seven hundred and ninety acres, or nearly two hundred and seventy square miles. The population, in 1831, was 60,012.

At the period of the conquest of this part of Britain by the Romans, Flintshire was part of the territory of the *Ordovices*, excepting only the detached part of it lying eastward of the Dee, which was occupied by the *Cornavii*; and, in Mr. Pennant's opinion, the principal part of the main county derived its ancient name of *Tegeingl*, or *Tegangle*, from a tribe of the former people,



# FLINTSHIRE

Scale of Miles



ABERGELE BAY

PARKGATE

RIVER DEE

FLINT

HOLYWELL

CAERWYS

ST. ASAPH

CLYD

CLYD

ST. ASAPH

CLYD

CLYD

CLYD

CLYD

CLYD

CLYD

CLYD

CLYD

CLYD

CLYD

CLYD

CLYD

CLYD

CLYD

CLYD

Part of FLINTSHIRE locally in the County of SALOP.

Wrexham

Wrexham

Wrexham

Wrexham

Wrexham

Wrexham

Wrexham

Wrexham

Wrexham

Wrexham

Wrexham

Wrexham

Wrexham

Wrexham

Wrexham

Wrexham

ELLESMERE

ELLESMERE

ELLESMERE

WREXHAM

WREXHAM

WREXHAM

WREXHAM

WREXHAM

WREXHAM

DRAWN AND ENGRAVED FOR LEWIS' TOPOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY.

Drawn by R. C. Veighton

Engraved by J. & C. Walker.







called *Cangi*, who attended the flocks and herds in different pastures, of various quality, according to the season of the year; *teg*, importing fair; *cang*, the name of the people; and *lle*, a place: in support of this etymology he adduces the circumstance of a plain, in the parish of Caerwys, being at the present day called *Maescan-hâvod*, or "The Plain of the Hundred Summer Residences." By the Romans this district was called *Tegenia*; and under their dominion it contained the station *Varis*, at Bôdvâr, on the banks of the Clwyd, near Denbigh. That of *Banchorium*, *Bonium*, or *Bovium*, was situated at Bangor-Iscoed, on the eastern bank of the Dee; and from the various traces of Roman occupation discovered at Caergwrle, that place also appears to have been an important post belonging to these conquerors. Flintshire was crossed by a branch of the northern Watling-street, which entered it near Chester, and passed by the station *Varis* to that at Caerhên, near Aberconway. The Romans having withdrawn their forces, and left the native and partly civilized Britons to defend themselves against the northern barbarians, the latter, in the year 448, were totally defeated by the Christian Britons, at Maes y Garmon, or "the Field of Germanus," near Rhual, the seat of Frederick Philips, Esq., and not far from the present town of Mold: the British army was led on by Germanus and Lupus, two missionary bishops from Gaul, commanded by the former of whom, the troops raised such vehement shouts of *Alleluia*, that the allied Picts and Scots fled in dismay, and were nearly all slain: this, by most of the monkish historians, has been called *Victoria Alleluatica*. At the beginning of the seventh century, Ethelfrith, King of Northumbria, having gained some advantages over the northern Britons, turned his arms against the Welsh, and, at the commencement of the great battle of Chester, in which he was completely victorious, issued orders for the massacre of the monks of the monastery of Bangor-Iscoed, twelve hundred in number, who had come to offer up their prayers for the success of their countrymen, and of whom only fifty escaped. After the battle, Ethelfrith marched to Bangor, situated on the eastern banks of the Dee, in this county, where he totally destroyed that ancient and celebrated seminary of learning, and committed to the flames its invaluable library. The Saxon prince then attempted to penetrate further into the Welsh territory, but his passage over the Dee, at Bangor, was successfully opposed by the Prince of Powys, until relieved by Cadvan, King of North Wales, Meredydd, King of South Wales, and Bledrus, sovereign of Cornwall. The confederate princes having joined their forces, Dunothus, the abbot of the lately destroyed monastery, made an oration to the army, and, before the action commenced, gave orders that the soldiers should kiss the ground, in commemoration of the communion of the body of Christ, and should take up water into their hands, out of the river Dee, and drink it, in remembrance of his sacred blood which was shed for them. Animated by this act of devotion, the British forces encountered their adversaries with great bravery, entirely defeated them, with the loss of above ten thousand men, and compelled Ethelfrith, with the remainder of his army, to retreat into Northumbria: thus, the desolation of Bangor was severely punished within sight of its smoking ruins.

Offa, the powerful and warlike sovereign of Mercia having, in the eighth century, driven the Cymry westward into the mountains, drew a conspicuous line of demarcation, along the western side of his dominions, consisting of a vast ditch and rampart, which extended from the sea, near Prestatyn, in this county, to the banks of the Wye: through Flintshire it took a direction from north-west to south-east, and the first visible traces of it, proceeding in the latter direction, are found near Golden Grove, whence it proceeds towards Marian, in the parish of Newmarket, and hence to the Holywell race-ground, below which it is lost until found again at Cae-dwn, near Treuddyn, beyond which it soon enters Denbighshire. Mr. Pennant conceives that Offa's Dyke, or Clawdd Offa, as it is designated by the Welsh, terminated northward at Cae-dwn, and observes that, "it seems probable that Offa imagined that the Clwydian hills, and the deep valley at their eastern base, would serve as a continuance of his prohibitory line: he had carried his arms over the greater part of Flintshire, and vainly imagined that his labours would restrain the Cambrian inroads, in one part, and his orders prevent any incursions beyond these natural limits, which he had decreed should be the boundaries of his new conquests." The Mercian monarch, however, having been attacked by surprise, and defeated near this great monument of his power, breathing slaughter and vengeance, once more attacked the territory of the Cymry; but confining themselves to a desultory warfare, the latter made continual and destructive irruptions, from their woods and mountains, upon the forces of the enemy, and for some time maintained a successful defence. But, abandoning this cautious system, they imprudently determined to risk a general engagement, and the hostile armies met on the extensive marshy plain, near the sea-coast, called Morva Rhuddlan: the battle was long and sanguinary, but at length victory declared in favour of the Saxons; the Welsh were completely defeated, with terrible slaughter, and Caradoc, their valiant chieftain, slain. On this event, so disastrous to the Britons, the victor commanded the men and children taken prisoners to be massacred; but, according to tradition, few were left to gratify this barbarous revenge, those who had escaped the enemy's sword, during the action, having fled across the marshes with such precipitation as to perish on the sands in the waters of the advancing tide. Immediately after the surrender of Chester to Egbert of Wessex, the whole of the present county of Flint, being an open tract and devoid of those rugged and almost inaccessible elevations which occupy so much of the rest of North Wales, became subject to the arms of that powerful monarch, who carried his devastations to the foot of the Snowdon mountains. On the death of Roderic the Great, in 877, the cantrev of Tegeingl, or, as the Saxons called it, *Englefeld*, became included in the district of Perveddwlad, in the kingdom of Gwynedd, or North Wales, the seat of the government of which was at Aberffraw, in Anglesey; while the south-eastern parts of it, contained in the comots of Ystrad-Alun and Caergwrle, formed part of the kingdom of Powys, as also did Maelor Saesneg, or "English Maelor," to the east of the Dee. Early in the reign of Anarawd, who, on the death of his father Roderic, became sovereign of Gwynedd, the remnant of the Strath-Clyde Britons, being



harassed by the Danes, Saxons, and Scots, and, after severe conflicts with them, having lost their king, Constantine, in battle, applied to Anarawd for an asylum in his dominions; and the latter agreed to receive them, on condition of their recovering from the Saxons a portion of the territory which the latter had usurped from the ancient Cymry, in which they had permission to settle, and to maintain their position by force of arms: these Britons soon dispossessed the Saxons of the country situated between the rivers Conway and Dee, of which they remained for some time in quiet possession, until it was again overrun by Eadred, Earl of Mercia, who, however, was defeated by the Prince of North Wales, near the town of Aberconway, and pursued into his own country: the northern Britons, who, on the approach of Eadred, had removed their cattle and other valuable effects westward beyond the Conway, now established themselves, as a separate state, in the conquered country, to which they gave the name of Ystrad-Clwyd, from an important part of it lying on the banks of the river Clwyd: this was afterwards peaceably united to the kingdom of North Wales. In the year 1055, this county was laid waste by the forces of Harold, whom Edward the Confessor had sent to punish Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, for assisting Algar, the banished Earl of Chester, in his attacks on the English territories. It experienced a similar calamity, from the same cause, in 1063, on which occasion Harold advanced with such celerity, that he nearly took Gruffydd by surprise, in his palace at Rhuddlan; the latter having only time, the moment before the English presented themselves at the gate, to embark on board of one of his ships, at that time lying ready for his reception in the harbour: mortified that the Welsh prince should thus have escaped, Harold burned his palace, and set fire to all the vessels remaining in the harbour of Rhuddlan.

After the Norman Conquest, nearly the whole of this county appears in the general survey as appertaining to the county palatine of Chester, being then called *Englefield*: it formed a chief portion of the great district called, in that document, the hundred of Atiscros, lying between the river Dee and the Vale of Clwyd; and many places now contained in it, though difficult to identify, from the disfiguration of Norman orthography, are there described, and their valuations given, under the head of the county palatine. The isolated portion of the county, then called Maelor Saesneg, was, at the period of the Norman survey, included in a hundred called Dudestan; but by the *Statutum Wallie*, enacted in the twelfth year of the reign of Edward I., it was declared to constitute part of Flintshire; and in the reign of Henry VIII. the south-eastern extremity of the main county was added to it, and the whole formed into the present hundred of Maelor. In addition to Hugh Lupus and his successors in the earldom of Chester, in the reign of William Rufus, a Norman, named Eustace de Cruer, is also noticed among the proprietors of lands in this county, having done homage to that monarch for the territory of Mold and Hopedale, which afterwards, together with Hawarden, formed part of the possessions of Robert de Monthault, high steward of Chester. In 1144, the castle of Mold was besieged and taken by storm, by the forces of Owain, Prince of

North Wales. Henry II., in 1157, collected a formidable army from different parts of England, intending to invade Wales; and marching to Chester, thence advanced into Flintshire, where he encamped on Saltney Marsh, bordering on the Dee. So vast were the preparations made by this prince for the subjugation of the Welsh, that he compelled every two of his military vassals throughout England to furnish a soldier for the reinforcement of his army. Owain, Prince of North Wales, with his habitual activity, advanced to the frontiers of his dominions, and posted himself at Basingwerk, near Holywell, to await the approach of the English. Henry, hoping that the Welsh prince intended to risk a general engagement, despatched a chosen body of troops, under the command of several distinguished barons, with the design of either bringing the Welsh to action, or dislodging them from their station. This party, in passing through the woody and rugged district of Coed-Eulo, near Hawarden, was attacked by Davydd and Cynan, sons of Owain, who, with a body of forces, lay in ambush to intercept them: the suddenness and impetuosity of the assault, with the natural difficulties of their situation, so intimidated the English, that they fled in great disorder, and with much loss, to the main body of the army. Alarmed by the danger, and mortified by this disgrace, Henry broke up his camp, and marched along the shores of the Dee to the town of Flint, intending, by another manœuvre, to leave the Welsh on the right, and to cut off their communication with the interior; but in passing through a long and narrow defile at Counsylvll, or Coleselt, now called Coleshill, near Flint, he was intercepted by Owain. The English were permitted to enter so far into the pass as to render their advance or retreat, in case of attack, equally dangerous and difficult, when the Welsh, rushing with frightful outcries from the woods, assaulted them with stones, arrows, and other missiles. Struck with dismay, encumbered with heavy armour, and unaccustomed to fight in such situations, the English were again thrown into the utmost disorder: in the general confusion, Henry himself was obliged to flee, and Eustace Fitz-John and Robert de Courcy, with other noblemen of distinction, were slain. A few of the vanguard of the English army, who had escaped the general slaughter, fell back upon the main body, which was advancing in regular order to the entrance of the defile; and a false report of the king's death being raised, the Earl of Essex, hereditary standard-bearer of England, was seized with the general terror, and, throwing down the royal standard, gave increased currency to the rumour by exclaiming aloud, "The king is slain." The alarm now spread rapidly throughout the whole of the English ranks; and the Welsh, perceiving the disorder, attacked the invaders with such impetuosity, that a total rout must have ensued, had not the king, at length extricated from his perilous situation, appeared at this crisis, and made himself known to his army by lifting up the vizor of his helmet. The English, re-inspired by the gallantry of their sovereign, who with alacrity led them on to the charge, checked the victorious career of the Welsh, and drove them back into the woods. The Prince of Wales, after this slight reverse, retired to a post near St. Asaph, called from this circumstance Cil Owain, or



"Owain's Retreat;" and on the nearer approach of the King of England, he further retreated to a still stronger post, called Bryn y Pin, situated about five miles to the west of St. Asaph. Henry, meeting with no further resistance, advanced to Rhuddlan, and strongly fortified the castle of that town, as well as that of Basingwerk, at which latter place he erected a house for the knights templar, a new kind of military garrison in Wales; and, further to secure his new conquests, by facilitating military movements, he cut down the woods, and constructed new roads through the subdued districts. Meantime, Owain frequently descended from his post on the hill, to skirmish with the English troops and molest them in their operations; but at last he was compelled to enter into a treaty, by which himself and his chieftains submitted to do homage to Henry, and to yield up those castles and districts in North Wales which, in the late reign, had been obtained from the English.

A few years afterwards, all the princes of Wales entered into a confederacy for the recovery of their lost independence, and one of their first enterprises was an expedition, under the conduct of Davydd, son of Owain Gwynedd, into Flintshire, where this leader made dreadful devastations, carrying off the cattle and inhabitants to the Vale of Clwyd. The English monarch, who was absent in Normandy, on his arrival in 1165, marched into this county with a body of troops, which had been levied by parliament for the reduction of Rhys ab Gruffydd, Prince of South Wales, to protect Rhuddlan castle, which he feared would be besieged by the Welsh; but the enemy having retired, the king stayed only a few days to reinforce his garrisons, and then returned into England, to prepare new levies for a powerful expedition, which, however, was directed against a more southern frontier. In 1166, the Prince of North Wales took and demolished the castle of Basingwerk. In 1210, the Earl of Chester made an inroad into North Wales; and the prince of this country, in return, cruelly devastated the earl's territories, and brought away considerable plunder. Incensed at this incursion, King John assembled a large army at Oswestry, and, having been joined by many of the Welsh chieftains, his vassals, marched to Chester, fully resolved upon the extermination of the people of North Wales; from that city the English army advanced along the shores of the Dee and of the Irish sea to Rhuddlan, and thence proceeded towards the mountains of Snowdon, but, in a short time, after a harassing warfare, was compelled to make a disgraceful retreat. On several subsequent occasions Flintshire was the scene of like invasions and retreats. About the year 1260, the castle of Dyserth, in this county, was taken from the English and destroyed, by Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, as was also that of Mold, a short time after, by Gruffydd ab Gwenwynwyn. In 1277, Edward I., on his advance with a large army to effect the final conquest of Wales, encamped his forces for some time on Saltney Marsh, rebuilt the castle of Flint, and more strongly fortified that of Rhuddlan, and at the same time bestowed much labour in making good roads for the movements of his troops. Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, and his brother Davydd, having been reconciled to each other, afterwards concerted measures for a general insurrection against the power

of the English, and Davydd opened the campaign by taking the castle of Hawarden, by surprise, on the dark and stormy night of Palm Sunday, 1282. After this successful exploit, the brothers, having joined their forces, invested the castles of Flint and Rhuddlan, the only fortresses then remaining in the possession of the English in this part of the principality, and soon gained possession of the former: these enterprises were regarded by the Welsh, in every quarter, as the signal for revolt. Edward, however, came to Chester with a large army, and having remained a fortnight in that city to refresh his troops, he commenced operations about the middle of June, 1282, by investing the castle of Caergwrle, which fortress had been for some time in the possession of Davydd, but was almost immediately surrendered to the English monarch, on whose further advance the Welsh princes raised the siege of Rhuddlan castle, and retreated slowly towards Snowdon. Seizing a favourable opportunity, Llewelyn put to flight a detachment of the English army, taking fourteen standards in the action, in which were slain the lords Audley and Clifford, and various other noblemen and gentlemen, and the king himself was forced to retire for protection into his newly-acquired castle of Caergwrle. In the middle of July we find Edward issuing orders from Rhuddlan; and in the following November he advanced to Aberconway.

In the reign of Henry III., John, surnamed Le Scot, Earl of Chester, having died without male issue, that earldom, to which belonged the territory of Flint, was given by the king to Simon de Montfort, the coheiresses of John Le Scot receiving other lands in exchange: on Montfort's death, in 1265, the earldom was annexed to the crown of England. In succeeding reigns, the eldest son of the reigning monarch, on being created Prince of Wales, has received a grant of the earldom of Chester, including Flintshire, in which grants various items have been recapitulated in the following manner: with the earldom, all lands, viz., the castles of Chester, Beeston, Rothlam, Flint, and Hope, and also the manors of Hope, Hopedale, and Forsham, with the cantred and lands of Englefield; together with the other estates in the counties of Chester, Flint, and elsewhere, belonging to the said earldom; "and the advowson of the cathedral church of St. Asaph, in Wales, and the avoidance, issues, and profits of the temporalities of the bishopricks of Chester and St. Asaph, aforesaid, together with all advowsons, pensions, portions, corrodiages, offices, prizes, customs, liberties, franchises, lordships, comots, hundreds, escheats, forfeitures, and hereditaments, unto the said earldom belonging." By the *Statutum Walliæ* it was, among other clauses, ordained, that the territory of Flint should, though not disjoined from that of Chester, be separately considered as to certain branches of jurisdiction. In this document we find the first mention of the *viscomes*, or sheriff, of Flint; and from this period it seems proper to date the origin of the *shire* or *county* of Flint. In the great rebellion under Owain Glyndwr, in the reign of Henry IV., great numbers of the men of Flintshire took up arms in favour of their valiant countryman, but on its suppression they were visited with no signal vengeance. During the civil war of the seventeenth century, this county was several times the scene of violence, but



never of much bloodshed. Hawarden castle was seized by the parliamentarians at an early period of the struggle; but, in 1643, it was attacked and taken by a small body of royalists, under Lieutenant-Colonel Marrow, sent over from Ireland by the Duke of Ormonde, and who had landed near Mostyn. In this year also, Flint castle was closely besieged by the parliamentary forces under Sir William Brereton and Sir Thomas Myddelton, to whom it was at last surrendered on honourable terms, when the garrison was reduced to extremity. In March 1645, after a month's close siege, Hawarden castle was surrendered, by the king's order, to the parliamentary commander, Major-General Mytton. The same officer, in July of the following year, captured, after a short siege, the castle of Rhuddlan, which until then had been held by the royalists; and in August retook the castle of Flint, which had again fallen into their hands.

Flintshire is in the diocese and archdeaconry of St. Asaph, and in the province of Canterbury: the total number of parishes is thirty-two, of which eleven are rectories, twelve vicarages, and the rest perpetual curacies. For purposes of civil government it is divided into the five hundreds of Coleshill, Maelor, Mold, Prestatyn, and Rhuddlan. It contains the small city and newly-created borough of St. Asaph; the borough and sea-port towns of Flint and Rhuddlan; the newly-created boroughs and market towns of Holywell and Mold; and the boroughs of Caergwrle with Hope, Caerwys, and Overton. One knight is returned to parliament for the shire; and one representative for Flint and the seven other boroughs conjointly: the county member is nominated and elected at Flint, as also is the member for the boroughs: the polling-places under the late Reform Act are Flint and Rhuddlan. This county is included in the Chester circuit: the assizes and quarter sessions are held at Mold: the county gaol and house of correction, or bridewell, are at present at Flint; but a new county gaol, together with county courts, are about to be erected at Mold: there are twenty-four acting magistrates. The parochial rates raised in the county, for the year ending March 25th, 1830, amounted to £25,513, and the expenditure to £25,428, of which £20,990 was applied to the relief of the poor.

The principal portion of Flintshire, though its boundary towards Denbighshire is extremely irregular, approaches in form to a narrow parallelogram, stretching along the south-western side of the river Dee, in its near approach towards the sea. The detached part of the hundred of Maelor (anciently called *Maelor Saesneg*, or "English Maelor," to distinguish it from the territory on the opposite side of the river Dee, called *Maelor Gymraeg*, or "Welsh Maelor," now included in the hundred of Bromfield, in Denbighshire,) is somewhat similar in form, but is broader in proportion to its length: this division extends into the spacious and fertile plain which also occupies the northern parts of Shropshire, the whole of Cheshire, and the southern parts of Lancashire; yet, nevertheless, its surface is varied by several fine heights, commanding rich and extensive prospects in every direction. The main body of the county is much diversified in feature, but its scenery, though frequently bold and striking, seldom assumes the character of wildness which prevails in

other parts of the principality, where the mountains are of greater elevation. Some of the hills have on one side steep declivities; but they generally descend in gentle slopes into fertile vales, watered by pleasingly meandering streams. From the shores of the Dee the country immediately rises in fine swells, overspread with rich corn-fields and pastures, to the distance of three or four miles. Beyond this fertile tract, in the vicinity of Halkin, and nearly parallel with the distant shores of the river, runs a mountainous ridge, the upper parts of which have a sterile and dreary aspect, though containing valuable minerals; but the lower parts are agreeably varied with well-wooded dingles, through which the mountain streams find their way into the Dee. The north-western extremity of the county is flat and uninteresting, particularly towards the sea, but is highly productive of corn and grass. Eastward of the rich Vale of Clwyd, which extends north-eastward out of Denbighshire to the shore of this county, rises the elevated ridge of the Clwydian hills, the detached summits of which, named Moel Arthur, Moel Venlli, and Moel Vamma, are conspicuous objects at a very great distance. This chain commences at Dyserth, near the æstuary of the Dee, and passes through the parishes of Cwm, Tremerechion, Bôdvri, and Ysceiviog, to the valley of Nannerch, beyond which, the hills increasing in altitude, it soon enters Denbighshire, but runs for several miles south-eastward along the border of Flintshire towards the head of the Vale of Clwyd, where it forms a junction with the Llandegla and Brÿn-Eglwys hills. Heath, or ling, is the chief produce of the higher parts of these mountains, which can only be crossed through the ravines, called *bwlechs*, the roads through which ascend about two-thirds of the height of the mountains, excepting in the deep opening near Bôdvri, through which passes the road from Holywell to Denbigh. Strong and fertile argillaceous soils occupy those parts of the Vale of Clwyd which are included in this county, and the rich maritime districts in the northern part of it, and form some of the best wheat soils in North Wales, perhaps not inferior to any in Britain. The soil of the higher hills, the substrata of which are argillaceous, is shallow, and is composed of a mixture of clay and gravel, in which the former predominates. Light soils and free loams abound in various places, more particularly in the small valleys opening from the higher hills. Bordering on the great æstuary of the Dee lies a considerable tract of sandy land; and the soils above-mentioned are in some places variously intermixed with each other. Below the limestone hills there is an abundance of valuable marly soils, formed by the decay of that stone. A part of the Vale of Clwyd has its soils tinged by a reddish sandstone of loose texture.

In the mining districts agriculture is much neglected; but the fertility of the other parts of the county fully counterbalances this deficiency, and renders the agricultural produce of Flintshire adequate to its consumption. Upon light soils the Norfolk rotation of crops is most common; viz., first, wheat; second, turnips; third, barley; and fourth, clover: elsewhere the courses are very various. All the ordinary kinds of grain are cultivated: the wheat crops are most abundant in the maritime districts of Prestatyn, in the northern part of the county, where the returns average about nine or ten, and are occasionally fifteen, times



the quantity of grain sown. Oats and barley are always mown, and sometimes wheat; but the latter is most frequently cut with the sickle. Peas are occasionally grown, but not to the extent that they formerly were. Turnips are sometimes cultivated, and potatoes commonly. The common artificial grasses are, red clover, rye-grass, and trefoil, the first sometimes for seed. Lucern is grown on about two hundred acres of the low sandy tracts bordering on the æstuary of the Dee, between Flint and Chester, and on a much smaller scale in several other situations: the produce in the first-mentioned place, when mown for fodder, is frequently very great. In the eastern parts of the county the grass lands are chiefly applied to the purposes of the dairy, the produce of which, in cheese and butter, is exported in great quantities to Chester: part of the cheese is like that of Cheshire, and the rest like that of Gloucester. The Vale of Clwyd, and the lands bordering on the Dee, in this county, comprise the greater part of the pastures of North Wales that are rich enough to fatten cattle. The artificial irrigation of meadows is generally practised in convenient situations. The most common manure is lime, which is obtained in the greatest abundance in almost every part of the county, and is frequently burned in sod-kilns on the field to be manured: marl is also used near places where it is found. The kind of plough in most common use is the "Lummas plough," which much resembles the Rotherham. The cattle of Flintshire are of a good size and superior kind, and of all varieties of colours: those bred in the maritime district, at its northern extremity, and thence along the borders of the Dee towards Cheshire, are remarkable for their aptitude to fatten. On the hills the sheep are of the common small highland breed; but in the enclosures are found various foreign breeds and crosses, more especially the South Down and Leicester sheep. In the dairy district the offal of the dairy, and the range of grass or clover fields, support numbers of hogs during summer, which, when they have cleared the stubbles after harvest, are sold off: they are generally of a middle size, have short ears, round and deep chests, and are commonly spotted, though sometimes all white. The draught horses of all kinds are for the most part bred within the county: they are generally either black or bay, strong, active, well made, and from fifteen to sixteen hands high. Various extensive plantations of timber trees occur in different parts of the county, and are sometimes of remarkably flourishing growth: some of the oak, sycamore, elm, ash, and bay trees in the woods near Bôdryddan, the seat of Mrs. Yonge; Mostyn, the seat of the Hon. Mr. Mostyn; and Downing, the seat of David Pennant, Esq., are of uncommon size and magnificence.

Although the waste lands are still of considerable extent, more particularly on the hills of Buckley and Halkin, yet they have been greatly lessened by various enclosures. Fen's heath, on the border of Shropshire, and Threap Wood, an extra-parochial waste, also in the hundred of Maelor, still remain open. In the year 1732, an act of parliament was procured, enabling the mayor and citizens of Chester to recover and preserve the navigation of the Dee; and another, in the year 1740, incorporating what has since been called "The River Dee Company," the latter of which, by the said acts and

former ones of the 17th and 26th of George II., received, as a recompense for the expenses incurred in recovering and preserving the said navigation, a grant of all the white sands, or such as were then unproductive of herbage, within the æstuary of the Dee, from the walls of Chester to the extremity of Wirrall, on the Cheshire side, and to the Point of Air on that of Flintshire. One of the first acts of this company was to purchase, from the lord and freeholders of the manor of Hawarden, six hundred acres of waste marsh land, through which they cut a new channel for the Dee, by means of which, and several embankments made in the years 1754, 1763, 1769, and 1790, they gained three thousand one hundred acres of the sands, which are now covered, even the inner sides of the embankments, with good crops of corn, and lucern and other grasses: the whole of this redeemed tract has been incorporated into the township of Sealand, in the parish of Hawarden. There are yet between one and two thousand acres of unenclosed marshes on the æstuary of the Dee, in this county, the principal portion of which is in the vicinity of the towns of Flint and Holywell, and consists of land of the richest quality. Some of the principal enclosures have been, that of Saltney marsh, containing two thousand two hundred acres, under an act passed in 1778; that of Hope, comprising three thousand five hundred acres, under an act obtained in 1791; that of Mold, containing about four thousand acres, under an act passed in 1792; that of Kîlken, containing two thousand four hundred acres, under an act passed in 1793; and that of Ysceiviog, Nannerch, and Whitford, comprising about three thousand five hundred acres. In the parish of Llanasa, by an act passed in 1811, sixteen hundred acres of peculiarly rich land have been enclosed, of which twelve hundred were recovered from the sea, by an embankment, at an expense of £4000, which was defrayed by the freeholders. The waste of Mynydd Tegengle, in the parishes of Whitford and Ysceiviog, has also been enclosed; and the proprietors within the franchise of Rhuddlan obtained an act, in 1807, for the enclosure of their portion of the rich tract called Rhuddlan marsh. This great level, lying near the town of Rhuddlan, between St. Asaph and the sea, contains about twenty-seven thousand acres of a rich sandy loam, and extends westward into the adjoining county of Denbigh. The sea having made some destructive encroachments on Tywyn Abergele, a neighbouring waste, the proprietors of Rhuddlan marsh, to secure their own lands from inundation, at the end of the last century and the commencement of the present, formed, under the provisions of an act of parliament, an embankment varying in height and breadth, according to the force of the tide which it was designed to resist: five hundred acres were appointed by the act to be sold, towards defraying the expense incurred in forming this embankment, which it was estimated would cost, together with drainage, no less than £13,500. Coal, obtained from its own mines, is the common fuel of this county; but peat is burned in some places, and that which is obtained in Fens Moss, in the hundred of Maelor, is so soft as to require to be cast in moulds before it can be used: when it has dried and hardened, it becomes highly inflammable, and the moulded pieces are sold by the hundred chiefly to the people of Whitchurch and Wem, in the adjoining county of Salop.



The mineral productions of Flintshire are of great variety and importance, when compared with the small extent of its surface, and consist chiefly of coal, lead-ore, and calamine, with limestone, freestone, and various other kinds of stone. By far the greater part of it is included in the limestone tract of North Wales, the northern part of which enters the parish of Mold from the eastern part of Denbighshire, and in its progress north-westward occupies the western parts of it, and passes by Kilkenny, Halkin, Ysceiviog, and Caerwys, to the east of Tremerechion and Cwm, and to the west of Holywell, Whitford, and Llanasaph, including the whole of the parishes of Newmarket, Gwaenyscor, and Meliden, and terminating on the sea-shore, at Dyserth, in a bold promontory facing the north-west. To the east and north of the limestone tract are valuable coal measures, the geological position of which is over the calcareous beds, from which they dip, first eastward, towards the plain of Cheshire, and afterwards north-eastward, under the æstuary of the Dee, forming what the miners call a trough, and rising again on the Cheshire side of that river, in the peninsula of Wirrall. The coal tract extends from the parish of Llanasaph, or Llanasa, opposite the Point of Air, south-eastward through those of Whitford, Holywell, Flint, and Northop, into that of Hawarden, opposite to Chester. The thickness of several of the coal seams is remarkably great, being surpassed by none in the kingdom, except those near Wednesbury in Staffordshire; and few places in the island possess so great a quantity of coal within the same distance of the surface. A pit at Bychton, near Holywell, six hundred and fourteen feet deep, is sunk through twenty-seven different strata, of which twelve consist of coal varying in thickness from one to fifteen feet. The first of these is of the kind called *cannel coal*, which is also found in the Mostyn and Leeswood pits: at Bychton it is three feet thick, and rests immediately upon a bed of common coal, six feet thick: a stratum of the same species, fourteen inches thick, occurs at the depth of about three hundred and fourteen feet: the aggregate thickness of the whole series of seams is sixty-four feet eight inches, being equal to about one foot of coal in every nine feet depth. The dip of the strata of the whole formation is very considerable, varying from one yard in four to two yards in three. Although the thickest seam, towards the north-western extremity of the district, is as much as fifteen feet, yet at Hawarden, near Chester, it is only twelve feet. The strata alternating with the beds of coal consist chiefly of freestone and a dark-coloured shale, the latter of which decomposes on exposure to the atmosphere. The collieries of this county are mentioned in an official document so early as the reign of Edward I.: they formerly supplied Dublin and the northern coasts of Ireland, but the external demand has much diminished, and the measures are consequently worked on a much smaller scale: this change in the trade is attributable to the opening of numerous pits in Cumberland and Lancashire, more conveniently situated for the approach of ships; for the Dee, which was formerly navigable close to the shore of the parish of Whitford, has changed its deep channel to the opposite side of the æstuary, and at present only sloops and small brigs can approach within two miles of the same place. The principal coal mines are in the vicinities of Northop, Mold, Flint,

Bagillt near Holywell, and Bychton and Mostyn in the parish of Whitford. The calcareous strata of the south-western side of the county afford lime of excellent quality, and in many places assume the appearance of marble of different kinds, susceptible of a high polish: a variety of the latter, of a deep grey colour, when calcined and mixed with a certain quantity of common lime, forms an excellent cement for works under water. On the eastern side the limestone strata change into a mixed siliceous stone, of various degrees of fineness, called chert; beyond this occurs a dark-coloured friable shale, and, afterwards, freestone of excellent quality for building, with subjacent coal strata: the chert is used in the manufacture of porcelain and delf ware, large quantities of it being quarried and sent to the Staffordshire and Shropshire potteries. The change in the nature of the strata is more particularly abrupt and remarkable in the Vale of Nannerch, one side of which is formed by limestone rocks, and the other by ledges of shivery shale; and in the dingle to the south of the mansion of Talacre, where the coal measures end, one side being freestone of the finest quality, and the other chert and limestone, the metalliferous strata of the country. The chert is seldom above forty yards deep, but the limestone is of unknown depth, and both, in common with the shale, abound with ores of lead, calamine, and another combination of zinc, which, in some processes, serves as a substitute for calamine, and is called by the miners "black-jack."

Flintshire is thought to produce as much lead-ore as all the rest of Wales; but it is very difficult to ascertain the precise quantity, some being exported for the purpose of blending, and other ores imported for the same purpose, while the registers of the custom-house at Chester make no clear distinction between the produce of this county and that of Denbigh. Most of the works are called "Rakes," and are carried to various depths, from twenty to one hundred and fifty yards. The veins run in opposite directions, from north to south, and from east to west; but the ore obtained from those running in the former direction is of inferior quality, as it contains no silver, or so small a quantity as not to be worth extracting. The ores are of various kinds: the common lamellated "potters' ore," so called because it is used in glazing earthenware, yields, on an average, from fourteen to sixteen hundred-weight of lead per ton; the brown, or grey, lapideous ore, called by the miners *caulk*, yields from five to eleven hundred-weight per ton; and "gravel ore" is of nearly the same quality as the potters' ore, and is found in what the miners call *flats*, that is, loose strata of sand and stones, and consists of masses, rounded by attrition, of various sizes, from that of a hazel nut to pieces weighing several tons. The quantity of silver contained in these different ores is very various: when, on assaying, they are found to contain ten ounces per ton, this quantity is considered worth the trouble and expense of extracting; sometimes the produce is sixteen ounces per ton. Some of the richest and most productive mines are those in the vicinities of Halkin, Kilkenny, and Mold, the great Holywell Level, and Milwr mine, to the east of Holywell, which now yields more than any other in the county. Talar Gôch mine, at Dyserth, which belongs to the see of St. Asaph, the Earl of Plymouth, &c., affords rich ores of both lead and zinc. The working of two large and



valuable lead mines at Llŷn y Pandy, near Mold, has been greatly obstructed by the waters of the river Alyn, in the subterraneous part of its course. Near the sites of ancient British smelting-hearths, fragments of lead-ore have been collected, to the amount of many tons. *Lapis calaminaris* is raised in large quantities, more particularly in the eastern part of the limestone district, being generally found in a matrix of limestone, or chert, more especially the former, in which it is peculiar to the kind called "flummary stone:" its colour is various, being occasionally yellow, green, red, brown, and black: it is also of various texture and solidity, some being reticulated like corroded bones, and one kind resembling indurated wax: all that is not required for the Holywell brass-manufactories is sent by inland water carriage to Cheadle and Macclesfield, and by water to Bristol. The other ore of zinc, called sulphate of zinc, blende, or black-jack, is also very abundant, and is sometimes raised to be used in the making of ingots and bell-metal, or to be reduced to speltre, or regulus of zinc: it has naturally a blueish grey metallic appearance. A north and south vein, running through the parishes of Mold and Kilken, and consisting chiefly of fluor spar, breaks every vein that it crosses, without being itself interrupted or deranged by any, for which reason the miners have given it the name of the "gallop-hell vein." Barytes, united with vitriolic acid, occurs at Cevn Meiriadog, near St. Asaph, and with carbonic acid, between St. Asaph and Holywell, where it is the matrix both of the sulphate of zinc and that of lead. Marl, which appears to be a deposit of dissolved limestone, abounds in all the valleys contiguous to the limestone tract: clayey marl is most abundant in the eastern part of the county, and that of an indurated quality near the centre of it, in the neighbourhood of Flint. Petroleum, or mineral oil, is often found in the limestone strata, and is used for medicinal purposes: by the Welsh it is called *menyn y tylwyth teg*, or "fairies' butter." Varieties of the carbonate of lime, such as regularly formed spars, stalactites, and coarse mineral agaric, are found at Fordden, near Caerwys; and amethystine spar exists on Halkin mountain. The principal extraneous fossils are impressions of leaves of the fern species, found in the collieries of Leeswood, in the parish of Mold, and in the black shale incumbent on the coal in other works of the same kind. A great portion of the mineral districts, formerly constituting part of the royal possessions, was alienated from the crown, in the reign of Charles I., in favour of Sir Richard Grosvenor, who obtained a grant of all the mines, or rakes, of lead within the hundreds of Coleshill and Rhuddlan, which, prior to that period, had been divided into different lots, and let out on leases for a term of years. Although the surface of the extensive waste called Halkin Mountain is commonable land, yet its vast mineral treasures are, by virtue of this grant, the property of the present Marquis of Westminster, as descendant of Sir Richard.

A great part of the population of the county is engaged in raising its mineral treasures, whilst several are employed in manufacturing its metallic ores. On the stream which runs from Holywell into the æstuary of the Dee are, extensive works for the manufacture of culinary utensils, and other articles of brass; and various copper-works, at which are manufactured cop-

per plates, or sheets, for the bottoms of ships, and for exportation to China, to be used in the drying of teas, also copper bolts, nails, rudder bands, braces, &c., and copper wire: the copper used in these works is chiefly obtained from the Parys Mountain and Mona mines, in Anglesey; and numerous vessels are employed in the carriage of the raw and manufactured articles, the latter of which are shipped for Liverpool. Flintshire also contains four extensive cotton-manufactories, situated on the Holywell stream, and belonging to the "Holywell Cotton Company," in which about one thousand persons are employed: there is a fifth at Mold, but it is not at present in operation. Near Coed-Eulo, in the parish of Hawarden, are various extensive potteries, where are manufactured considerable quantities of coarse earthenware, which is chiefly sent coastwise, as far as Swansea, or exported to Ireland; and fire-bricks and tiles, from clunch, a species of indurated clay, which is here found in vast beds: some of the bricks, called *bearers*, weigh from one to two hundred-weight, and are used for lining the lead smelting furnaces, in which they are set, not in mortar, but in a cement formed of the same kind of fire clay, as that of which they are composed. The Nottingham brown earthenware, and other species of pottery, are made near Mold. At Bagillt, near Flint, the manufacture of ropes for shipping, and for the use of the colliers and miners, is carried on. Sal ammoniac is extracted from the offal of the Chester slaughter-houses, on Saltney marsh, near Flint; and pyrolignous acid from brushwood, at Hope, for the use of the cotton dyers. Notwithstanding that this county possesses so considerable an extent of sea-coast, its harbours are small, and its maritime commerce comparatively unimportant. At the mouth of the Clwyd is the port of Rhuddlan, at the Vorryd, where small vessels lie to take in corn, timber, and other produce of the interior; and more grain is shipped at this place than at all the other ports of North Wales collectively. The vessels trading to and from the brass and copper works, near Holywell, are loaded, or their cargoes discharged, on the shores of the æstuary of the Dee, at only a very short distance from them. A few small vessels also trade to Flint; and, when the weather permits, small packets sail from that town every day for Parkgate and Chester. On the shore of the township of Coed-Eulo a strong pier, or jetty, was constructed, about the commencement of the present century, which, projecting into the channel of the river Dee, forms a place of shelter in case of adverse winds, or boisterous weather, for vessels trading to Chester. Great quantities of limestone, quarried in the hills about Caergwre, are burned on the spot, and, for the most part, conveyed into Cheshire. Most of the wool produced in the county is sold, at Chester, to the clothiers of the North of England. The chief exports, however, are, ores of lead, zinc, and copper, and manufactured copper and brass, chert for the English potteries, fire-bricks, butter, cheese, and bacon. The chief article of importation, besides ordinary shop goods, is that of copper, from the Isle of Anglesey, to be manufactured near Holywell.

The principal rivers are the Dee, the Clwyd, and the Alyn. The Dee first touches this county in its course northward along the eastern confines of Denbighshire, where, for several miles, it bounds the detached portion



of it on the west : almost immediately below Chester it reaches the main body of the county, through a low marshy portion of which is carried its modern artificial channel, which terminates within four miles of Flint, in the great æstuary of the old channel: this extends from within a few miles of Chester, north-westward, to its termination in the Irish sea, between the extremity of Wirrall, in Cheshire, and the Point of Air in Flintshire, forming the north-eastern boundary of the latter county throughout its whole length: this river is navigable for vessels of considerable burden up to Chester; and at high water its æstuary forms a noble arm of the sea, but at its ebb it dwindles into a narrow and insignificant stream, winding its way through vast dreary wastes of sand and ooze. The Clwyd enters the western part of the county from Denbighshire, near Bôdvari, and, pursuing a north-easterly course, soon reaches St. Asaph, immediately below which city it is joined, from the south-west, by the powerful stream of the Elwy: hence, gradually increasing in breadth, it flows majestically through the rich marsh of Rhuddlan, by the ancient borough of that name, about three miles below which it falls into the Irish sea, through a small æstuary opening northward, and bounded on the east by the north-western extremity of Flintshire, and on the west by the north-easternmost point of Denbighshire: this river is navigable up to Rhuddlan quay for flat-bottomed boats of about seventy tons' burden, and at its mouth forms a port, which is frequented by small coasting vessels. The Alyn enters across the southern confines of the county, and takes a northerly course in the vicinity of Mold, round which town it makes an extensive sweep, and turns southward through Hopedale; afterwards, pursuing an easterly direction, it quits Flintshire near Caergwrle, in its further progress to the Dee: near Mold this river has a subterranean passage for the distance of rather less than a mile. Excellent materials for the making and repairing of roads being every where abundant, those of Flintshire are for the most part very good. The mail-coach road from London to Holyhead, by Chester, enters the county from the latter city, and runs the whole length of it, passing through Northop, Holywell, and St. Asaph, to Abergele in Denbighshire. From Northop a branch passes through Caerwys, and rejoins the main line at St. Asaph; while from Holywell there is another branch through Newmarket and Rhuddlan, which again reaches the main road at Abergele, in Denbighshire: from Northop a third branch passes through Denbigh, and regains the main road at Aberconway.

This county contains numerous interesting relics of antiquity. Various remains of the Romans, such as coins, hypocausts, fibulæ, &c., have been found in the vicinities of Flint, Caergwrle, Caerwys, and Holywell. In the neighbourhoods of Flint and Caergwrle are found great quantities of scoria, supposed to be the refuse from Roman smelting-hearths. On the hill called Garreg, near the village of Whitford, on the æstuary of the Dee, is a circular tower, conjectured to have been a Roman *pharos*, or lighthouse. In a field below the town of Caerwys stood formerly a stone, bearing a Latin inscription, which was removed to the gardens at Downing; but a tumulus yet remains near its former site, and there are various others scattered in the vicinity. In the neighbourhood of Hope may be traced, in several places, the remains of two ancient roads, one pointing towards Ha-

warden, and the other towards Mold. Roman intrenchments are yet visible in the vicinity of Bôdvari, the ancient *Varis*, and in one or two other places. Truman-Hill, and several other heights in the neighbourhood of Hawarden, are crowned with British encampments; and on Moel Arthur, a lofty summit of the Clwydian hills, is a strong fortification of British construction. On an elevation opposite to that on which are situated the ruins of the castle of Caergwrle is a British fortified post, called *Caer Estyn*, formed by a ditch and rampart. In the parish of Whitford there is a singular monument, consisting of an ancient sculptured obelisk, twelve feet high, called *Maen Chwyvan*, or "the stone of lamentation:" near it are several tumuli, called *Y Gorseddau*, or "the Sessions." Another curiously ornamented column, of unknown antiquity, stands in the cemetery of Dyserth. Various remains of Offa's Dyke are yet visible in this county, through the whole of which, with the exception of a short distance of about three miles, its course has recently been traced, from the place where it enters, near Hope, to its termination near Prestatyn. Nearly parallel with this ancient line of demarcation extends a similar work, called *Wat's Dyke*, which also traverses the entire county, in a direction from north-west to south-east. Commencing on the shores of the Dee, below the abbey of Basingwerk, it passes through "the strand fields," near Holywell, and by Cevn y Coed, Nant y Flint, Coed y llŷs, Brŷn-moel, Northop mills, Monachlog near Northop, and Mynydd Sychdyn, beyond which it enters Molesdale, near its lower extremity, and runs along the side of it by Hopechurch to Rhŷdin, beyond which it almost immediately enters the eastern part of Denbighshire, across which it pursues a southerly course, nearly parallel with Offa's Dyke. By all early historians these two lines of demarcation have been confounded with each other; and respecting the formation of Wat's Dyke there is no authentic record, and hardly even a conjecture. At the time of the Reformation there were, at Basingwerk, a Cistercian abbey; and at Rhuddlan, a house of Black friars: the famous monastery at Bangor-Iscoed was entirely in ruins at the time of the Norman Conquest. There are yet extensive and curious remains of the abbey of Basingwerk, and some smaller ruins of the house of the Knights Templar at the same place. The most remarkable specimens of ecclesiastical architecture are seen in the cathedral and parish church of St. Asaph; in the church of Kilken, which is chiefly remarkable for its fine carved roof; and in those of Hanmer, Mold, and Overton. An ancient and curious chapel adjoins St. Winifred's well, at Holywell. In this border county, so often the scene of conflict between the encroaching power of England and the patriotic valour of the Welsh, the fortified residences were numerous. There are extensive and picturesque remains of the castles of Caergwrle, Dyserth, Ewloe, Flint, Hawarden, and Rhuddlan. Mansions of rather ancient erection and antiquated appearance are numerous: the most remarkable are, Bôdryddan, the residence of Mrs. Yonge; Golden Grove, that of Captain Morgan; Mostyn, that of Edward M. Lloyd Mostyn, Esq; Nerquis Hall, that of Miss Gifford; Pentre-Hobyn, that of T. Trevor Mather, Esq.; Plâs Têg, that of — Roper, Esq.; and Rhual, that of Fred. Philips, Esq. Among the modern seats most worthy of notice are, Bôdelwyddan, the residence of Sir J. Williams, Bart.;



Bronwylva, that of Sir H. Browne; Brynbella, that of John Price, Esq.; Bryn y Pys, that of F. R. Price, Esq.; Cevn, that of Edward Lloyd, Esq.; Downing, that of David Pennant, Esq.; Emral, that of Sir Richard Puleston, Bart.; Gredington, that of Lord Kenyon; Gwernhayled, that of P. Lloyd Fletcher, Esq.; Gyrn, that of J. Douglas, Esq.; Halkin Castle, a seat of the Marquis of Westminster; Hanmer Hall, that of Sir John Hanmer, Bart.; Hawarden Castle, that of Sir S. R. Glynne, Bart.; Leeswood, that of I. W. Eyton, Esq.; Pengwern, that of Lord Mostyn; Talacre, that of Sir Edward Mostyn, Bart.; the Palace and Deanery of St. Asaph; and the Vicarage-house of Northop. Most of the better class of houses are built of the freestone of the coal measures. Although farm-houses and their appendages upon improved plans are common, yet many are extremely mean. The cottages are generally clean and comfortable, and built of the substantial materials of the district. The common fences are quickset hedges, for making which great quantities of hawthorn-sets are grown by nurserymen. The farmers and labourers are generally allowed to enjoy the advantage of superior family fare to that of the same classes in the other counties of North Wales. In those parts of Flintshire which adjoin Cheshire, servants hired by the year begin their term of service on the 1st of January; in other districts, on the 1st of May. At Rhuddlan, at the lower extremity of the Vale of Clwyd, labourers formerly met together on the Sunday morning, and were hired by the neighbouring farmers for the following week; but this is now done on the Monday morning, and the wages given at Rhuddlan regulate those of the two hundreds of Rhuddlan and Prestatyn. On the banks of the river Alyn, in the domain called Rhŷdin, near Caergwrle, are two saline springs, formerly much resorted to for the medicinal properties of their waters, which were considered particularly efficacious in the cure of scorbutic affections. At the bottom of the hill on which stands the town of Holywell is St. Winifred's Well, one of the most powerful springs in the island, emitting about one hundred and twenty tons of water per minute: the strong ebullition caused by this discharge keeps in continual suspension pebbles of an ounce in weight: the stream issuing from this fountain enters the æstuary of the Dee at a marshy spot, at the distance of one mile and two hundred and thirty-four yards from its source, having in that short course given motion to eleven mills of complex machinery: the supposed healing efficacy of this copious spring, and its pretended miraculous origin, formerly attracted numerous pilgrims to Holywell, and the legend connected with it is related in the account of that place.

FLORENCE (ST.), a parish in the hundred of CASTLEMARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. by N.) from Tenby, containing 350 inhabitants. This parish is beautifully situated on a gentle eminence in the centre of a fertile vale, sheltered on one side by the northern declivity of the Ridgeway between Pembroke and Tenby. The village forms one of the most cheerful and interesting objects in the delightful ride from Tenby to Pembroke. Many of the cottages, which are grouped in pleasing clusters around the church, are of ancient appearance, and coeval with the castles in the vicinity, having been built by the first generations of the Flemings who settled in this part of the princi-

pality, in the reign of Henry I., by permission of that monarch, when driven from their own country by an inundation of the sea. Attached to the cottages are spacious gardens, and the lands in the immediate vicinity are more richly wooded than in almost any other part of the surrounding country. The scenery is agreeably diversified, and the whole appearance of this interesting spot is highly picturesque. The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's: the former is a sinecure, rated in the king's books at £16.12.1., and in the patronage of the Master and Fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge; the latter, which is discharged, is rated at £4.18.4., is endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Rector: the bishop formerly collocated to the vicarage. The church, dedicated to St. Florence, is a massive cruciform structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a lofty square tower: on the north side of the altar is a mural tablet of brass, with a Latin epitaph, in choriambic verse, to the memory of Robert Rudd, A.B., formerly archdeacon of St. David's, who was ejected from his benefice in the reign of Charles I., for his adherence to the cause of that monarch, and died in October 1648. There is a place of worship for Independents. In connexion with the established church is a Sunday school, supported by subscription, which is attended by nearly all the children of the parish; and a school, supported by the dissenters, is held in a school-house belonging to the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £126.7.

FORCHAMMAN (FORCH-AMAN), a hamlet in the parish of ABERDARE, within the limits of the new borough of MERTHYR-TYDVIL, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. W. by S.) from Merthyr-Tydvil. The population is returned with the parish. This hamlet takes its name from the Amman stream, which here falls into the river Cynon, on the right bank of which it is situated. The population is almost exclusively agricultural. Aberhaman House is a pleasing mansion, surrounded by well-grown trees, and seated in a vale between the road leading to Aberdare and the river Cynon: it was for centuries the seat of the family of Matthews, and was sold by a descendant to the late Anthony Bacon, Esq., of Benham, in the county of Berks.

FORD, a chapelry in the parish of HAYSCASTLE, hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N.) from Haverfordwest. The population is included in the return for the parish. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of — Knox, Esq. This chapelry comprises a small tract lying at the north-eastern extremity of the parish, on the western bank of the Cleddy river, where it is joined by another small stream, and on the high road between Haverfordwest and Fishguard.

FORDEN, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of CAWRSE, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N.) from Montgomery, containing 856 inhabitants. The Danes are said to have stationed themselves in this neighbourhood in the year 894, and to have been driven from it by the Saxons, after a long siege and severe conflict: their encampments are still



visible on the Long Mountain and near Buttington. This mountain, called by the Welsh Mynydd, or Cevn Digoll, is partly included in this parish, and is remarkable as the scene of the last struggle of the Welsh for independence. After the death of Llewelyn, the inhabitants of North Wales rallied under the banner of his illegitimate son, Madoc, who assembled a considerable army, and obtained signal victories over the invaders, at Carnarvon, near Denbigh, at Knockin, and again in the marches: at length, having ventured hither to engage with the united forces of the lords marcher, his troops were routed, after an obstinate conflict, in 1294. Upon the same mountain, Henry Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., mustered his partisans from Shropshire and North Wales, and found every man who had promised to support him true to his appointment; on which account the Welsh have called it Digoll, signifying "without loss." The House of Industry for the united district of Montgomery and Welshpool is situated in this parish: this district, which is about eighteen miles square, comprises the parishes of Montgomery, Welshpool (except the township of Cyfronnydd, which supports its own poor), Berriew, Llandyssil, Llanmerewig, and Forden; and the townships of Cletterwood and Hope, in the parish of Buttington; those of Leighton and Trellystan, in the chapelry of Wolstonnyend, otherwise Wolston; that of Aston, in the parish of Lydham; and that of Castlewright, in the parish of Mainstone; all in the county of Montgomery; and the parishes of Worthen and Chirbury, in the county of Salop, and of Churchstoke, in the counties of Montgomery and Salop. These places were united, and formed into one entire district, for the better relief and employment of the poor, by an act passed in the 32nd of George III.; and certain persons described therein were incorporated, under the style of "The Guardians of the Poor of the parishes of Montgomery and Pool, and the parishes, chapelries, and townships united therewith, in the counties of Montgomery and Salop," some of whom were appointed directors, and certain regulations were established for effecting the purposes of the act: additional powers were granted to the corporation in the 36th of George III., and again in the 5th of George IV. The management of the interests of the establishment is vested in twenty-four directors, chosen from the body of guardians, eight of whom retire annually, and are succeeded by others: there are also honorary directors, besides the bailiffs of the boroughs of Montgomery and Welshpool. The domestic concerns are managed by a steward and matron, under the superintendence of a committee, which meets once a week: there are also a chaplain, treasurer, clerk, and other officers. The building, which is capable of affording accommodation to one thousand persons, is a plain substantial edifice of brick, erected in 1795, at an expense of upwards of £12,000: it stands within a plot of ground measuring thirty acres, and occupies three sides of a square, of which the front is three hundred and sixty feet in length. There is a neat chapel, in length fifty-seven feet and a half, and in breadth thirty-six feet, with a burial-ground attached. The male inmates able to labour were generally employed in husbandry, upon a farm belonging to the institution, and the females in knitting; but

the farm was given up about three years ago, and at present there are but few inmates, a new system of relieving the paupers in their own houses having been adopted, keeping in the house only such as are unable to labour: there is a school for the children. The sessions for the lower division of the hundred of Cawrse are held at the Church House at Forden, twice a year.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Salop, and diocese of Hereford, endowed with £400 private benefaction, and £900 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Master and Wardens of the Grocers' Company, to whom the great tithes belong. The church, which is situated about half a mile to the west of the road from Welshpool to Montgomery, is built in the ancient style of English architecture, and was enlarged in 1830, with the addition of one hundred and seventy sittings, one hundred and ten of them free, towards defraying the expense of which the Incorporated Society for building and enlarging churches and chapels granted £100: fifty free sittings had been previously provided. The font, which is of marble, and of an oval form, was presented to the parish, in 1794, by Richard Edmunds, Esq., at whose expense also the arms of England, exquisitely carved in wood, coloured and gilt, were put up on the north side of the chancel. This church was, for between three and four centuries, the burial-place of the family of Devereux, Viscounts Hereford, whose estate of Nanteribba is situated in this parish. There is a place of worship for Independents. Edward Lewis, in 1675, devised £20 per annum, arising from an estate in the adjoining parish of Chirbury in Shropshire, for the instruction of children of that parish and Forden. A Sunday school has been established, in connexion with the church. The sum of £100 was given by a member of the family of Devereux, for apprenticing two poor children annually. There are various remains of antiquity in the parish. In the township of Thornbury, near the banks of the Severn, are vestiges of a Roman rectangular encampment, called the Gaer, from which the course of an ancient road may be traced, in the parishes of Llandyssil, Llanmerewig, Newtown, and Penstrywed, to Caer-Sws, formerly an important Roman city, in the parish of Llanwnnog. That ancient line of demarcation, Offa's Dyke, passes through the townships of Hem and Wropton; and within two hundred yards of it, near Nanteribba, on the road from Welshpool to Montgomery, rises a vast conoidal rock, upon which, on clearing away the surface, about the middle of the last century, the remains of a fort were discovered: it appeared to have been of a square form, probably with a round tower at each angle, of which part of the south-eastern one still remains: the walls are about three feet high, and seven feet seven inches in thickness, and the area within is nine feet in diameter. The base of the rock is surrounded by a trench, cut through it, leaving only a narrow entrance to the fort. The history of this place is involved in total oblivion: it was probably a fortification of considerable importance, as it commanded the line of Offa's Dyke, and the vales of Severn, Montgomery, and Chirbury: at a short distance from it there is another intrenchment. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £395. 15.



**FOREST**, a hamlet in the parish and hundred of **TALGARTH**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $10\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.) from Hay, containing 134 inhabitants. This hamlet consists of the southern portion of that elevated range, called the Black mountains, which separates Brecknockshire from Monmouthshire and a detached district of Herefordshire. Talgarth mountain, in this hamlet, is two thousand four hundred and forty-five feet above the level of the sea; and upon another elevated hill near it, termed *Gader*, or the Chair, are loose stone circles, evidently Druidical, shaped as an irregular triangle, with a large stone for an apex, the whole about sixty feet in circumference. Other similar constructions are found within a short distance on the southern declivity of this mountain. The remains of Dinas castle are also situated in this hamlet. They occupy the summit of a detached and conical hill at the foot of the Black mountains, and consist at present of little more than the foundations, the castle having been destroyed, as is supposed, by the natives of Sir David Gam's party, in opposition to those of Owain Glyndwr's. This hamlet is wild and dreary in its aspect, affording, in general, only scanty herbage to the mountain sheep.

**FOREST**, a hamlet in that part of the parish of **LLANYCRWYS** which is in the upper division of the hundred of **CATHINOG**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 4 miles (E.) from Lampeter, containing 226 inhabitants. There are traces still discernible, in two places near the small river Twrch, of the Roman road called Sarn Helen, which passed through this hamlet, at a short distance from the church, in a direction from *Loventium*, now Llanio in Cardiganshire, to the station at Llanvair ar y brŷn, near Llandovery.

**FOREST**, a hamlet in that part of the parish of **LLANDINGAT** which is in the higher division of the hundred of **PERVETH**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 3 miles (N.) from Llandovery, containing 206 inhabitants, who are exclusively employed in agriculture. It is situated on the left bank of the Towy, and occupies a part of the district lying between that river and the Brân. A bridge crosses the Towy here, and the road from Llandovery to Trêgaron passes along its left bank. This hamlet is in general well wooded.

**FOREST**, a hamlet in the parish of **MERTHYR-TYDVIL**, partly within the limits of the new borough of that name, and partly in the hundred of **CAERPHILLY**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5 miles (S. S. E.) from Merthyr-Tydvil. The population is included in the return for the parish. This hamlet forms a mountainous and partially wooded district between two branches of the river Tâf, at the western base of which runs the road from Cardiff to Merthyr-Tydvil, after crossing the bridge over the eastern or Bargoed Tâf: a rail-road also passes from that town along the left bank of the Tâf Vawr river, and, after crossing it, joins the canal opposite to the Quakers' Yard, in the parish of Gellygaer.

**FREYSTROP**, a parish in the hundred of **RHÔS**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. by E.) from Haverfordwest, on the road by Pembroke Ferry to Pembroke, comprising the divisions of Higher and Lower Freystrop, and containing 636 inhabitants. Within the limits of this parish is situated Clareston, an elegant modernized mansion, the seat of George Clayton Roch,

Esq., which was originally the residence of the family of Powel, and came by marriage to the ancestors of the present proprietor; it is pleasantly situated, and the grounds are well laid out. The lands are almost entirely in a state of good cultivation, and the soil is tolerably fertile. Culm is found in abundance, and is principally worked on the estates of Sir Herbert Packington and Sir R. B. P. Philipps, Barts., and shipped, for the supply of the neighbouring districts, at Hook Quay on the river Cleddy. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5.13.9., endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church is not distinguished by any remarkable architectural feature. There is a place of worship for Methodists. A spring, the water of which crosses the turnpike road, and is strongly impregnated with iron, is called by the villagers the Red Water, from the colour of its deposit. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £117.7.

## G.

**GAER**, a township in the parish of **CASTLE-CAER-EINION**, but within the liberties of the borough of Welshpool, locally situated in the lower division of the hundred of Mathraval, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 3 miles (W.) from Welshpool. The population is returned with the parish.

**GARN**, a joint hamlet with Derwydd, in the parish of **LLANDEBYE**, upper division of the hundred of **ISCENNEN**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5 miles (S. S. W.) from Llandilo-Vawr. The population is included in the return for the parish. It lies on the right bank, and near the head, of the river Loughor.

**GARN**, a township in the parish of **LLANVAWR**, hundred of **PENLLŷN**, county of **MERIONETH**, **NORTH WALES**. The population is returned with the parish.

**GARTH**, a joint township with Ystrad, in the parish of **LLANDEWY-BREVI**, upper division of the hundred of **PENARTH**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, on the banks of the river Teivy, containing, with Ystrad, 110 inhabitants, who are exclusively engaged in agriculture.

**GARTH**, a hamlet in the parish of **LLANVABON**, hundred of **CAERPHILLY**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 8 miles (S. S. E.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 577 inhabitants. The parochial church is situated in this hamlet, which forms the western portion of the parish. It has much elevated ground, rising above the left bank of the Tâf, the western base of which is skirted by that river and the canal and road from Merthyr-Tydvil to Cardiff, which run within a few yards of each other. The river and canal are crossed by bridges on the road to Aberdare; and immediately adjoining, the canal is conveyed over the Tâf by a well-executed aqueduct. Many respectable residences lie scattered in different parts of the hamlet. A rail-road extends from the canal here across the road, near the Navigation House, and up the vale between this hamlet and the parish of Gellygaer, to some collieries in the neighbourhood.



**GARTH**, a hamlet in the parish and newly-created borough of **MERTHYR-TYDVIL**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 1 mile (N.) from Merthyr-Tydvil. The population is returned with the parish. It extends close to the town of Merthyr-Tydvil, the road from that place to Abergavenny passing through it over Blaen Rumney common, and is principally inhabited by the numerous workmen employed at the extensive manufactories in the former town, and the coal mines in its neighbourhood. The remains of Morlais castle, a more detailed account of which is given in the article on the parish, and the modern mansion of Cyvarthva castle, with its park, are both situated in this hamlet, which is well wooded on the banks of the Lesser Tâf. Immediately below the ruins of Morlais castle this river, which foams impetuously over its rocky bed, is crossed by Pont Sarn, a picturesque bridge thrown over a chasm fringed with underwood, thirty feet in breadth. In the limestone rock a little above this bridge is a hollow, called Dryford cavern, into which a spring falls from above, and in times of flood flows over, forming a picturesque cascade.

**GARTH**, a township in the parish of **GUILDSFIELD**, hundred of **POOL**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 2 miles (N.) from Welshpool. The population is returned with the parish. It lies contiguous to the village of Guildsfield, on the south-west, and a part of it is within the liberties of the borough of Welshpool. There are many respectable residences in different parts of the township, the principal of which is an elegant modern mansion, erected in the early style of English architecture, by the late Rev. Richard Mytton, at an expense amounting to nearly £100,000.

**GARTH-BEIBIO**, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of **MATHRAVAL**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, on the road from Welshpool to Machynlleth, Dôlgeley, &c., 9 miles (N. W. by W.) from Llanvair, containing 342 inhabitants. This place derives its name from *Garth*, a ness, or promontory, and *Peibio*, the name of some chieftain, of whom nothing is known. The parish contains about one thousand six hundred acres of land enclosed and under cultivation, and nine hundred acres unenclosed: it is situated between the rivers Twrch and Banwy, which unite just below the church: peat is procured within its limits. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £6. 1. 8., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church is an ancient structure, dedicated to St. Tydecho. Near it is St. Tydecho's well, constructed for a cold bath, the water being considered efficacious in rheumatic and other disorders: formerly every one who bathed in the well, or drank the water, dropped a pin into it, and it was deemed sacrilege to take any of them out. Divers bequests have been made for the benefit of the poor, but they are of very small amount. There are several cairns in the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £91. 12.

**GARTHBRENGY**, or **GALLT-BRENGY**, (**GARTH-BRENGI**), a parish partly in the hundred of **MERTHYR-CYNOG**, and partly in that of **PENCELLY**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**, 3 miles (N.) from Brecknock, on the road to Builth, containing 163 inhabit-

ants. This small parish, which constitutes a prebend in the Collegiate Church of Christ at Brecknock, rated in the king's books at £3. 6. 8., is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Honddŷ, in a retired part of the county, the scenery of which is pleasingly varied; the banks of the Honddŷ present many wooded knolls, which have a beautifully picturesque appearance. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Prebendary of Garthbrenvy in the Collegiate Church of Brecknock. The church, dedicated to St. David, is situated on an eminence, which is overlooked on the north by a mountain of loftier elevation: it is an ancient structure, with a tower at the western end, containing four small bells: the body consists of a nave and a north aisle of equal breadth: the roof is panelled, and the interior is appropriately arranged for the use of the parishioners. There is neither parsonage-house nor any glebe land attached to the living: the tithes of the parish are appropriated to the prebendary, by whom they are let at a reserved rent. Sir David Gam, who so gloriously distinguished himself in the battle of Agincourt, was probably a native of this parish, in which he passed the early years of his life, on an estate called Peytyn-gwyn, the mansion on which was burned to the ground by Owain Glyndwr, during the insurrection headed by this chieftain, who justly regarded David as his personal enemy. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £75. 18.

**GARTHELI**, a chapelry in the parish of **LLANDEWY-BREVI**, lower division of the hundred of **PENARTH**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 6 miles (N. by W.) from Lampeter, containing 216 inhabitants. This chapelry contains several respectable residences, and is situated on elevated ground above the Vale of the Aëron, with the Meiric brook flowing into the Teivy at the bottom, over which the prospects are pleasing and picturesque. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Perpetual Curate of Llandewy-Brevi. It is separately assessed for the maintenance of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £51. 5.

**GARTHEWIN**, a township in that part of the parish of **LLANVAIR-TALHAIRN** which is in the hundred of **ISDULAS**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 6 miles (S. by W.) from Abergele. The population is returned with the parish. It lies on the western bank of the small river Elwy, and contains an elegant mansion of its own name, the seat of R. W. Wynne, Esq., a younger branch of the Wynnes of Melai, which commands a beautiful view of the rich but narrow vale of Elwy, environed by well-wooded hills, stretching out before it: the park is nearly three miles in length, and abounds with full-grown oaks.

**GARTHGARMON**, a parochial chapelry in the hundred of **ISDULAS**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 4 miles (S. by E.) from Llanrwst. The population is returned with the parish of Llanrwst. This chapelry, which comprises a considerable extent of rugged and barren hills, contains lead-ore, but the works for procuring it have been discontinued of late years. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and



diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The chapel, dedicated to St. Germanus, is of very ancient foundation: the present edifice was built in 1789, near the site of a former chapel, which had fallen into decay, and the burial-ground at the same time was considerably enlarged. Thomas Wynne, Esq., of Llwynon, in 1677, gave to the minister a house called Llannerch Côch, with land, garden, and out-buildings, requiring him to teach ten poor children in the chapel; but there is no evidence on record that his injunctions were ever complied with. In addition to this, the minister receives a stipend of £20 per annum from the incumbent of Llanrwst, pursuant to act of parliament; although, as regards the performance of ecclesiastical rites, the chapel is entirely independent of the mother church of Llanrwst.

**GARTHGYNYD (GARTH-GYNNUD)**, a hamlet in the parish of GELLYGAER, hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $6\frac{3}{4}$  miles (S. E.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 129 inhabitants. This hamlet occupies a portion of the bleak and barren elevated ground between the rivers Romney and the Bargoed Tâf.

**GELLIDEG (GELLI-DÊG)**, a hamlet in the parish and newly-created borough of MERTHYR-TYDVIL, hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (N. E.) from Merthyr-Tydvil. The population is returned with the parish. It is situated on the right bank of the Tâf Vawr, and is principally inhabited by the workmen employed at Merthyr-Tydvil. The Cardiff canal passes along its eastern boundary, close to, and parallel with, the Tâf Vawr river; and there are some well-wooded enclosures scattered over its surface.

**GELLUDIE (GELLI-DDÛ)**, a joint hamlet with Cynnullmawr-Llwynswch, in the parish of LLANDAROG, upper division of the hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (E. by S.) from Carmarthen. The population is included in the return for the parish. It is situated on the right bank, and near the source, of the Gwendraeth Vechan river; and to the north lies the splendid demesne of Middleton Hall, the numerous beauties of which contribute greatly to adorn the scenery, and are viewed in harmonious design from this place. At Porth y rhŷd there was formerly an ancient chapel.

**GELLY**, a hamlet in the parish of VAINOR, hundred of PENCELLY, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  miles (N. by E.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 248 inhabitants. This hamlet, the name of which signifies "the Grove," is situated on the right bank of the Tâf Vechan river, and exhibits some pleasing and well-wooded scenery. The parish church is situated within its limits; and there is a rustic bridge called Pont Sarn, crossing the Lesser Tâf, over a chasm thirty feet in height.

**GELLYGAER (GELLI-GAER)**, a parish in the hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (S. E. by S.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 1825 inhabitants. This extensive parish derives its name, signifying "the fortress of the hazel grove," from an ancient fortification contained within its limits, which by some writers is supposed to be of Roman origin; and this opinion is in a great degree confirmed, not only by

the form of the camp, but also by numerous remains of masonry, and other vestiges of Roman occupation, which may still be discerned near the spot. Though apparently of considerable importance in ancient times, little is known of the early history of this place, prior to the Conquest. Soon after that period, the Norman settlers, upon whom Robert Fitz-Hamon had conferred the various tracts of country which he wrested from the Welsh in this part of the principality, attempted to extend their possessions; for which object, about the close of the eleventh century, they invaded the province of Gower, expecting to make an easy conquest of it. To oppose this aggression, the Welsh rose in great force, and, encouraged by some previous successes, gave the invaders battle, and gained a decisive victory over them. The Normans, defeated in this attempt, and intimidated by the increasing numbers of the Welsh, had recourse to England for assistance; and being reinforced by Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, and other English commanders, they returned to the attack. The Welsh, feigning a retreat, drew the enemy into the interior of the country, where the mountainous inequality of the surface gave them a decided superiority; and turning round upon the Anglo-Norman forces, at Gellygaer, defeated them with prodigious slaughter, and compelled the few that escaped from the field of carnage to seek shelter in their fortresses. The parish is beautifully situated at the eastern extremity of the county, bordering on Brecknockshire and Monmouthshire, from which it is respectively separated, on the north-east and east, by the river Rumney, which forms its boundary on those sides: on the west and north-west it is bounded by the rivers Bargoed Tâf and Clydach, by which it is separated from the parish of Merthyr-Tydvil. It extends nearly fourteen miles in length, and is almost four miles broad, and comprises about thirty thousand acres: on the south-west, a small portion of it is intersected by the turnpike road from Caerphilly to Merthyr-Tydvil. The surface is boldly varied with abruptly rising hills, skirted with woods of stately and luxuriant growth, and numerous rocks of precipitous elevation: the southern extremity of it is flatter. Though occupying an elevated situation, the parish is, notwithstanding, surrounded by mountainous ridges of greater elevation, and of diversified appearance. Its scenery is strikingly varied, combining features of picturesque beauty and romantic grandeur; and the views from the higher grounds, though limited by the circumjacent mountainous ranges, embrace many interesting objects. The prevailing soil is gravelly: the lands are but very partially enclosed, and only a small portion of them is arable, the farmers relying more upon the feeding of sheep and the increase of their live stock, than upon agriculture. There are numerous extensive tracts of waste land, comprising some thousands of acres, which are common to the parishioners, for depasturing their flocks; and many acres of peat, which supply them with fuel. The parish abounds in different places with iron-ore, coal, and slate. In the hamlet of Brithdir are the Bute Iron-Works, so named from their being situated on the estate of the Marquis of Bute. They are very extensive, and the buildings are justly considered superior to any of the kind in Europe, being erected after Egyptian models: the furnaces and engine-houses are faced with stone curiously wrought and dressed: the expense of their erection



is estimated to have been £80,000, and not less than three hundred men are employed in the various processes and departments of the manufacture. Behind these works are inexhaustible mines of iron and coal, which latter is procured chiefly for the supply of the company's works: in these from four to five hundred men are constantly employed. There is also an extensive and valuable slate quarry, which is in full operation, and affords constant employment to a considerable number of men. Very extensive iron-works are carried on at Rumney, near the north-eastern extremity of the parish. Facilities are afforded for the conveyance of the produce of these various works, to their several destinations, by two tram-roads, one of which, passing through the Vale of Rumney, continues its course to the sea at Newport in Monmouthshire; and the other, from the collieries on the west side of the parish, extends a distance of nearly three miles, to the Glamorganshire canal, between Cardiff and Merthyr-Tydvil.

The parish is divided into five hamlets, which jointly maintain their poor; one rate extends over the whole, which is raised on an old valuation, averaging about one-fifth of the rack rents. It is within the jurisdiction of a court of requests, established by an act passed in the 49th of George III., for the recovery of debts not exceeding £5, and held at Merthyr-Tydvil, on the second Thursday in every month. The living is a rectory, with Brithdir annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £20. 7. 11., and in the patronage of the Marquis of Bute. The church, dedicated to St. Cadocus, is a neat plain structure, with a square tower, and contains an ancient font of the eleventh century. There are two places of worship for Particular, and one for General, Baptists. Edward Lewis, Esq., of Cilvâch-Vargoed, in this parish, in 1715, bequeathed seven tenements, now producing conjointly £191. 6. per annum, and also the interest of £1600, for the support of a master to teach fifteen poor boys of this parish, and for clothing and apprenticing them; for the endowment of a lectureship in the parishes of Bedwellty and Mynyddyslwyn, in the county of Monmouth; for the relief of such of the poor as do not receive parochial aid; and lastly for a periodical distribution of bread. A Sunday school, conducted on the National system, has been established within the last five years. There are some remains of the ancient camp of Gelly Gaer, from which the parish takes its name, consisting of a redoubt of earth and stones, enclosing a quadrangular area, and commanding the avenue leading to the village. Roman bricks, tiles, domestic utensils, fragments of pavement of considerable size and of artificial materials, and other relics of antiquity, are frequently dug up at this place. On the mountains are two upright stones, about nine feet in height, supposed to have been originally placed there as landmarks to some cairns in the vicinity, the stones formerly composing which are now scattered, and the stone coffins which they covered exposed to view. One of these stones is near Brithdir chapel, and the other is on the side of the mountain road to Merthyr-Tydvil: the latter bears an inscription which is now nearly obliterated, but when entire was read *Deffro da i ti*, "a joyous or blessed resurrection to thee." Llancaeath, in this parish, was the residence of Colonel Prichard,

an officer in the parliamentary army, who is said to have entertained Charles I. at this house, when that monarch, travelling through this part of the country, lost his way between Trêdeggar and Brecknock. It is now together with other estates formerly belonging to that family, partly the property of Lord Dynevor, and partly that of J. M. Richards, Esq., through descent by marriage with the daughters and coheiresses of Colonel Prichard, and by purchase. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £477. 10.

GENOL, a joint hamlet with Wen, in the parish of LLANSAWEL, lower division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 10½ miles (N.) from Llandilo-Vawr. The population is returned with the parish, of which this hamlet comprises the middle and eastern portions, where the vale of the Cothy expands into a somewhat level tract. It is united with the hamlet of Wen for the support of the poor, the average annual expenditure being £182. 5.

GEORGE (ST.), county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES.—See KEGIDOCK.

GEORGE'S (ST.), a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5½ miles (W. by N.) from Cardiff, containing 252 inhabitants. This parish is principally distinguished for the remains of an ancient castle, which, together with the manor and lordship of St. George, was granted by the Norman Fitz-Hamon to Sir John Fleming, one of the knights who assisted him in the subjugation of this part of the principality. The village is pleasantly situated on the southern banks of the river Ely, and in the vicinity of a wide and elevated tract of common land, commanding one of the most extensive and richly varied prospects in South Wales. Near it is Coedriglan, the seat of the Rev. John Montgomery Trahearne, a spacious and substantial mansion of red brick, situated on the declivity of a steep eminence, in the centre of an extensive pleasure ground: the surrounding scenery is strikingly beautiful, and the views from the eminence on which the house is built are extensive and finely diversified. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £7. 5. 7½., and in the patronage of Llewelyn Trahearne, Esq. The church, which is not distinguished by any architectural peculiarity, contains several ancient monuments in the early style of English architecture. A parochial day school for the gratuitous instruction of children, and a Sunday school, are supported by the rector and the family at the neighbouring mansion of Coedriglan. The Rev. Theodoret Basset, in 1576, bequeathed £140 for the relief of labourers and poor housekeepers not receiving parochial aid, but the greater part of this sum is now lost. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £91.

GILESTON, a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. by E.) from Cowbridge, containing 62 inhabitants. This place, which is situated on the Bristol channel, is said to have derived its name from the family of Giles, whose mansion formerly stood near the church; but as this edifice itself is dedicated to St. Giles, it is equally probable that it has taken its name from this latter circumstance. The parish is very small, containing only three hundred and forty-one acres, and forming a manor of the



same extent. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £5. 13. 6½, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Rev. John Edwardes, who, by marriage with the heiress of the family of Willis, successors to that of Giles, is proprietor of this manor. The church is a small and very ancient structure of stone, with a tower which projects curiously beyond the line of the nave, and appears to have been built subsequently to the rest of the edifice: it is kept in the best repair, and the churchyard forms part of the ornamented grounds of the rectory-house, which is delightfully situated within a mile of the sea, of which it commands an extensive view: the grounds are laid out with great taste, and the church forms an interesting and picturesque feature in the surrounding scenery. The coast in this part is particularly dangerous, and the sea frequently assumes an appearance of terrific grandeur, forming a striking contrast to the rural tranquillity of this sequestered spot. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £22. 9.

GLADESTRY, a parish in the hundred and county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (W. by S.) from Kington, containing 385 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the river Gwyddel, and is intersected by a cross road from Hay to the borough of New Radnor. The old enclosed lands are in a good state of cultivation: in 1810, an act of parliament was obtained, in conjunction with the parish of Colva, for the enclosure of a common lying partly within the limits of each. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £12. 19. 4½, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small neat edifice, consisting of a nave, chancel, and one aisle, with a tower surmounted by a low spire, and containing five bells. A small school in the village, for the gratuitous instruction of the poor, is supported by the principal occupiers of land in the parish. Mrs. Cassandra Davies, in 1635, bequeathed land producing £5 per annum, and an annual benefaction of £1, secured upon the turnpike trust, to the poor of this parish not receiving parochial relief; and the sum of £50 was also bequeathed by an unknown benefactor for the relief of poor housekeepers. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £296. 1.

GLAMORGANSHIRE, a maritime county of SOUTH WALES, bounded on the north by Brecknockshire, on the east by the English county of Monmouth, on the south by the Bristol channel, and on the west and north-west by the bay and county of Carmarthen. It extends from 51° 23' to 51° 48' (N. Lat.), and from 3° 7' to 4° 17' (W. Lon.); and comprises an area, as estimated by Mr. Cary, in his Communications to the Board of Agriculture, of six hundred and sixty square miles, or four hundred and twenty-two thousand four hundred acres. The population, in 1831, was 126,612.

The territory now constituting Glamorganshire, during the remotest periods of its known history, formed an important part of the province first called *Gwent*, and then *Essyllwg* (the latter name having been subsequently, by the Romans, softened into *Siluria*), which, in the opinion of most antiquaries, also comprehended the whole of Monmouthshire, and parts

of the counties of Gloucester, Hereford, and Brecknock: the names *Gwent* and *Essyllwg*, which are nearly synonymous, and signify a beautiful and agreeable region, seem, indeed, to have been both in use at the period of the Roman invasion and conquest. The ancient British rulers of this district were held in high respect by their cotemporaries, and were repeatedly called to the command of the confederated armies of the island, when it became necessary, for mutual defence, to unite against foreign invaders. But their history is involved in great obscurity until the invasion of Britain by Julius Cæsar, when the reigning prince of this territory appears to have been Llyr Llediaith, who was succeeded by his son Brân ab Llyr, whose principal residence was at Dindryvan, now Dunraven, on the coast of this county. Publius Ostorius Scapula, who succeeded to the command of the Roman forces in Britain in the year 50, having secured all the country to the east of the Severn, directed his operations against the *Silures* (for so these invaders called the inhabitants of *Essyllwg*), who for nine years successfully opposed the Roman power, under the command of the son of Brân, the celebrated Caradawg, Caradoc, or Caractacus. This intrepid leader, whose astonishing bravery and military skill stemmed for a while, amid numerous difficulties, the advancing tide of Roman conquest, having removed the seat of war to the country of the Ordovices, which included nearly the whole of North Wales, and the western portions of Shropshire, was defeated by Ostorius in a decisive battle, in which his wife and daughter were taken prisoners, and in consequence of which his brothers shortly after surrendered themselves to the Roman commander, overawed by whose power, Caractacus himself was shortly delivered up by the queen of the Brigantes, to whose court he had fled for refuge. According to a manuscript preserved in the Harleian Collection at the British Museum, Brân ab Llyr also shared the captivity of his family, and was conveyed with them to Rome, where he was detained as a hostage for the peaceable conduct of the valiant Caractacus, who is said to have been permitted, with his wife and daughter, to return immediately to Britain. After remaining at Rome for seven years, Brân at length received permission to return to his native country; and having, during his stay in Italy, been converted to Christianity, he was the means of introducing that religion into Britain, and on that account was called *Vendigeid*, or "the Blessed:" he died about the year 80. On the fall of Caractacus, the *Silures* were subjected, with little further opposition, by Julius Frontinus, who employed himself in constructing military posts in every part of their country, and connecting them by roads, the principal of which was that crossing the county from east to west, and called, after his name, the *Julia Strata*, or *Via Julia*, to which latter appellation is sometimes added the adjunct *Maritima*, to distinguish it from a more northern branch of the same great line of communication, called, from the more elevated regions which it traverses, the *Via Julia Montana*. The chief Roman stations contained within the limits of Glamorganshire were, *Tibia Amnis*, supposed by some to have been situated on the bank of the Tâf, at or near Cardiff, but by others at the village of Caerau, three miles westward from that town; *Bovium*,



supposed to have been at or near the present village of Boverton, to the south of Cowbridge; *Nidus*, at Neath; and *Leucarum*, at Loughor: *Caerphilly* has been erroneously conjectured to be the site of the *Bullaem Silurum* of Ptolemy. Almost the only record concerning this part of Britain, under the Roman dominion, that has been transmitted to us, is a confused list of the names of the native princes, or *reguli*, whom the conquerors allowed to hold an authority little more than nominal, but to whom reverted the entire dominion on the final withdrawal of their forces from the island. Of these, Tewdric flourished towards the middle of the fifth century, and is said to have erected the first church at Llandaf: in his efforts to maintain the independence of his territory, he defeated, on several occasions, parties of invading Saxons, in a conflict with whom, near Tintern, he was at length mortally wounded, and, expiring near the field of battle, was interred on the spot, on which a church was afterwards built, according to his previously expressed desire; and the place was called, after his name, Merthyr Tewdric, since corrupted into Matherth. His son and successor, Meurig ab Tewdric, a man of great valour and wisdom, was the father of that Arthur who is now regarded by the Welsh writers as the hero whose exploits form so distinguished a feature in the British annals, and who succeeded Meurig in his dominion. About the year 517, Arthur was elected by the states of Britain to exercise sovereign authority over them, as other princes had been in times of danger; and by his superior abilities and bravery he continued successfully to oppose the encroaching power of the Saxons, until discord arose between him and his nephew Mordred, and, in the civil war which ensued, both these chieftains were slain in the battle of Camlan, in the year 542. Arthur was succeeded in the government of Siluria, or Gwent, by his son Morgan, a wise, generous, and humane prince, who at first held his court at Caerlleon, the ancient capital of his little dominions, situated in the modern county of Monmouth; but the Saxons, after Arthur's death, making frequent irruptions into this country, Morgan, for the sake of greater security, removed the seat of government westward, residing sometimes in the vicinity of Cardiff, and sometimes at Margam, in this county. In consequence of this, the western part of the ancient Siluria, which was still governed by Morgan in person, received the appellation of *Morganwg*, signifying "the country of Morgan;" and the ancient designation of Gwent became restricted in its application to the eastern portion of this little principality, over which Morgan placed one of his sons, as lieutenant, or viceroy. *Morganwg* also was, and still is very often, by its native inhabitants, designated by the synonymous appellation of *Gwlad-Vorgan*, or *Gwlad-Morgan*, of which the present name of Glamorgan is a corruption. The ancient *Gwlad-Vorgan* was bounded on the east by the river Usk, and on the west by the Nedd, or Neath; and although the present limits of Glamorganshire were fixed by the act of union passed in the 27th of Henry VIII., yet that part of Monmouthshire lying westward of the Usk is even still popularly understood to form part of Glamorgan, while, in like manner, the western part of the present Glamorganshire (the ancient Gwyr, or Gower) is regarded as being included in *Sir Gaer*, the

modern Carmarthenshire. Rhys, son of Arthvael, one of the princes who succeeded Morgan in the sovereignty of *Morganwg* (according to an ancient manuscript formerly in the possession of Mr. Thomas Truman, of Pantllwydd, near Cowbridge, a transcript of which is inserted in the Appendix to Williams' History of Monmouthshire), built many castles and ships, and obliged every one that had land in the Vale of Glamorgan to sow corn on one half of it, and every one that had land on the mountains, to sow corn on a quarter of the same; while all the land that neither grew corn nor was grazed by cattle was to be forfeited to the king, unless it was wood or forest: this law caused Glamorgan to become distinguished above all districts for its fruitfulness.

Notwithstanding the advantages arising from this circumstance, the territory became subject, with the rest of South Wales, to the authority of Rhodri Mawr, or Roderic the Great, Prince of Gwynedd, by the marriage of this sovereign with Angharad, the daughter and heiress of Gwgan, King of Caredigion, or Cardigan, to which territory was attached the supreme authority over the other principalities of South Wales. On the death of Roderic, it became for a time part of the kingdom of Caredigion, or South Wales, under the sway of his son Cadell, and subsequently of the son of Cadell, Hywel Dda, who united all the three great sovereignties of Wales under his own dominion. The reigns of none of the petty princes of Glamorgan, after this period, exhibit in the Welsh annals any feature of historical interest, until that of Morgan ab Owain, known also by the names of Morgan Hên, Morgan Mawr, and Morgan Mwynvawr, who lived about the middle of the tenth century. The country was at that time greatly infested by marauding parties of Saxons and Danes, who plundered the inhabitants, and demolished the churches and other religious edifices; and these enemies Morgan repeatedly vanquished. The other military operations of this chieftain were, for the most part, directed against the princes of the house of Dynevor, who had invaded the district of Ewyas, in the Vale of Usk, and that of Ystrad Yw: this affair, according to the Welsh Chronicle, was referred to Edgar, the Saxon monarch of England, who decided in favour of the Prince of Glamorgan, and forbade the further progress of the invaders. Eineon, son of Owain, Prince of South Wales, or Dynevor, taking advantage of the distractions which then prevailed throughout Wales, soon after invaded Gower, which, under pretence of opposing the Irish and Danes, he twice devastated. It was during the reign of Morgan Hên that a question arose, whether the tribute of the petty princes of South Wales should be paid to the king of North Wales, or to the king of England, as lord paramount, which was finally determined, in 962, by the appearance of Edgar, with an armed force, at Caerlleon, who bound the princes to the payment of it to the English crown. In 987, the Danes landed on the coast of this county, in which they committed great ravages, burning the churches of Llanilltyd and Llandaf, with other religious edifices. As Morgan Hên advanced in years, he resigned the government to his sons, of whom Owain and Ithel are expressly mentioned in the Welsh annals, as *reguli* of the country during the lifetime of their father. Ithel, surnamed *Ddô*, or "the Black," from the colour of his hair, lived occasionally



# GLAMORGANSHIRE



Scale of Miles  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

4° West Longitude







at Ystrad Owain, and had a summer residence at a place called Ton Ithel Ddû, a few miles to the north of Bridgend: he survived Owain, and, about the year 990, his territories were attacked and ravaged without mercy by Edwin, son of Eineon, who, in alliance with Meredydd, sovereign of all Wales, and aided by parties of Saxons and Danes, entered them from Carmarthenshire through Gower; but Hywel, the younger brother of Ithel, exasperated to heroic exertion by the depredations which these invaders every where committed, suddenly raised the country in their rear, and, having assembled an immense multitude, armed with the first weapons they could obtain, fell upon them on their return, at a place called Cors Eineon, in the parish of Llangyvelach, routed their forces with great slaughter, and recovered the plunder which they were carrying away. Ithel died in 994, and was succeeded in the government of Glamorgan by his son Gwrgan, who is described as an enlightened and peaceable prince, and who gave to his subjects a large common in the northern part of the county, for the depasturing of cattle and sheep, and the cultivation of grain, which has ever since been called *Hirwaun Wrgan*, or "*Gwrgan's Long Meadow*:" he died in 1030, prior to which, according to Caradoc of Llan-carvan, he had associated with him in the government his uncle Hywel, the third son of Morgan Mawr, to whom he left his entire dominion, in preference to his own son Iestyn, whose profligacy had rendered him universally abhorred. Iestyn, however, succeeded to the government at Hywel's death, in 1043; and having espoused Denis, daughter of Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, Prince of Powys, he built a castle a few miles to the west of Cardiff, which he called, after her name, Denis Powys, and this designation is still preserved, under the modern name of Dinas-Powis, as that of one of the civil divisions of the shire. Iestyn's son Rhydderch usurped the sovereignty of South Wales, on the death of its prince Llewelyn; and his sons Rhydderch and Rhys also laid claim to it, a few years after the death of their father, and, raising a powerful army in Glamorgan, in support of their pretensions, they encountered Gruffydd, who had subjected all the rest of Wales to his sway, in a sanguinary but indecisive battle. Soon after this event, some of the partisans of Caradoc, son of Rhydderch ab Iestyn, passed from Gwent and Glamorgan into the present county of Carmarthen; and having there formed an alliance with some of Gruffydd's discontented subjects, attacked the possessions of his friends, and put some of them to death; but Gruffydd soon punished his rebellious vassals, by laying waste their estates in Dyved, Ystrad Tywi, and Gower. In 1056, Rhys, brother of Gruffydd, led an army into Glamorgan and Gwent, and committed great devastations; but the inhabitants, rising in their own defence, drove him towards the marches, and, having taken him prisoner, cut off his head, and sent it to the English monarch, Edward the Confessor, who was then at Gloucester. Shortly after, Caradoc, son of Rhydderch ab Iestyn, having raised a large army in Gwent and Glamorgan, prevailed on the Saxon chieftain, Harold, afterwards king of England, to join him with a powerful force, and their united army defeated Gruffydd in a great battle, in which that chieftain was slain. Caradoc, in calling the English to his assistance, had calculated on obtaining for himself the principality of South Wales;

but Harold, after the death of Gruffydd, banished him from the country, and gave the sovereignty to Meredydd ab Owain. Caradoc, however, in 1069, profiting by the important change which had taken place by the death of Harold, and the elevation of William of Normandy to the throne of England, engaged in his cause a considerable body of Norman soldiers, with whom he marched into South Wales, and defeated and slew Meredydd near the confines of this county; but dying the year following, in consequence of a wound received in battle, he was succeeded in his government of South Wales by his son Rhydderch, who was afterwards treacherously slain by a kinsman.

Rhys ab Tewdwr, Prince of Dynevor, in the year 1080, invaded the territories of Iestyn ab Gwrgan of Glamorgan, and sacked his castles of Dinas-Powis, Llanilltyd, and Dindryvan; but he had no sooner withdrawn his troops than Iestyn retaliated by ravaging Carmarthenshire and Brecknockshire, where he obtained valuable booty. Eineon ab Collwyn, one of the leaders of an unsuccessful rebellion against Rhys, fled for refuge to the court of Iestyn, who entered into a negotiation with him, according to which Eineon was to receive the hand of Iestyn's daughter, and the lordship of Meisgwn, now called Miskin, if he could succeed in engaging for the service of the latter some of the Norman knights with whom he had formerly served abroad under William of Normandy. Eineon departed for London, and easily prevailed on Robert Fitz-Hamon, a near relative of the Conqueror, to come to Glamorgan, with such other knights as he should choose to engage under his command: on the arrival of these auxiliaries, consisting, besides Fitz-Hamon himself, of eleven knights and three thousand men at arms, Iestyn took the field, and commenced active hostilities against Rhys, whom he defeated, with the loss of nearly all his troops, on *Hirwaun Wrgan*, the extensive common before-mentioned, at the foot of a high mountain about two miles north of the present village of Aberdare, in this county, near the border of Brecknockshire. The Welsh Chronicle, contrary to the opinion of Mr. Theophilus Jones and some other writers, states that Rhys fled from the field of battle to Glyn Rhonddû, a sequestered valley some miles to the south, where he was taken by Iestyn and beheaded, from which circumstance the spot is said to have been since called *Penrhys*: his son Goronwy fell in the slaughter, and Conan, son of Goronwy, escaping with a few troops, was drowned, in his flight towards Carmarthen, in the lake of Cremlyn, now an extensive marsh, situated between Briton Ferry and Swansea. Iestyn rewarded his Norman auxiliaries conformably to his engagements, paying them in gold, on a common three miles west of Cardiff, which has ever since been called "*the Golden Mile*;" and they marched towards the coast, with the view of embarking for England: but refusing to fulfil his promises to Eineon, the latter hastened in quest of the Norman commander, and, after stating the treacherous conduct of Iestyn, represented to him how easy it would be to obtain possession of the country for himself and his followers. Fitz-Hamon, with his knights, immediately retraced his steps, and was shortly joined by some of the native chieftains, who were exasperated at the tyrannical and unprincipled conduct of Iestyn, who was wholly unprepared to oppose so formidable a confe-



deracy : he hastily collected what forces he could, and awaited the adverse troops on a common in the neighbourhood of Cardiff, where, after a short engagement, his army was totally defeated, and himself obliged to seek safety in flight. Thus was annihilated the British kingdom of Glamorgan ; and the overthrow of Iestyn having left Fitz-Hamon entire master of the country, that leader proceeded to apportion it among his followers and some of the principal Welsh chieftains, reserving for himself the towns of Cardiff, Kenfig, and Cowbridge, with the surrounding domains.

The lordship of Glamorgan, thus established by Fitz-Hamon, was a lordship marcher, or royal lordship, the possessors of which owed obedience only to the king of England, and exercised within its limits *jura regalia*, that is, the trial of all actions, both real and personal, with pleas of the crown, and authority to pardon for all offences except treason. Besides the body of the lordship, which formed a county of itself, containing eighteen castles and thirty-six knights' fees and a half, and a great number of freeholders, and in which the lord had his chancery and exchequer at the castle of Cardiff, there were eleven lordships, members of the same, in each of which *jura regalia* were exercised ; except that, in case of wrong judgment being given in any of the courts of the said members, it should be reversed by a writ of false judgment in the superior county court of Glamorgan, holden at the castle of Cardiff ; also that all matters of conscience, happening in debate in any of the said members, should be heard and determined in the chancery of Glamorgan, before the chancellor thereof. Fitz-Hamon, who was afterwards created Earl of Gloucester, and raised to the office of lord of the privy chamber to William II., after he had allotted their several portions to his knights, proceeded to abrogate the ancient laws and customs of the country, and to introduce in their stead the feudal system which had been already established in England. But the native landholders, many of whom still retained their estates, could ill brook the servitude by which the feudal tenures bound them to the lord, and embraced the first opportunity of emancipating themselves from so galling a yoke. In 1094, while the Norman settlers were invading Gower, and pushing their conquests on the west, the people united in great force, and, headed by Payne Turberville of Coyty, near Bridgend, one of Fitz-Hamon's retainers, who had married a native heiress, the granddaughter of Iestyn, took several of their castles, and put the garrisons to the sword. Turberville then led the insurgents to Cardiff, where he besieged Fitz-Hamon in his castle ; and the latter, being unprepared to resist so powerful a force, thought it prudent to enter into terms, by which he restored to the people their ancient rights and customs. The success of this insurrection encouraged the Welsh, a few years after, to attempt the expulsion of their invaders, who, being defeated by them in a pitched battle, were under the necessity of sending for reinforcements from England. Being joined by the Earl of Arundel and other Norman leaders, Fitz-Hamon and his knights, in their turn, assumed the offensive : the Welsh retreated into the interior, where the hilly nature of the country gave them the advantage over the heavy-armed troops of their enemies, upon whom they suddenly turned round, and defeated them with prodigious slaughter near Gellygaer, compelling the few that escaped to seek refuge in their

castles. This desultory warfare, though it procured for the native population some immunities, which the Norman settlers for their own safety deemed it politic to concede, obtained for them few permanent advantages of any importance ; and the succours which Fitz-Hamon and his successors were able to procure from England, on every emergency, gave them at length the entire mastery of the country, and enabled them to reduce it to complete subjection. The district of Gower was wrested from the sons of Caradoc ab Iestyn, about the end of the eleventh century, by Henry Beaumont, Earl of Warwick, who established in it a colony of English settlers from Somersetshire, whose descendants yet remain there, distinguished by their language and manners from the more ancient native population. Fitz-Hamon was a firm supporter of Henry I., in opposition to the claims of that monarch's elder brother, Robert Duke of Normandy, who was committed to his custody at Cardiff, by Henry, after he had become his prisoner.

On the death of this nobleman, in 1107, he was succeeded in his estates and honours by Robert, the natural son of Henry I., by Nèst, daughter of Rhÿs ab Tewdwr, to whom that monarch gave in marriage Fitz-Hamon's daughter Mabel, or Mabli. After attaining possession of the lordship of Glamorgan, Robert attempted to enforce the feudal laws which his predecessor had failed to impose on the native landholders : this again roused the spirit of the Welsh ; and Ivor ab Cadivor, also called Ivor Bâch, or Ivor the Little, who was lord of Senghenydd, and resided at Morlais castle, on the confines of the present county, led the insurgents against the castle of Cardiff, which they took by storm, making prisoners of the Earl of Gloucester and his lady. Negotiations for their release were entered into with the English monarch ; and they were at last liberated by Ivor, after the king had guaranteed to the Welsh of Glamorgan, by oath, the unmolested enjoyment of their ancient usages. A few years subsequently, Gruffydd, son of Rhÿs ab Tewdwr, late Prince of South Wales, entered Gower with a large body of native troops ; but failing in an attack on the castle of Abertawe, or Swansea, he set fire to the suburbs of that place, ravaged the adjacent country, and returned into Carmarthenshire loaded with booty : in the following year he again entered Gower in like manner. A Welsh prince, named Cadell, towards the middle of the twelfth century, made repeated incursions from the castle of Carmarthen into the territories of the Norman settlers in the neighbourhood, more particularly into Gower, in which district, in 1150, his brothers Rhÿs and Meredydd took the castle of Aberllychwr. Soon after, Madoc ab Meredydd, Prince of Powys, led a powerful force into Glamorganshire, where he devastated the lands of Morgan ab Caradoc ab Iestyn, and took and destroyed his castle of Aberavon : Morgan and his followers took sanctuary in the churches and monasteries, and placed themselves under the protection of William Earl of Gloucester and lord of Glamorgan, who had succeeded to the titles and possessions of his father Robert, in 1147, and who, after the demise of his only son, constituted Prince John, a younger son of Henry II., his heir. This prince, having married Isabel, the youngest daughter of Earl William, enjoyed these possessions until his divorce from that lady, after his accession to the throne of England, when they were given



as her dower to the Earl of Essex, whom she next married, and afterwards to Hubert de Burgh. On the death of Isabel, the family title and possessions fell to Almaric, the son of her eldest sister Mabel, who died young and without issue; and the whole of them passed to Richard Earl of Clare, who had married the only surviving daughter of Earl William, and in whose family they remained until the early part of the fourteenth century. Early in the thirteenth century, Glamorgan was invaded from the west by the Welsh chieftain Rhys ab Gruffydd, who succeeded in taking all the castles of Gower, besides several other very strong ones, including that of Senghenydd, afterwards called Caerphilly. After the death of Gilbert de Clare, in 1230, Richard, his eldest son, being then in his minority, the Earl of Pembroke, his maternal uncle, obtained the custody of the Honour of Glamorgan, by paying five hundred marks to the crown of England: in 1244, this Richard was engaged in hostilities against the Welsh, who had attacked his possessions in Glamorgan; and in 1257, when king Henry III. meditated an attack on North Wales, he was invested with the command of all the forces in Glamorgan and other parts of South Wales. By the death of his descendant, another Gilbert de Clare, who was slain in the battle of Bannockburn, in 1314, and left no issue, the family honours and estates devolved on Eleanor, eldest sister of the latter, who transferred them by marriage to the younger Hugh le Despencer, the favourite of Edward II. In 1315, a formidable rebellion was excited in Glamorgan, by Llewelyn Bren, who, with ten thousand men, assaulted and took the castle of Caerphilly; but it was soon suppressed by John Gifford, lord of Bronllys, who had been appointed custos of the lands of Gilbert, the late Earl of Clare, in Glamorgan, and Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, general of the forces in this expedition; and the Welsh chieftain and his two sons were taken prisoners, and sent to the Tower of London. In consequence of this, however, the Welsh inhabitants of Glamorgan obtained a considerable alleviation of some of the most oppressive of the old feudal services.

At this period the violent proceedings of the younger Spencer, with a view to the extension of his possessions in Glamorgan, threw the whole country into a state of the greatest disorder. The circumstances, according to Carte, were as follows: William de Breos, lord of Gower, had two daughters, the elder of whom, Aliva, was married to John de Mowbray; the younger, to James de Bohun, of Medherst: William, therefore, by a special deed, granted to John de Mowbray and his wife, and their heirs, the honour and lands of Gower; and to Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, he gave the rest of his estates. By virtue of this grant, Mowbray entered upon the lands without any license from the king, of whom it was held *in capite*, and this served Spencer as a pretext for prosecuting him, in order to procure a sentence of forfeiture: but Mowbray and the Earl of Hereford both alleged that the entry was made according to the customs of the Marches, and insisted upon their rights; and, as these were questions affecting the tenure of all similar domains, the lords marcher were unanimous in resisting an enquiry, at the same time exclaiming loudly against the rapacity of Spencer. Seeing that they had no remedy but force, they demanded of King Edward, in open arms, that that favourite should either be banished the realm, or imprisoned and

brought to trial; and, finding these efforts unavailing, they committed terrible ravages upon Spencer's lands in Glamorgan, as also in the western parts of Wales, slaying and imprisoning his servants, and pillaging, burning, and destroying his castles: the insurgents then entered into a strict league with the Earl of Lancaster, and thus became sufficiently powerful to enforce that sentence of banishment against the obnoxious favourite which was soon afterwards rendered null by Lancaster's defeat and death. Queen Eleanor and the young Prince Edward having seized Bristol, and hung its governor, the elder Spencer, before the castle of that city, within sight of his son and the king, the latter made their escape in a small vessel, purposing to retire to the little island of Lundy, in the Bristol channel; but, after combating with adverse winds in that arm of the sea for eleven days, they were at last constrained to land on the Glamorgan-shire coast, and take refuge in Caerphilly castle. From that place the king issued divers commissions to his military tenants in the county palatine of Pembroke, and other parts of South Wales, and to the vassals of the lordship of Glamorgan, enjoining them to take arms in his defence; but being disappointed in his expectations of military aid, he sought an asylum in the abbey of Neath, leaving Spencer in Caerphilly castle, where he was soon besieged by the queen's forces, who compelled the garrison to surrender; but Spencer made his escape and rejoined the king, with whom he was shortly after taken prisoner at Llantrissant, in this county, and conveyed to Hereford, where he was tried and executed by the queen's party, and his estates escheated to the crown. Hugh, his eldest son, was, however, received into favour by Edward III., and restored to all, or most, of the manors and castles which had belonged to his father in this county; and in the seventeenth of that reign, we find him styled Lord of Glamorgan. On his death he was succeeded by his brother Edward, whose grandson, Thomas Le Despencer, succeeded in obtaining the restoration to his family of the title of Earl of Gloucester, and of the remainder of the forfeited estates of his great grandfather. This nobleman, on the accession of Henry IV. to the crown of England, was deprived of all his honours and estates, and, after he had been put to death by the common people of Bristol, was declared a traitor, and his estates confiscated; but those in Glamorgan were afterwards granted to his widow, and passed by descent to his daughter Isabel, who first married Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Abergavenny, afterwards created Earl of Worcester, and, on his death, Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, whose son Henry, by this his second wife, succeeded to the family estates of the Spencers, which, after his death and that of his daughter, were transferred to his sister Anne, then wife of Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury, who was shortly after created Earl of Warwick, and who so highly distinguished himself in the wars of the Roses. After the death of this nobleman, at the battle of Barnet, in 1471, his countess was deprived of all her estates, which were conferred on her two daughters, one of whom had been married to George Duke of Clarence, and the other to Richard Duke of Gloucester, to the latter of whom descended the Welsh possessions. The daughters of the Earl of Warwick being dead, Henry VII., in the third year of his reign, restored to the countess, by act of parliament, the estates which had belonged to her husband, the whole of



which, in the same year, probably in consequence of a previous understanding, she made over to that monarch, and the lordship of Glamorgan is enumerated among the possessions thus conveyed to the crown. In the succeeding reign, when the independent authority of the lords marcher was abolished, the territory of Glamorgan was erected into a separate shire, with its present limits, and subjected to the laws and judicature of England. Henry VIII. gave the lordship to Jasper Duke of Bedford; but, as this nobleman died without issue, it again reverted to the crown. In the reign of Elizabeth, the greater part of the manors and subordinate lordships was sold to individuals; and the remainder, in subsequent reigns, changed owners in like manner, the paramount lordship itself being converted into a lord-lieutenancy, similar in all respects to those of the English counties.

About the end of September, 1642, the Marquis of Hertford, with a party of royalists, escaping at Minehead, in Somersetshire, on board of some coal vessels, from the pursuit of the Earl of Bedford, passed over to the Welsh coast, and secured possession of Cardiff castle. The marquis having announced his intention of seizing all property belonging to the Earl of Pembroke, who had espoused the cause of the parliament, the inhabitants of this county assembled, attacked him at Cardiff, and killed about fifty of the royalists. In June 1647, this fortress being then in the hands of the parliament, the gentry and people of the county, to the number of a thousand, or upwards, took up arms and assembled at Llandaf, to resist the proceedings of the parliamentary committee at Cardiff. They sent to the governor of the latter place a declaration that they had risen not to oppose the parliament, but for self-defence. The Monmouthshire committee threatened them with military execution; but the matter seems to have been settled by negotiation, and a declaration was published in the following July, entitled "The Heads of the present Grievances of the county of Glamorgan, declaring the cause of their late rising and taking up of arms, published for the satisfaction of all other counties of England and Wales who groan under the same, or the like, burdens of oppression and tyranny, &c." After the termination of the first civil war, an order had been issued by the parliament for disbanding the different bodies of militia in the principality; but some of the commanders, among whom was Major-General Stradling, of St. Donatt's, in this county, who had now deserted from the republican army, contrived, under various pretences, to retain a considerable number of troops under arms, which, as circumstances permitted, they increased, by the addition of recruits favourable to the royal cause. These forces assuming a rather formidable appearance, Colonel Horton was sent into this part of Wales with a small army, which Cromwell himself was following with reinforcements, to intimidate the leaders of this movement, and to enforce the order for disbanding the original levies. Colonel Horton, having stationed his forces at St. Fagan's, near Llandaf, was there attacked, on the 8th of May, 1648, by the Welshmen, amounting to nearly eight thousand, whom, after an obstinate conflict of about two hours, he totally routed with great slaughter, though his troops were scarcely more than a third of the enemy's number: this victory was deemed by the parliament of such importance, that a day of

public thanksgiving was appointed, and so great was the destruction of the royalists, that, during the next harvest, labourers were so scarce in this county, that the produce of the soil was, in a great measure, gathered in by the women.

The greater part of Glamorganshire is in the diocese of Llandaf, the rest in that of St. David's, and the whole is in the province of Canterbury: the portion in the first-mentioned diocese is comprised in the deaneries of Llandaf and Groneath, and in the archdeaconry of Llandaf; and that in the latter, in the deanery of Gower, and archdeaconry of Carmarthen: the total number of parishes is one hundred and twenty-one, of which fifty-two are rectories, forty-seven vicarages (four of which are endowed with the great tithes), one a donative, and the rest perpetual curacies: the archdeacon of Llandaf has no visitatorial powers, the chancellor making an annual visitation through the diocese; the visitation for this county is held in Whitsun-week, at Cowbridge and Llandaf. For purposes of civil government it is divided into the ten hundreds of Caerphilly, Cowbridge, Dinas-Powis, Kibbor, Llangyvelach, Miskin, Neath, Newcastle, Ogmere, and Swansea. It contains the small and unimportant city of Llandaf; the borough, market, and sea-port towns of Cardiff, Neath, and Swansea; the borough and market towns of Cowbridge, Llantrissant, and Merthyr-Tydvil; the small boroughs and sea-ports of Aberavon and Loughor; the boroughs of Aberdare and Kenfig, and the market towns of Bridgend and Caerphilly. One knight was formerly returned to parliament for the shire, and one representative for Cardiff and the rest of the boroughs collectively, with the exception of Merthyr-Tydvil and Aberdare, which are newly-created boroughs. By the late act for amending the representation of the people the different boroughs within the county have been divided into electoral districts, each sending one member to parliament; namely, Cardiff, Cowbridge, and Llantrissant, the member for which is elected at Cardiff; Swansea, Loughor, Neath, Aberavon, and Kenfig, the member for which is elected at Swansea; and the newly-created district of Merthyr-Tydvil and Aberdare, the member for which is elected at Merthyr-Tydvil. Under the same act the county now sends two representatives to parliament: the county member was formerly elected at Bridgend, but that distinction has been transferred to Cardiff, the principal town: the polling-places in elections for the county are, Cardiff, Bridgend, Merthyr-Tydvil, Neath, and Swansea. Glamorganshire is included in the South Wales circuit: the assizes and Epiphany quarter sessions are held at Cardiff, the Easter quarter sessions at Cowbridge, the Midsummer sessions at Neath, and the Michaelmas sessions at Swansea: the county gaol is at Cardiff, and the county house of correction at Swansea: to the new gaol at Cardiff will also be attached a house of correction for the eastern part of the county: there are seventy-seven acting magistrates. The parochial rates raised in the county, for the year ending March 25th, 1830, amounted to £42,301, and the expenditure to £43,124, of which £36,154 was applied to the relief of the poor.

The entire surface of the county is diversified by hills, or rising grounds, excepting only the neighbourhood of Cardiff, which is composed of a fertile level tract of considerable extent. All the northern portions



of it are occupied by barren mountains, some of which are isolated, but most of them extend in chains from north to south, separated by deep, broken, and romantic valleys, through which the principal rivers pursue their turbulent course to the Bristol channel. The loftiest summits are Mynydd-Llangeinwyr; Pen-craig-llyn-vawr, in the parish of Glyn-Corwg; that of the mountain which rises above Ystraddyvodog, directly north of Bridgend; and that of Mynydd y Gwair, about twelve miles north of Swansea. These hilly regions are naturally separated from the rest of the county by a chain of elevations which runs from east to west through its centre, from Ruperrah, on the confines of Monmouthshire, by Lantwit-Garth, Llantrissant, Mynydd-Gaer, Mynydd-Brombill, the Gnoll, &c. From the foot of these mountains to the sea extends the rich and fertile vale, or rather plain, of Glamorgan, popularly denominated "The Garden of South Wales," which, although its elevation is small, compared with the mountains, and its surface generally of an undulating character, is yet marked by numerous sudden declivities, succeeded by equally sudden and remarkable ascents. On the west it is separated by Swansea bay from the similar tract called Gower, forming the south-western extremity of the county. Bro Miskin, or the Vale of Ely, bordering on the river Elai, or Ely, from the vicinity of Hensol eastward to Penarth harbour, is more particularly distinguished, in the great Vale of Glamorgan, for its luxuriant fertility. The limestone cliffs which overhang the entire coast, excepting only the inner recesses of Swansea bay, rise in most places to the height of one hundred feet. In the Bristol channel, off the coast of Glamorganshire, and to the south-west of Penarth harbour, are situated the islets of Barry and Sully. The lakes are small and few in number: the principal one is Kenvig Pool (situated near the ancient borough of Kenvig, between Margam Park and the sea-coast), which is of small extent, and lies near the shore, in the midst of sands: besides this, there are several among the mountains, the most remarkable of which is Llyn-Vawr, situated immediately below the high peak of Pen-craig. Few tracts in Britain present so great a variety of scenery as Glamorganshire: although its mountains do not attain an elevation equal to those of the more northern counties, their extreme abruptness, increasing their apparent height, forms a bold and romantic back-ground to the scene of gentle richness presented by the Vale; while, on the other hand, the fine sweeps of the coast, more particularly round the bay of Swansea and the peninsula of Gower, afford many pleasing and varied marine prospects. The level portions of the county contain little wood; but this picturesque ornament abounds on the banks of the Tâf, the two Rhonddas, and the Cynon; and the "woody hilles" of Glamorgan, mentioned by Spenser, are still to be found in the wilds of Aberdare and Ystraddyvodog, and in the magnificently clothed, as well as more plentifully wooded, heights of Margam, Baglan, Briton-Ferry, and the Vale of Neath. The more level tracts, near the sea, are also diversified by several narrow, woody, and sequestered dells, the sides of which decline very abruptly from the ordinary level.

The climate of the Vale of Glamorgan and of the peninsula of Gower (those tracts lying open to the Bristol channel on the south, and being sheltered on

the north by the mountains) is remarkably mild and salubrious, and the inhabitants are distinguished for their longevity: it is nevertheless extremely changeable, the temperature being known to vary twenty degrees in the space of twenty-four hours. It is also very moist, owing to these districts being exposed to vapours wafted by westerly or south-westerly winds from the great Atlantic, and attracted by its high hills, these winds prevailing at least one-half of the year. This humidity is a source of great perplexity to the farmer, during the hay and corn harvests, and also causes considerable damage to various agricultural crops, by the abundant natural grasses which in consequence spring up, and which, on the deep gravelly soils, it is found almost impossible to eradicate from the arable lands; for even when the ground is well fallowed and apparently cleared, small portions of roots of various kinds of grasses, chiefly of the couch species, are still left undestroyed, and, penetrating into the deep gravelly subsoils beyond the reach of the plough, soon also recover possession of the surface. On the other hand, these frequent rains are highly favourable to the production of all green crops, and, when properly managed, the crops of turnips are little inferior to those of the best-cultivated English counties. Although the climate of the Vale is so mild that the myrtle, arbutus, and other tender exotics, which in most parts of Britain require to be kept under cover in the winter, do not here suffer from exposure to the air during the whole of that season; and snow seldom lies long on the ground, generally disappearing from the vicinity of the coast in forty-eight hours after it has fallen; yet the atmosphere of the mountains is cold and tempestuous, the winters being severe and frequently of long duration: fogs hanging upon their summits are deemed by the inhabitants of the Vale a certain presage of rain. The hay harvest commences in the Vale about the middle of June: artificial grasses are frequently cut in the first week of this month, but the natural meadows are not generally mown until the latter part of it, or the beginning of July. The wheat harvest commences about the first week in August, and in some situations in the Vale this grain ripens almost as early as in any part of the kingdom; but it is a general practice to allow it to stand longer before it is cut than in the English counties. In Gower, owing to the prevalence of cool sea breezes, it is later than in the Vale of Glamorgan: in the hilly district it seldom commences before September, and often continues to a very late period in the autumn. The soils of this county are of various qualities: the surface of a large portion of the mountainous districts, especially in the hollows, consists of black peat, varied in dryer situations by a brown gravelly earth; but, from the prevalence of clayey substrata, cold and springy soils are by far the most abundant: these, in their natural state, consist generally of a mixture of sand with a black peaty earth, from four to eight inches thick, resting upon a yellowish, blueish, or light brown clay, from one to four, or even more feet in depth: owing to this substratum containing siliceous particles, these soils are capable of great amelioration by judicious systems of agriculture. In the mountain valleys is found a brown fertile loam, suited to all the purposes of agriculture, and yielding



abundant crops of corn and grass. In the Vale of Glamorgan, and in Gower, the soil is excellently adapted for both pasture and tillage: in the former state it naturally produces grasses of the sweetest kind, and in great abundance; but its quality varying in every parish, and almost on every farm, it is best calculated for a mixed system of husbandry, combining both tillage and pasture. In some places it is light, and even sandy; but towards the coast it becomes stronger and richer. Along the sea-shore from Penarth to Lantwit and Newton, and inland to the vicinity of the main road from Cardiff to Swansea, it is for the most part clayey, though consisting in some places of a brownish fertile loam of good staple and moderate tenacity, in others of a marly loam, while in another it is composed of rather shallow and springy clays, which are seldom to be got in good tilth, being either too wet or too dry. The soils best adapted in all seasons for the alternate culture of turnips, barley, clover, wheat, &c., lie in the several parishes of Aberavon, St. Bride's, Caerau, Cardiff, St. Fagan's, Llandaf, Llanannor, Margam, Michaelston, Peterston, Rhath or Roath, Radyr, and Whitchurch, and in the Vale of Neath; in all which places there is a proportion of good gravelly soils, having an occasional admixture of strong loam, or good marl, and in some cases of a sandy soil, on which turnips and barley are cultivated with success, but the wheat is not of so fine a quality as that produced on the clayey lands. The substratum of the whole of these fertile tracts is limestone.

Though a large portion of the county is arable, yet its produce of grain, owing to the number of persons employed in its iron-manufactures and various commercial pursuits, is insufficient for the supply of its own population. The common corn and pulse crops are wheat, barley, oats, beans, and peas. The introduction of Scotch farm bailiffs by some gentlemen in the Vale, and by the iron-masters among the hills, and also of some English farmers, has greatly assimilated the systems of husbandry pursued on the principal farms to the most approved English and Scotch methods. On these, the principal part of the gravelly land is farmed in a four or five years' course of turnips, barley, clover, and either grass or wheat; but the ordinary diversity of soil on the same farm prohibits the use of any one peculiar system: moreover, such is the disposition of these soils to produce grasses, that a summer fallow is found to be absolutely necessary after two courses to clear them of weeds, and give them a dressing of lime; and on all the tenacious soils, summer fallows limed form part of the ordinary system of tillage, being succeeded first by barley, next by clover, then probably by wheat, and lastly by a summer fallow again: oats, beans, and turnips are occasionally grown on the latter, but after no regular system. The wheat grown in the Vale is chiefly of the white Lammas species; but on the gravelly soils, in Gower, and among the hills, the red Lammas is also sown; and other varieties, such as the Winslow, the Talavera, the cone or bearded wheat, and the Cape spring wheat, are occasionally cultivated, though not on near so large a scale as the two first-mentioned varieties: thirty bushels per acre is considered an ample produce, though thirty-five and forty have been reaped in some instances; but the average, even on the best farms, is seldom twenty-five bushels per acre. Notwithstanding

that the humidity of the climate is unfavourable to the perfection of the wheat ear, the soils of the Vale produce wheat of the best quality: the crops are chiefly cut by strangers from the English side of the Severn, by Irish reapers, and by Cardigan men, engaged only for this purpose; the natives of the country, although good workmen in other respects, being from habit slovenly reapers, and consequently seldom employed for this purpose by the principal farmers: the Cardigan men cut it down, or *bogg* it, with a large heavy hook, which they use like the Hainault scythe, except that they have no crook in the left hand. Barley after turnips sometimes produces from forty to fifty bushels per acre, though the average is much below that amount; and when it succeeds wheat, which is commonly the case, the average does not exceed thirty bushels per acre: this grain is mown like hay, and seldom bound into sheaves. Oats are chiefly cultivated in the poorer soils, on the clays, in Gower, and in the hilly districts; while on the more valuable lands, scarcely sufficient for the consumption of the respective farms is grown: on the best soils the white potatoe oat is the most productive; but on all others, the black, or Polish oat is grown: after being mown, this species of grain is bound into sheaves, like wheat: the produce varies from twenty-five to fifty-five bushels per acre. Beans, although the climate is unfavourable to their production, are partially grown on the strong soils of the Vale; but the cultivation of peas, owing to the adverse influence of superabundant moisture, has been almost entirely abandoned. Potatoes have of late years been grown to a very considerable extent, a ready market being found for them in the coal and iron works in the hilly district: the produce varies under field culture, from five to eight tons per acre. Turnips are generally cultivated, except on the most tenacious clays; and being sown on the Northumberland system, when the land is properly prepared, the crop seldom fails. Mangel-wurzel is a common agricultural crop, and is grown under the same management as turnips, except that the land is better prepared, and the seed sown earlier: some crops of this root, grown near Cardiff, have weighed fifty tons per acre of bulb: it is chiefly given to milch cows, in lieu of turnips, to which it is preferable for this purpose, as it does not impart to their milk any disagreeable flavour. Vetches, the culture of which is much favoured both by soil and climate, are occasionally grown as a substitute for clover. The principal artificial grasses are, white and red clover, trefoil, rye-grass, and sainfoin, with some lucern. The land bordering on the coast, in the neighbourhoods of Fonmon, Newton-Notage, &c., some of which is composed of a shallow soil on an immediate substratum of limestone, produces excellent crops of sainfoin, the cultivation of which has greatly enhanced its value, as that plant flourishes best in dry soils of this nature: even some of the driest gravels produce tolerable crops of it, but it soon becomes choked with natural grasses.

The grass lands are of about equal extent to those under tillage: the south-eastern extremity of the county, from the Romney river on the east to the border of the Vale of Miskin, including the fertile banks of the Tâf and the Elai, is more particularly distinguished for the richness of its pastures; as also is the tract from Lantwit-Major, by Boverton, Gileston,



and Fonmon castle, to the mouth of the Elai near Pennarth harbour. Here the natural pastures produce grasses of the sweetest kind, and are well adapted to the rearing of stock. Although good in quality, their produce, however, is seldom large in quantity, owing to the soil not being of sufficient depth to retain moisture in dry summers, and the limestone substrata being of so porous a nature as soon to absorb the latest rains, in consequence of which the ground cracks and opens in wide fissures. But around Cardiff, along the banks of the Elai and Daw rivers, and in some other valleys, where the soil is deeper, the quantity is much more abundant, though often coarse, for want of proper drainage, and liable to damage from mud and gravel deposited in times of flood by the neighbouring streams. In a considerable portion of the rest of the Vale of Glamorgan, and of Gower, the sward is every where fine and close, but not so rich, owing to the extremely dry and porous nature of the limestone substrata. All the pastures, both rich and poor, are much overrun with the pretty but useless plant called crow's foot. So many of the streams are employed in giving motion to the machinery of the iron and other works, that irrigation is little practised: it is most common in Gower and the Vale, though not universally adopted even in situations where easily practicable. The dairies are not so large as they formerly were; but their produce in cheese and butter is of good quality, and finds a ready market among the manufacturing population: much of the cheese is made with an admixture of sheep's milk, which gives it a shortness and tartness of taste not always agreeable to strangers, but it is of a rich quality, and much esteemed by the natives: the best cows' milk cheese is mild, and equal to what is made in any part of England: in the Vale is occasionally made a peculiarly rich cheese, which, after being kept a sufficient length of time, assumes a blue colour, and in this state is highly esteemed. Butter-milk cheese, provincially called *caws sŵr*, is sometimes made, to be eaten fresh with bread and butter, most of the natives esteeming it a great delicacy. The principal manure employed in this county, and not commonly used in every other part of Britain, is lime, which, owing to the abundance of limestone and of coal for burning it, is here applied in greater quantities probably than in any other part of the kingdom, two hundred bushels per acre being the general proportion, and this application being repeated, in many instances every four years, without much attention to the different properties of the various species here obtained. The old custom of burning lime in sod kilns on the fields to be manured with it has given way to the more approved practice of burning it in kilns of solid masonry. Judging from the large and ancient marl-pits still remaining in various parts of the county, especially in the gravelly districts, it is presumed that this substance must, at some remote period, have been very generally used as a manure, probably before lime was applied, or its good qualities known. Braes, or ashes and coal dust, the refuse of the coking hearths, where coal is charred for the use of the blast furnaces, and ashes of all kinds, are also used in situations where they can be conveniently procured. Paring and burning is not generally practised in the Vale, but is constantly resorted to in the hilly

districts and in Gower, as a preparation for wheat. Water-ponds of stone and mortar, on a basis of puddled earth, gravel, and sand, are found necessary for supplying the cattle with water, in the dry limestone tracts of Gower and the Vale, where the brooks are few, and frequently disappear in the above-mentioned swallows, or fissures, in the substrata. The old long wooden ploughs, formerly in common use, are now only occasionally seen on small farms among the hills, having been superseded by ploughs made of iron, on the Scotch plan, which are now in more common use than any other sort, being well made by the smiths of the county. Drags, scufflers, and horse-hoes of the most approved construction are used on the principal farms, and various kinds of drills are also common. Thrashing machines were in more general use some years ago than at present, the superabundance of labourers and the low rate of wages having rendered it advisable rather to employ the poor than to maintain them in idleness; but some powerful machines of this kind, to be worked by wind, have lately been erected. The teams for the plough consist generally of two horses, or six oxen; and for the road, of waggons with three horses each, and carts with two. The shovels and rakes used are of very peculiar construction: each of the former consists of an oval iron plate, sharp at the point and steeled, and having a long curved handle: the rakes present an awkward appearance to an Englishman, on account of their handles not being joined to the heads at right angles, but obliquely. The ancient British customs of husbandry, so long preserved in this county, are now nearly obsolete: the principal remains of them are in the practice of milking ewes for the purpose of making cheese of their milk, which is done by women, who receive one-seventh of the milk for their trouble, and that of shearing lambs in the first summer.

The native breed of cattle is naturally large, fine, and delicate; but they were greatly neglected during the late war, when, owing to the high price of corn, tillage made rapid progress over the best pastures; and the attention of the stock farmer being for the most part confined to the improvement of his breed of sheep, the cattle were driven to the poor wet soils, where they soon degenerated: another cause of their being thus neglected was the great demand for hay in the iron and coal works, which still continues to draw from the Vale all of the best quality. Formerly they were in great request among the English graziers, but they have long ago neglected them, in favour of the Hereford and short-horned breeds, as they are now very slow feeders, and do not arrive to proper maturity under the age of about six years. In the fertile parishes of St. Athan, Gileston, and Lantwit, these cattle were formerly remarkable for their large size, some of them weighing, when fat, no less than four hundred lb. per quarter; and, in all parts of the county, the cows are still highly esteemed for the dairy, and the oxen for working, and, when fat, their beef is of superior quality. They have lately been crossed with the Hereford and short-horned breeds, by which means they have been greatly improved in form and aptitude to fatten, but deteriorated for the purposes of the dairy; and with various kinds of Scotch cattle, especially with the Ayrshire breed, which renders them



more hardy, and more profitable for the dairy, both objects of great importance. In the hilly districts, and in Gower, the native cattle are more hardy and compact than elsewhere within the limits of the county: the Highland and Kyles breeds, and various crosses with the native stock, also thrive in these more exposed regions. The Vale was formerly distinguished for a native breed of large sheep, having long legs, flat sides, and wool of a good combing quality, with good and fine-grained flesh; but these are now nearly extinct, though a few still remain in the vicinity of Lantwit-Major. The native sheep of the hilly districts are small, hardy, lively, and active, with short wool, having an admixture of hairs, termed by the natives *syth-vlew*, and which greatly lessens its value to the cloth manufacturers. In the Vale the prevailing kinds of sheep now are the Cotswold and Leicester, of which excellent flocks are found in all the lower parts of the county, great attention being paid to their improvement. Newton Down, the Golden Mile, St. Mary Hill, and other dry and open commons, were formerly stocked with a beautiful and excellent small breed of sheep, having wool of a fine clothing quality; but of late years this breed has been greatly neglected, owing to the price of the wool only equalling that of the long coarse wool of the larger breed, which has almost entirely superseded it, as the fleeces of the latter are nearly double the weight of those of the former. In all parts of the county it is customary to milk the ewes throughout the summer, from about the middle of May to the middle of September, their milk being made into cheese, for which purpose it is most commonly mixed with nearly an equal quantity of skimmed cows' milk. Shearing twice a year is sometimes practised, first about the end of May, and the last early in October. The native breed of hogs is white, of large size, having flat sides and long legs: the animals are slow feeders, and when fat weigh from twenty-five to thirty score lb., the bacon being of excellent quality: a good sort is obtained by an intermixture of these and the Berkshire and Chinese breeds. The horses are of various kinds: the old breed of the county is extinct in the Vale, and those by which it has been superseded are chiefly distinct breeds of the cart and saddle kind: the former are generally black, and, though not heavy, are strong and active; the latter are crosses from blood horses brought into the county, and generally small, but active. Many horses bred in this county are sold, when about three years old, to be taken to the English markets. In the hilly districts there is a good breed of ponies, very hardy, and capable of sustaining the greatest fatigue.

In the valleys of this county, the climate being mild and genial, vegetables, fruit, and flowers, are produced as early and in as great perfection as in any part of England; and the gardens are neat and well cultivated: the cottage gardens have a pleasing mixture of the various ordinary productions of the garden and orchard, and scarcely one of them is without a proportionably large bed of leeks. The market gardens in the neighbourhood of Llandaf and Cardiff are extensive and productive, and supply the manufacturing districts with vegetables. Formerly, the orchards were much more extensive than at present, and numerous remains of them, in various places, testify that the soil is well

adapted for the growth of the apple, and that this branch of rural economy has been greatly neglected of late years, compared with its former flourishing state: almost every large farm had formerly a cyder mill, but at present there is scarcely one in the county. A Horticultural Society has lately been established at Cardiff under favourable auspices, which may perhaps restore the culture of the apple.

Several parts of Glamorganshire are well wooded, the growth of all kinds of timber being here as flourishing as in any part of Britain; but the extent of many of these woodlands has been greatly diminished, to supply the demand for their produce at the iron-works. The natural woods of the high northern part of the county, which are more particularly extensive in Glyn Ogwr, and the parishes of Ystradyyvodog, Llanwonno, Llangonoyd, and others situated at a distance from the iron-works, consist chiefly of oak, ash, and alder, interspersed in smaller proportions with birch, mountain ash, wild cherry, &c., in the uplands, and with wych elm, aspen, sycamore, maple, linden, crab, &c., in more sheltered situations. The dry sandy soils of the same part also produce beech wood, which, where preserved on the lowland gravelly soils, in Kibwr, Miskin Vale, Llandaf, &c., grows to a very great size. Some of the largest timber trees are produced on the northern border of the Vale of Glamorgan, and of Gower, the limestone soils of which tracts themselves, though little favourable to the spontaneous growth of wood, have various plantations of fine timber trees, which adorn the estates of some of the more extensive proprietors; and the elm, which here sometimes attains an extraordinary size and is very common, is frequently made into various implements of husbandry, or supplies the use of oak in building, and for the bottoms of ships. Some of the most extensive plantations are those of Clasmont and Margam: there are many others of smaller extent, and a great proportion of all of them consists of firs of various kinds. The waste lands amount to about one hundred thousand acres, and may be divided into two classes; first,—the wastes, commons, or downs, of the southern limestone tracts of the Vale of Glamorgan and of Gower, which, together with some warrens and sand banks, on the sea-coast, comprise about fourteen thousand acres: many of these wastes, and more especially those of St. Mary Hill, in the Vale of Glamorgan, and Cevn y Bryn hill in Gower, are clothed with the sweetest herbage, and are chiefly depastured by sheep: their surface is generally level, and their size from twenty to several hundred acres: secondly,—the remaining eighty-six thousand acres on the hills and mountains of the northern parts of the county, of which some large parishes contain not less than eight or ten thousand acres each: these are for the most part appropriated to the pasturage of sheep and cattle, the tenants of the neighbouring farms mostly possessing an unlimited right of common upon them. The common fuel throughout the county is coal, with which it is abundantly supplied from its own mines. In 1770, the Glamorgan Agricultural Society, one of the most respectable institutions of the kind, was established: at present it has a stock of £1000 in the funds, and offers premiums to the amount of about £200 per annum: it holds its general meetings at Cowbridge.

The mineral productions of this county are various



and of great importance, consisting chiefly of coal, iron, lead, and stones of various kinds; and its geology is of the most interesting character. It comprises by far the greater portion of the rich mineral basin of South Wales, which includes all the northern part of it, from a line drawn from the vicinity of Risca, on the river Romney, by Castell Côch, Llantrissant, and Newton Down, to the sea-shore below Margam; whence, crossing Swansea bay to the Mumbles, it continues across Gower to Carmarthen bay, near the mouth of the Burry river. This great field belongs to the independent coal formation, and is entirely contained in strata of limestone, which, cropping out to the south of the coal, occupies the rest of the county from the line before mentioned, southward, and contains valuable ores of lead. The deepest part of this basin extends from its centre, in the vicinity of Neath, in this county, to Llanelly in Carmarthenshire, where the lowest strata of coal are nearly seven hundred fathoms below the outcrop of some of the superior strata in the mountains occupying the northern parts of the county. The bed of coal lying nearest the surface, in the vicinity of Neath, is, at its greatest depth, sixty fathoms below it, and rises to it in every direction, extending in breadth, from north to south, about a mile, and several miles in length, from east to west. In a similar manner do the inferior beds rise to the surface all round the outcrop of the superior stratum, and between it and the limestone which borders it, on every side: thus, from a line drawn from east to west, through the centre of the field, all the beds of coal on the north crop out on the northern side, at distances proportioned to their depth beneath the surface; and all those on the south, in like manner, appear southward. Twelve of the beds of coal are from three to nine feet thick, and eleven others from eighteen inches to three feet, making together ninety-five feet of coal capable of being worked, besides numerous other beds of from six to eighteen inches in thickness. The coal obtained from the southern side of the mineral basin, and also from the northern measures east of the Neath river, is principally of a bituminous or binding quality, and for the most part adapted for conversion into coke for the use of the blast furnaces; but the north-western part of the county is wholly occupied by the "stone coal," which is entirely devoid of bitumen, and burns without smoking, flaming, or caking: in Welsh this is commonly called *glo caled*, "hard coal:" the large is much used in drying malt and hops, and the small in burning lime. The quantity of sulphur contained in these coals is in none of the species very great: less, however, appears in the stone than in the binding sort, and the less the latter contains, the better it is adapted for use in the iron-manufacture. In many instances the strata are dislocated by "dykes," or "faults," which take great ranges through the interior of the basin, chiefly in a direction from north to south, and often elevate or depress the whole of the strata, from forty to a hundred feet, for hundreds of acres together: these dislocations are not generally discernible by any appearance on the surface. From the Neath river westward to Carmarthen bay, the strata of the southern series are more regular than those opposite to them on the north; but eastward of that line the case is reversed. The lower beds of the coal deposit enclose parallel strata of iron-ore, of which

there are, in some places, as many as sixteen, accompanied with irregular balls or lumps of iron-ore, called "balls of mine." The strata of the iron-stone commonly vary from one to five inches in thickness; and the balls are of various sizes, from two to sixteen and twenty lb., or upwards, even to three hundred-weight: both kinds are poorer in metal than the iron-ore of the North of England, but their contiguity to such an extent of coal, and their abundance, make ample amends for this poverty. This ore is of the kind denominated by Kirwan "common upland argillaceous iron-stone," and is chiefly found contiguous to strata of aluminous schist, called "cleft, clunch," &c., and to coal, freestone, or fire-clay. The mountains, being intersected by deep valleys, offer great facilities for working the coal and iron together, by means of levels. The iron-ore occurs in the largest quantity, and of the best quality, on the northern side of the county, from the neighbourhood of Merthyr-Tydvil westward towards the upper part of the Vale of Tawe, where it yields about thirty per cent. of metal. The strata of the limestone of the Vale of Glamorgan and of Gower for the most part undulate with the surface of the country, and are of several varieties. The white limestone, which occupies the whole of Gower and much of the Vale adjoining the coal tract, is so denominated, not from the colour of the stone in its natural state, which is for the most part a dark grey; but because it burns to a perfectly white lime, of the very best quality as a manure. On some of the rising grounds of this limestone tract are deposits of fine white sandstone, as on St. Mary hill, near Cowbridge; Cevn y Bryn, in Gower; Cevn y Vai, near Bridgend; and on the northern part of Newton Down; and it has besides several beds of tufa freestone, which resembles the Purbeck stone, and of calcareous freestone, especially of the latter, in the parish of St. Fagan's, where it resembles the Portland stone. The white limestone is extremely cavernous, and some of its cavities contain considerable quantities of lead-ore, some calamine and manganese, and strings of copper.

Lead-ore has been obtained in the islets of Barry and Sully, and at Llantrythid, Coychurch, Merthyr-Maur, Newton, Coed Lai, Maen Llwyd, about three miles east of Caerphilly; All Slade mine, in the parish of Bishopston, in Gower; Tewgoed mine, in the parish of Llangan, near Cowbridge; and Park mine, about a mile to the south of Llantrissant; but at none of these places is this metal now worked. Calamine is found in the greatest quantity at Maenllwyd; manganese in Gower, and at Newton, Twynau Gwynion, and other places. Lias limestone is in this county commonly called "Aberthaw limestone," from the name of a village on the coast in the neighbourhood of which it more particularly abounds, and from which great quantities of it are shipped coastwise. The blue, or flag, lias limestone, which is used for flooring, tombstones, &c., occupies the eastern end of the Vale of Glamorgan, and is washed by the sea from Sully Island to the mouth of the river Ely, a distance of about four miles: another tract appears a little further westward, extending from the sea-shore, between Barry and Porthkerry, to the Cowbridge road. From Porthkerry the grey, or rag, lias occupies the sea-coast westward to beyond Dunraven castle, a distance of about fourteen miles, and extends inland about six miles: several detached deposits of this kind of stone are



also found in conjunction with the white limestone, in different places. The lime of the lias stone is of a buff colour, and not only makes the very best mortar for the purposes of ordinary building, but also forms a valuable cement for works under water: for agricultural purposes, however, it is of inferior quality. A kind of bastard lias, in substance between the true lias and the white limestone, is found in a tract about four miles long and one broad, between Cowbridge and St. Mary Church, and again in the parish of Tythegston, to the west of Ogmere. To the north of the white limestone, and on the verge of the coal tract, is an imperfectly stratified bed of a calcareous pudding-stone, which takes its course from Ruddry, on the Romney, about seven miles north of Cardiff, to Caerphilly Down, and through St. Fagan's, Llanhary, Coyty, &c., to Cevn Cribwr: its lime, of a dusky brown colour, is bad for mortar, but excellent for manure: this, in some places, rests upon the southern edge of the coal strata. Of these various kinds of stone, the principal used in building are, the calcareous freestone of the white limestone tract; siliceous freestone, obtained from quarries in the grey lias, more particularly from those bordering on the coal district; the freestone of the coal measures; the white and lias limestones; and firestone for ovens, which is found in a limestone tract several miles square, at Sully, Cadoxton, Barry, Maes y Velin, Pencarreg, &c. The limestone tracts of the southern side of the county afford excellent specimens of marble, some of which are beautifully variegated with yellow and light liver colours, others with four colours, resembling the brocetto of the lapidaries, while others again are of a liver-colour, slightly variegated. In Gower is obtained a marble, variegated with white, yellow, and liver-colours, besides some of a dark colour beautifully streaked with white, which is sawed and polished in the vicinity of Swansea. Near Merthyr-Tydvil, and at Bwa Maen, near Pont Neath Vaughan, is found a marble of a darker colour, in conjunction with mountain limestone. Gypseous alabaster, the "compact gypsum" of Kirwan, is discovered in large quantities, and of the best quality, at Penarth, Leckwith, Lavernock, and other places, chiefly in a hard clay, or marl, under the blue lias limestone; and is exported to Bristol, and other places in the West of England, to be worked into vases and other ornamental articles, and, when burned, into plaster of Paris, to be formed into cornice mouldings, &c. In the parish of Llansannor is found a thin stratum of a flinty stone, used by the country people to strike fire from steel; as also are others of the same kind at Newcastle, near Bridgend: and at Merthyr-Maur millstone burs, freestone, and micaceous schist, here called *pennant*, occur on the line of separation between the southern coal strata and the limestone of the Vale of Glamorgan. Grindstones and scythe hones are made at Llangonoyd, Coyty, Pyle, Caer Bal, Llan-Day, St. Hilary, &c.; and millstones at Merthyr, Twynau Gwynion, Rhôsilly, Pen y Vai, Caerphilly, Cevn y Bryn, Newton Down, and a few other places. The "fire clay," which, in beds of various thicknesses, pervades the greater part of the coal tract, is manufactured into fire-bricks for the use of the iron-works, for lime-kilns, &c.: in their composition the clay is mixed with quartz and other stones, pieces of old bricks, &c., ground down between iron cylinders. The limestone strata contain numerous impressions of vari-

ous marine exuviae, petrified shell-fish, vertebræ, &c. &c. The beds of ironstone and clunch, lying contiguous to the coal strata, mostly exhibit vegetable impressions.

The manufactures and commerce, owing to the abundance of mineral treasures in the county, and its maritime situation, far exceed in extent and importance those of any other county in the principality. The chief branch of manufacture is that of iron, which is principally carried on at Merthyr-Tydvil, where there are numerous blast furnaces for smelting the ore; and also at Pentyrch, in the Vale of Tâf, at Landore, near Swansea, at Neath Abbey, at Dyfrynlynvi, a few miles north of Bridgend, at Cwm Bychan, and at Pontrhdyven, on the river Avon. The last are only just completed, and consist of two blast furnaces, capable of yielding one hundred and fifty tons of metal per week: the blast is communicated by a water-wheel, forty-six feet in diameter, and of ninety horse power, to which the water is brought from the opposite side of the river Avon, by a magnificent stone aqueduct (at first designed for a railway for conveying coal to the work), which is four hundred and fifty-six feet in length, eighty in height, and comprises four elliptical arches, each seventy feet in the span. At each of the above-named establishments, excepting only those at Dyfrynlynvi and Pontrhdyven, are foundries, forges, and rolling-mills, for manufacturing the rough metal into bar and rod iron, and for moulding it into all kinds of articles in cast iron. There are also extensive works at Newbridge, in the Vale of Tâf, for the manufacture of chain cables, and the iron work of suspension bridges, chain piers, &c.; and others just erected at the same place, for the manufacture of "patent wrought-iron railway slates." At Neath Abbey are made all kinds of steam-engines; and the establishment at this place has furnished most of the South American mining companies with their powerful engines. Some of the principal articles of this manufacture, besides those above-mentioned, are, tram-rails, tram-waggons, mould-boards for ploughs, bolts, sheets for the tanners, roofs for buildings, bridges, canal boats, hand-barrows, gates, hurdles, &c. Of the tin-works, the principal are at Melin Gruffydd, near Llandaf; at Aberavon; at Ynys pen llwch, about eight miles from Swansea; and in Cwm Bychan: the first-mentioned are said to be on the largest scale of any in the kingdom. The next most important manufacture is that of copper, the ore of which is brought to this county, for the convenience of coal, from Cornwall, Ireland, and North Wales; and is smelted at extensive works at Tai bâch, Neath, Morriston, and Swansea: those near the latter place are very numerous on both sides of the river Tawe. Formerly there were tin-works at Ynys y Gerwn, a few miles above Neath, and at Penclawdd; but at these places the only business now done is in extracting the metal remaining in the slag or refuse. At Swansea is an extensive manufacture of fine earthenware, much of the produce of which is shipped to various parts of England: a similar manufacture was established, soon after the commencement of the present century, at Nantgarw, in the parish of Eglwysilian, among the mountains to the north of Cardiff. There is also an extensive and very ancient manufacture of brown ware at Ewenny, near Bridgend: the clay used in these latter works is found on the spot, and much of that used in the Swansea pottery at



Cevn Cribwr, near Pyle. At Bridgend was formerly a woollen manufacture, chiefly of scarlet shawls, in imitation of the provincial garment called the "Gower whittle;" and although it has been abandoned for some years, others of the same kind are still carried on in different parts of the county, particularly at Caerphilly, where also both narrow and broad cloths are made. A considerable quantity of flannel, which forms the chief clothing of the peasantry, is made in many parts of Glamorganshire; and coarse cloth is manufactured in small quantities, by individuals who carry it for sale to the fairs and markets. Numerous hides and skins are dressed for sale at Brecknock, and at the Bristol and other English markets: those of the Glamorgan Vale cattle are the thinnest hides known, and are excellently adapted for coach and cart harness. The principal fisheries are those of salmon and sewin, which latter fish is found only in those rivers of the county flowing from the north or east to the south or west; and among these the Ogmere is the most celebrated for the abundance and fine flavour of its fish of both these species. The limestone coast of Gower abounds with oysters, and Port-Eynon employs about twenty boats in the fishery during the season, which begins on the 4th of August, the eve of the festival of St. James (O. S.), which is kept by the fishermen as a holiday: on their return from dredging, the oysters are deposited within low water mark, and, when a sufficient quantity has been caught, are shipped for Bristol, Bath, and the English counties bordering on the Severn. Other fish, of the most valuable kinds, abound on the coast of Gower, the lobsters on which are uncommonly large and fine. Among the produce of the coast must also be enumerated samphire, called in Welsh *corn carw'r môr*, or "sea buck-horn," which grows on rocks and cliffs not overflowed by the tide, is gathered when out of blossom, boiled, and preserved, and is much esteemed as a pickle; and laver, or sea liver-wort, which vegetates on rocks and stones in the creeks overflowed by the tides, and, when gathered and boiled, is put into jars, with the addition only of a little salt, and occasionally sent as a rarity to distant places: thus prepared, it is called in Glamorgan *bara lawr*, and by the English, "black-butter." The chief exports of this county are, vast quantities of coal and culm, from Cardiff, Swansea, Neath, and the Burry river, to the western and south-western coasts of England, the western coasts of Wales, and to Ireland; iron and copper, from the same ports; tin plates, from Cardiff, Aberavon, and Neath; fire-bricks, chiefly from Neath, to the coasts of Devon and Cornwall; earthenware and marble, from Swansea; much lime and limestone of the lias kind, from Aberthaw, on the sea-coast to the south of Cowbridge; and great quantities of limestone, from the shores of Gower, to Devonshire, Carmarthenshire, &c. Part of the above-mentioned produce of the coast, *viz.*, samphire, laver, oysters, turbot, &c., and some of the river fish, are sent to Bristol and the interior of England. The chief extraordinary imports are copper-ore and tin; potters' clay, flint, and chert, for the pottery at Swansea; iron-ore from Lancashire, to be blended with that of the county; and bricks. Glamorganshire is said not to produce sufficient grain to supply the consumption of its own inhabitants, whose number has so greatly increased in the manufacturing districts by emigration

from the neighbouring counties, more especially those of Carmarthen and Cardigan; yet a considerable portion of the corn grown in the lower part of the Vale, for want of a direct line of communication with the populous but barren hilly district, is exported to Bristol, from which city it is often returned, in flour or malt, to Cardiff, to be forwarded to Merthyr by the Glamorganshire canal.

The principal rivers are the Tâf, the Tawe or Tawy, the Nêdd or Neath, the Llychwyr or Loughor, and the Rhymni or Romney: the banks of these, and of the numerous smaller streams of the mountains, are in most places distinguished for the picturesque grandeur or rich beauty of their scenery. The romantic Tâf is formed by the junction, on the northern border of the county, near Coedycummer, of two streams, called respectively the Tâf Vawr and the Tâf Vechan, the Greater and Lesser Tâf, which descend from the highest mountains of South Wales, the Beacons of Brecknockshire; and thence, taking a south-south-easterly direction, the river flows, two miles lower, through the town of Merthyr-Tydvil, and at Quaker's-yard, which is about twelve miles below Merthyr, is joined from the east by the mountain stream called the Bargoed Tâf; still lower, it is joined from the west by the Cynon, which descends from the parish of Penderin, in Brecknockshire; and a few miles further the Tâf is augmented, from the same side, by the united waters of the two Rhondas: hence, flowing nearly southward, it passes by Llandaf and Cardiff, and falls into the Bristol channel, through the inlet of Penarth, after a course of about thirty-three miles. This river is navigable for vessels of small burden to Cardiff, which is as far as the tide flows. Its stream, in dry weather, is very scanty; but, in case of sudden rains and thaws, the waters of this, as of the other mountain rivers, roll over their rocky bed in an impetuous and destructive torrent. The Tawy enters from Brecknockshire, a little below Ystradgynlais, and, taking first a south-westerly and then a southerly course, is joined from the west by the small but romantic streams of the Upper and the Lower Clydach, and empties itself into the bay of Swansea, at the town of that name, after a course of about twenty-five miles: this river is navigable for ships of considerable burden to a distance of two miles from its mouth, and for small sloops one mile further to Morriston, where the flow of the tide is checked by a weir. The Neath also descends from the mountains of Brecknockshire, and flows south-westward through one of the most picturesque and interesting valleys of South Wales: the principal of its tributary streams, some of which form beautiful cascades, is the Dulas, which joins it about three miles above the town of Neath; and from this junction, flowing nearly southward by that town, the Neath pursues its course to Swansea bay, into which it falls about four miles eastward of Swansea, after a course of nearly twenty-two miles: this river is navigable for vessels of about two hundred tons' burden as high as Neath bridge; but the chief resort of shipping upon it is Briton-Ferry, a little lower down. The Loughor, which has its source in the parish of Llandilo-Vawr, in Carmarthenshire, bounds this county for a considerable distance on the west, and falls into the creek of Loughor, near the ancient borough of that name: this inlet, spreading into a broad æstuary, soon, however, loses its



name of Loughor, on being joined by a petty stream from Gower, called the Burry, from which it is designated the Burry river; and, sweeping round to the west, joins the bay of Carmarthen opposite to the projecting north-western extremity of Gower: this fine creek is navigable for small vessels up to the town of Loughor: the small stream of the Burry is noted for its trout. The Romney rises near the north-eastern extremity of the county, and, giving motion to the machinery of different coal and iron works, forms throughout its course the boundary between Glamorganshire and the English county of Monmouth: it flows in an irregular southerly direction, and falls into the Bristol channel through a small æstuary, a little north-eastward of Penarth harbour. The other principal streams are, the Elai, or Ely, which descends from the barren hills of the coal tract to the north of Llantrissant, afterwards flows south-eastward through the rich vale of Ely, or Dyfryn Miscoin, and, after a course of about twenty-one miles, contributes, with the Tâf, to form the safe and spacious harbour of Penarth; the Daw, or Dawon, celebrated for its trout, which flows, in a short course of nine miles, through Cowbridge to the sea at Aberthaw, and forms the small harbour of that place; the Ewenny, which has a similar course, from the coal tract north of Llanilid, through the flat vale of Coychurch, to the mouth of the Ogmore, near the ruins of Aber-Ogwr, or Ogmore Castle; the Ogmore, a large stream of remarkably soft water, which, rising among the mountains, flows southward through the town of Bridgend, and, after a course of about fifteen miles, being joined by the Ewenny, falls into the Bristol channel through a broad æstuary; and the Avan, or Avon, which descends from near the source of the Ogmore, and, after a course of about fifteen miles, falls into the channel at Aberavon: it is navigable for a short distance for vessels of small burden, trading to and from the Tai bâch, and other neighbouring metal works. Almost the only stream in Gower, besides the Burry, is the Penarth Pill, which falls into Oxwich bay.

The conveyance of the mineral productions of Glamorganshire to its different sea-ports is greatly facilitated by the canals and tram-roads by which various portions of it are traversed. Of the former, the oldest and the most important is the Glamorganshire canal, sometimes called the Cardiff canal, which was originally commenced, under the authority of an act of parliament, in 1791, and was opened in 1794, its formation having cost upwards of £100,000: it was subsequently extended under the provisions of a second act of parliament, and was completed in 1798. It extends a distance of twenty-six miles, through a mountainous and romantic country, and has a fall of no less than five hundred and seventy-six feet, by fifty locks, eighteen of which occur about the middle of its course, within the space of a mile. Here also it crosses the river Tâf by a handsome stone aqueduct, and is received into a spacious basin, surrounded by commodious wharfs, where the canal company's business is transacted, and their principal agent resides. On reaching Cardiff, it passes under the turnpike road to Newport through a tunnel of considerable length, emerging from which, at the distance of half a mile from its egress, it falls into a basin which communicates with the sea at Penarth Roads, by means of a tide lock, and admits vessels of two hundred and forty

tons' burden, which ascend as high as the town of Cardiff, above which the canal is navigable only for barges of twenty-five tons' burden. At the basin, near the aqueduct above-mentioned, it is joined by a branch canal from Aberdare, completed in 1811, and seven miles long, with only two locks, which runs parallel with the river Cynon, and is joined at the Aberdare works, at its head, by a tram-road, six miles long, from the Hîrwaun works, on Hîrwaun common, within the confines of Brecknockshire: at this basin also terminates a tram-road from Dowlais and Merthyr, running parallel with the higher parts of the Glamorganshire canal, and constructed to obviate the delays which would otherwise be experienced in dry summers, owing to the want of a sufficient supply of water to maintain the navigation in these elevated regions. The Neath canal extends from the navigable channel of the river Neath at Briton-Ferry, north-eastward, up the valley of that river, to Aber Gwrelych, near Pont Nedd Vechan, on the confines of Brecknockshire, a distance of about thirteen miles, in which it has sixteen locks. It is connected by a rail-road with the Aberdare branch canal, and was originally constructed under an act of parliament obtained in 1791, and extended under another act passed in 1798: connected with it also are various railways of smaller extent than that above mentioned. The Swansea canal extends from the harbour of that town, up the valley of the Tawy, in a direction nearly north-by-east, to Pen Tawe, whence the communication is continued to Hên Neuadd, within the limits of Brecknockshire, by a short railway: the total length of this canal is about seventeen miles, in which it has a fall of three hundred and seventy-three feet, by means of thirty-six locks: it was completed and opened in 1798, and is navigable for barges of twenty-five tons' burden: the produce of the neighbouring mines is conveyed to its banks by means of numerous tram-roads, two of which are each about two miles in length: one of these branches from near Ynys Tawy to coal mines, and the other to coal mines and lime-works near Bryn Morgan. A portion, about a mile and a half in length, of that part of the canal nearest to Swansea is of older construction than the rest, having been cut by the Duke of Beaufort, who still receives the tolls of it. The small cut called the Penclawdd canal, in the northern part of Gower, constructed about the year 1812, was formerly the means of conveying excellent bituminous coal to vessels lying in the Burry river, but is now disused. The two following canals are private property, viz., the "First Neath Canal," "Briton Canal," or "Cremlyn Canal," now called the "Neath and Swansea Junction Canal," which was constructed about the year 1789, and forms an inland medium of communication between Briton-Ferry and Swansea, branching from the Neath canal at Aberdulas, crossing the river Neath by a handsome aqueduct of eleven arches, and extending a distance of nine miles without a single lock, except that by which it communicates with the eastern side of Swansea harbour, at a place called Port Tennant, from the name of the spirited individual by whom the whole was constructed, it being now the property of George Tennant, Esq.; and the "First Swansea Canal," or "Llansamlet Canal," which extends from the village of Foxhole above Swansea, on the eastern side of the river Tawy, to the collieries of Gwernllwynwydd, near Llansamlet



Besides the tram-roads, already noticed as connected with the canals, and the various branches diverging from them, the property of private individuals, there is one, five miles in length, which was formed at the commencement of the present century, connecting the limestone and marble quarries at the Mumbles with the port of Swansea. But that of the greatest public importance is the Dyfrynlynvi railway, which commences at Blaenllynvi, two miles above the Dyfrynlynvi iron-works, and terminates at the little harbour of Porthcawl, having a branch of five miles and a half from near Cevn Cribwr, about six miles from its termination, to the flourishing little market town of Bridgend: its total length, exclusively of the branch to Bridgend, is seventeen miles: it was constructed under the sanction of an act of parliament, and is the property of the Dyfrynlynvi Railway Company. Glamorganshire is also intersected by a great number of good common roads, which afford easy and convenient communication between the different towns and villages, but are of little comparative importance in a commercial point of view. The agriculturists of the lower part of the Vale are subject to considerable inconvenience from the want of good inland communication, in conveying to market the produce of this fertile tract; in consequence of which, the best markets of the county are chiefly supplied with Irish and other foreign grain, as farmers residing near an Irish outport can actually send their corn to the manufacturing district of which Merthyr is the centre more easily and at less expense than those about Aberthaw, St. Athan, Bonvilston, St. Donatt's, Gileston, Lantwit, Monkash, Penmark, &c. Although great improvements have been made in the roads, at very considerable expense, yet not one of the improved lines, with the exception of the New Mill road, are calculated to benefit the resident agriculturist, as they all extend in a direction from east to west, so that they afford no direct communication between the barren manufacturing district of the northern and the fertile agricultural tracts of the southern side of the county. The bridges presented no remarkable feature until about the middle of the last century, when the celebrated bridge over the Tâf, consisting of one arch of one hundred and forty feet in the span, called New Bridge, or Pont y Prydd, was at length completed, after two failures, by the self-taught architect, William Edwards, who, in conjunction with his son, afterwards built several others over the principal rivers of the county, all of which are distinguished for their beauty and excellence. The bridges are more numerous in this than in most other counties, chiefly on account of its greater commercial importance, and the abundance and excellence of materials for their construction. The road from London to Cardiff, which continues through Carmarthen to Haverfordwest, &c., enters from Monmouthshire at Romney bridge, and, running the entire length of the county from east to west, passes through Cardiff, Cowbridge, Aberavon, Neath, and Swansea, and quits it for Carmarthenshire at Pont ar Ddulas, on the river Loughor.

The remains of antiquity are very numerous and of great diversity of character. On a mountain towards the north-western extremity of the county is a circle of rude flat stones, in the centre of which is a kistvaen, or rude stone chest, about five feet long: this monument

is called Carn llêchart. About two miles eastward from it, on a mountain called Mynydd y Gwryd, is another of the same class, consisting of three concentric circles of flat stones, the outermost of which is about twenty yards in diameter: in the centre of this also is a kistvaen, vulgarly called "the altar." On Drummau mountain, in the vicinity of Neath, are other Druidical remains, consisting of the relics of a large kistvaen, and a large stone fixed upright in the ground, which, being placed on the highest ridge of the hill, forms a conspicuous object from many parts of the surrounding country. Near Dyfryn House, about a mile south of the village of St. Nicholas, between Cardiff and Cowbridge, is one of the largest cromlechs in the kingdom, forming a rectangular oblong apartment, about seventeen feet in length and thirteen in width, the sides and ends of which consist of large flat stones placed upright in the ground, while the roof is formed by one large stone, twenty-four feet long, and varying in breadth from ten to seventeen feet: near the same place is a similar erection of much smaller dimensions, called Llêch y vilast, a name common to these monuments in various parts of Wales, but of unknown origin. Near St. Donatt's is one, called by the people of the neighbourhood "the Old Church;" on Rhôsilly Down, near the village of Tythegston, is one, called "Arthur's Stone;" and on Cevn Bryn, a mountain in Gower, one, the supporting stones of which are six in number, but of small dimensions, while the inclining stone, though not equal in superficial dimensions to that of the large cromlech near Dyfryn, is much thicker and heavier, and, notwithstanding that large portions have at different times been broken off, is still, probably, of about twenty tons' weight. On a hill above New House, to the north of Bridgend, is one of the largest and most ancient British encampments in South Wales. The chief Roman road which crossed this county, namely the *Via Julia*, or *Julia Strata*, is supposed to have entered it on the east, near the present bridge over the Romney, to the east of Cardiff, and to have passed through the vicinity of that town, and nearly in the line of the present western road to Ewenny, whence it ascended almost in a direct line to the Newton Downs, where some vestiges of it are still to be seen, and from which it proceeded, by Kenwig and Neath, across the western boundary of the county, near the station *Leucarum*, at Loughor. From this road branched several vicinal ways: the first of these, now called the *Sarn hîr*, from Cardiff, passed northward by Caerphilly, to which place its course has not yet been traced, but beyond which it may be seen running towards Pont yr Ystrad, on the river Romney, which it crosses into Monmouthshire in its further progress towards the great station of *Caer Bannau*, in Brecknockshire: the next, called the *Sarn Helen*, branched from the *Via Julia* at Neath, and, taking a north-easterly direction, may be traced from the border of the marshes above that town until it enters Brecknockshire, in its course to the great station in that county before mentioned: large portions of the latter remain entire. Besides these, an ancient road of unknown date, but in a state of excellent preservation, commencing at a large and strong encampment on the most elevated summit of the mountain of Mynydd y Gwair, called Pen Cae Clawdd, about twelve miles to the north of Swansea, passes first southward, and afterwards inclines a little westward until it joins the road



from Swansea to Llandilo-Vawr in Carmarthenshire, which proceeds along it in a straight line for about two miles, beyond which, in the county of Carmarthen, it may again be traced singly. In the vicinity of this road, and on an eminence overlooking the western boundary of the county, called Pen Trêv Castell, is situated a very strong fort of earth and stones, of an oval shape, and the longest diameter of which is about one hundred yards. The principal Roman encampments are, a very strong one at the village of Caerau, about three miles west of Cardiff, which occupies the entire summit of a gentle eminence, and comprises about twelve acres; a smaller one, about three miles westward of this, near the village of St. Nicholas, called Caer Gaer; another small one, about two miles from Cowbridge, close to the common called the Golden Mile, near which is a tumulus, and besides which there are vestiges of another on the other side of the Golden Mile; another on the sea-coast, at a place called the Castle Ditches, about two miles east from Bonvilston; at the same distance from this again, another in a similar situation; and two small encampments, situated on a common about two miles eastward from Loughor. There are several tumuli, or barrows, in different parts of the county, of which those situated near the line of the *Julia Strata*, near Bonvilston, are more particularly worthy of mention. Roman coins have been found in different places, more especially at Pengwern, in the parish of Ilston, in Gower; at Cowbridge; in the vicinity of Bonvilston; near St. Athan; a few miles eastward from that village; and in the vicinity of Loughor; and various other minor relics of that people have been discovered at other places. On the surface of the mineral district are frequently found heaps of *scoria*, termed by the English "Roman cinders."

A Benedictine priory, a house of Grey friars, and another monastery at Cardiff, a monastery at Llancarvan, one at Lantwit-Major, and one at Llangennith, were destroyed long before the Reformation. At that period there were, at Margam, a Cistercian abbey; at Neath, a Cistercian abbey; and at Ewenny, a Benedictine cell. There are yet remains of the monasteries of Ewenny, Margam, and Neath, and of other monastic buildings at Lantwit-Major and near Llantrissant. Some of the more remarkable specimens of ancient ecclesiastical architecture are seen in the ruined cathedral of Llandaf, and in the churches of Ewenny; Llanblethian, near Cowbridge; Lantwit-Major, which, with its churchyard, contains numerous ancient monuments and tombstones; and Margam. The church of Aberdare is remarkable for the rustic simplicity of its architecture, and may be regarded as a characteristic specimen of the edifices of this class in the mountainous parts of the county. But this part of the principality is more particularly distinguished for its remains of the numerous fortresses, in some places very extensive, which its border situation rendered necessary for the protection of the Norman usurpers of the soil from the frequent incursions and revolts of the native population, during the early periods of the establishment of their dominion. Those of which the ruins are yet in existence are, Caerphilly castle; Castell Côch, or the Red castle, to the north of Llandaf; Cardiff castle; Coyty castle, about a mile to the north-east of Bridgend; Dinas-

Powis, or Dennis Powis castle, about two miles south of Michaelston-le-Pit; Kenfig castle; Llanblethian castle, near Cowbridge; Llandough castle, on the western bank of the small river Daw; Llantrissant castle; Loughor castle; Marcross castle, near St. Donatt's; Morlais castle, near Merthyr; Neath castle; Newcastle, at Bridgend; Ogmores castle, at the junction of the small rivers Ogmores and Ewenny; Oystermouth castle, in Swansea bay; Oxwich castle, in Oxwich bay; Penllyne castle, near Cowbridge; Penmark castle, near the village of Penmark; Penarth castle, near that of Oystermouth; Penrice castle, in Gower; St. Donatt's castle, on the sea-coast; Swansea castle; Talavan, or Tal y van castle, a few miles north of Cowbridge; Weobley castle, in Gower; and Wrinchstone castle, near the village of Wenvoe. There are also small remains of ancient fortresses at Peterston super Ely, and St. George's, both near the banks of the river Ely, and near the village of St. Athan. The ruins of the castles of Caerphilly and Coyty, more particularly the former, are among the most extensive and magnificent in the island. The ancient mansion-houses are very numerous, but most of them have been either deserted or converted into farm-houses: among those still inhabited are, Aberpergwm, the seat of William Williams, Esq.; Cevnmabwy, that of C. K. K. Tynte, Esq.; Dyfryn, that of the Hon. Booth Grey; Dyfryn Clydach, that of Mrs. Williams; Vonmon castle, that of Robert Jones, Esq.; the Gnoll, that of Henry Grant, Esq.; Hênsol, that of Richard Crawshay, Esq.; and Lland-Dav, or Llandough, Castle, that of Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan: there are also remains of the ancient castellated mansion of the bishops at Llandaf, and of a castellated mansion at St. Fagan's, near that place. Among the antiquities of this county may likewise be enumerated a considerable number of very old and spacious barns, many of which are of peculiar construction. The principal modern seats of the nobility and gentry are, Briton Ferry, that of the Earl of Jersey; Coedriglan, that of the Rev. John M. Traherne; Cowityrala, that of T. B. Rous, Esq.; Coytrehene, that of Morgan Popkin Traherne, Esq.; Cyvarthva Castle, that of Richard Crawshay, Esq.; Dunraven Castle, that of the Earl of Dunraven and Mountearl; Ewenny Abbey, that of Richard Turberville Turberville, Esq.; Green Meadow, that of Wyndham Lewis, Esq.; Llan-haren, that of Richard Hoare Jenkins, Esq.; the magnificent mansion of C. R. M. Talbot, Esq., now in progress of erection in Margam Park; Penllergare, the seat of L. W. Dilwyn, Esq.; Penrice, that of C. R. Mansel Talbot, Esq.; Rheola, the elegant seat of John Edwards Vaughan, Esq.; Singleton, the residence of J. H. Vivian, Esq.; Sketty Park, that of Sir John Morris, Bart.; Stout Hall, that of John Lucas, Esq.; and Wenvoe Castle, that of R. F. Jenner, Esq. The farm-houses and offices throughout the county are in general good and commodious, and substantially built of stone, and roofed sometimes with thatch, and sometimes with the stone tiles of the country; but the out-buildings are smaller and fewer than in most other districts. The cottages are also built in the same substantial style, and are remarkable for their commodiousness and comfort: they are almost universally thatched with wheat straw, with uncommon neatness, and many exhibit features of great antiquity. In situations where they can be conveniently procured, fern, rushes, sea-reeds, and broom



are occasionally used for thatching them; but their most striking peculiarity is their being universally white-washed, externally and internally, as are also the walls of gardens, &c.: this custom of white-washing has distinguished the people of Glamorgan from all antiquity, being often adverted to by the ancient Welsh bards, and the light and pleasing appearance of these habitations is still further increased by their generally having the appendage of a garden, and by their walls being also frequently shaded by fruit-trees, sweet-briar, privet, or jessamine: when situated on the side of a hill, they frequently have a remarkably picturesque appearance. Some of the meanest cottages are found among the mountains. Stiles of stone and mortar are very common in the Vale and in Gower. The common bread of many of the inhabitants consists of the white wheat of the Vale, ground and kneaded, without the bran being separated from the flour. The household fare of the agricultural labourers is generally very good; and, in the lower part of the Vale, the men employed to cut the corn have the privilege of renting out the gleanings, or leasing, on the wheat stubbles, for which they get more per acre than they are paid for reaping. Ancient Welsh names, though common throughout the principality, appear to be more prevalent in this than in any other county. Among those of early British note still used promiscuously as christian names, or as surnames, are those of Owain, Madoc, Caradoc, Hywel, Rees or Rhys, Llewelyn, Arthur, Cadwgan, Gruffydd, Morgan, Llywarch, Ivor, Tudor, Taliessin, Merlin, Meredydd, Traherne, Cadwaladr, &c. The ancient Welsh custom for the son to take for his surname the christian name of his father is much more commonly retained in the mountains of Glamorganshire, and of the adjoining counties of Brecknock and Monmouth, than in any other part of Wales. The only mineral spring of any celebrity, or at all resorted to, is that called Fynnon Tâf, situated on the river Tâf, a few miles above Cardiff, on the road from that town to Merthyr-Tydvil, the water of which is tepid, and is successfully applied in relieving rheumatic complaints: there are, however, chalybeate or sulphureous springs at Swansea, Llandyvodog, Llantrissant, and other places in the coal district. In the calcareous rocks along the coast the waves have worn many large and magnificent caverns, ornamented with stalactites and crystallized spars of great beauty, in which rise several intermitting springs. In the Vale of Neath are two beautiful waterfalls, one at the village of Aberdulas, near Cadoxton, and the other some miles higher, at Melin Court.

GLÂSBURY, a parish, partly in the hundred of TALGARH, county of BRECKNOCK, and partly in that of PAINSCASTLE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, comprising the hamlets of Pipton and Velindre with Trêgoed, each of which is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, and containing 1452 inhabitants, of which number, 848 are in the main portion of the parish, included within the limits of Radnorshire, and 4 miles (W. S. W.) from Hay, on the road to Brecknock. The mesne manor of Glâsbury formerly belonged to the Clifford family, by exchange with the monks of Gloucester in 1144, afterwards to the Giffards, and accompanied the possession of Bronllys castle, until it became vested in the crown, when it was granted to Sir David Williams. In the 5th of Henry VIII., Richard

Cornwall and Ralph Hakluyt, Esqrs., were appointed seneschals of the manor during their lives. It is now in the possession of Thomas Wood, of Littleton, in the county of Middlesex, Esq., in right of his wife, Mary, the daughter and, by the decease of her brother, heiress of the late Sir Edward Williams, Bart. The parish is intersected by the river Wye, the banks of which here exhibit some of the most picturesque and luxuriant scenery in South Wales, or in the kingdom: its stream glides smoothly along through rich meadows, or occasionally ripples over its pebbly bed, and the circumjacent hills, rising to a considerable height, are singularly diversified in form and aspect, and pleasingly varied with thick groves and cultivated fields; while the entire scene is enlivened and embellished with numerous elegant villas and genteel houses, among which rises conspicuously Maeslwch, or Maeslough, Castle, the princely residence of Walter Wilkins, Esq., the erection of which was commenced in 1829, by his late father, from a design by Mr. Lugar, of Great Marlborough-street, London. It is a beautiful specimen of the Norman and later English styles of castellated architecture, exhibiting, to the south, a rustic embattled front, upwards of two hundred and fifty feet in length: the principal tower, which is circular, is at the north-eastern angle: at the west end are the family apartments, flanked by four towers of unequal dimensions, alternately round and octagonal: in the centre rises a lantern, under which is the principal entrance. The carriage entrance is on the northern side, under a magnificent Norman porch, opening by a vestibule into the great hall: the portion appropriated to the servants, situated to the east of and somewhat lower than the family apartments, is terminated by two square towers, from which extends a long wall, perforated with embrasures, at the extremity of which is an elegant little building, resembling a chapel. From the terrace in front a beautiful lawn declines to the water's edge, commanding much of the richly varied scenery which here adorns the banks of the river; and at the back rises an eminence, wooded to its very summit. Some of the finest prospects in the vale are obtained from Pen y Lan, the seat of the late Thomas Walbeoffe, Esq., post-captain in the royal navy, looking downward from which are seen the wooden bridge at Glâsbury, surrounded by the most beautiful natural objects: much of the wood which adorns the scene consists of apple, pear, and cherry trees, which, when in blossom, form features of great beauty and richness; the view upwards, consisting of a long reach of the Wye, the village of Llŷswen, and the abrupt ascent to Craiglai, with the lofty Brecknockshire Beacons in the back ground, is of a different character, but equally interesting. Tre'r Coed, corruptly Tregoe, the seat of Viscount Hereford, is situated within the parish, but has no claim to particular description. The soil on the banks of the Wye, at this place, is perhaps the richest in the county, and is appropriated to feeding vast numbers of cattle and sheep for the markets of Brecknock and Hay; but to the south there are no pastures, all the land being devoted to tillage: this part of it is terminated by barren mountains. The system of husbandry practised in the low lands is exceedingly good, no where excelled in this part of the principality. The bridge across the Wye has been rebuilt at different



periods: the first, which was of wood, fell in 1738, and was succeeded by a similar structure, which stood about forty years; a beautiful stone bridge was then built, in 1777, which was swept away by a flood in February 1795, in consequence of some defect in the foundations, and the present wooden bridge was erected in 1800: it is supported at each end by a stone pier, with thirteen intervening wooden tressels. That part of the parish which is situated on the southern bank of the Wye is principally in Brecknockshire, though a considerable extent of ground on this side of the river forms part of the county of Radnor. The village is situated on the northern bank of the Wye, being separated by the river and by the turnpike road from the church, which is about a quarter of a mile distant. The Radnorshire portion of the parish, forming the chief body of it, is usually distinguished from its Brecknockshire hamlets of Velindre with Tregoed, and Pipton, as "Glásbury Radnorshire," the rest being designated "Glásbury Brecknockshire." About sixty persons are here employed in an extensive establishment for sorting wool: the windows of all the apartments in which this apparently simple operation is carried on open to the north, to avoid too strong a light; and the different qualities are appropriated, according to the staple, to the uses of the clothier, hosier, hatter, &c. The railroad from Hay to Brecknock passes through the parish. The petty sessions for the hundred of Talgarth are held here.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £10, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Gloucester, as owner of the impropriate rectory: the advowson was granted to the monks of Gloucester by Bernard Newmarch, the Norman conqueror of Brecknock, and since the dissolution has been possessed by the bishops. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, and situated upon a steep bank on the southern side of the road leading to Hay, consists only of a nave and chancel, with a heavy western tower, containing six bells: the contract for its erection was entered into in 1662, and the edifice was probably completed in 1665, as the first interment there took place on the 30th of July, in that year: both it and the ancient structure which it replaced were built in that part of Radnorshire which lies on the southern bank of the river: the site of the latter, near where the Llyvni, or Llynvi, falls into the Wye, is marked by a few old thorn trees: it is supposed to have been originally situated on the northern side of the river, and to have been separated from the village by a change in the course of the Wye. There was formerly a chapel at Velindre, which fell into decay about the middle of the last century. There are three places of worship for dissenters, namely, one for Baptists at Penyrheol, near the Black Mountain, one for Independents at Velindre, and one for Wesleyan Methodists close by Woodlands. In the churchyard is a neat Sunday school-room, built in 1824, by subscription; and a short distance beyond the limits of the cemetery stands a respectable building, surmounted with a small cupola and vane, and comprising a schoolmaster's residence, together with a spacious school-room, which latter was erected in 1816, at the sole expense of the late Miss Bridget Hughes, of Glásbury

House, at a cost of £210: the schoolmaster's house was erected subsequently by voluntary contributions, amounting to £179, of which Sir Charles Morgan, Bart., contributed £80, on a site granted, together with about a quarter of an acre of garden ground, by Colonel Wood, the present parliamentary representative for the county. The school is supported by annual subscriptions: the master's salary is £40, and the number of his pupils is from sixty to eighty: this establishment is connected with the parent society in London, which granted £40 in aid of its funds. There are divers small benefactions for charitable purposes. Walter Meredith, citizen of London, by will dated March 26th, 1605, bequeathed a rent-charge of £4 upon a house in Fleet-street, of which, the land-tax being deducted, the sum of £3. 4. is paid annually, alternately to six aged and eight young persons, of both sexes: the object of its being bestowed on the latter is to fit them out for service. Sir David Williams, Knt., in 1612, bequeathed the tithes of the parish of Gwenddwr, directing the profits to be annually applied in the following manner; namely, four pounds towards repairing Glásbury bridge, ten shillings for an annual sermon, thirty shillings to be bestowed in bread among the poor of Glásbury, twenty shillings towards repairing the road from Velindre to Tyle-glás; ten shillings for a sermon on the anniversary of the testator's funeral, to be preached in St. John's church at Brecknock, and forty shillings in bread to the poor; ten shillings for a sermon on Whit-Sunday at Ystradvellte, thirty shillings in bread to the poor of Aberllyvni and Velindre, and five pounds to the distressed poor near Gwernyveth, either in food or clothing; all which sums have been augmented, in proportion to the increased value of the tithes, that appropriated to the repair of Glásbury bridge now amounting to £16. 8., and that to the poor of this parish to £6. 3. 6. John Havard, of Tregoed, Gent., in 1728, gave £10 for the poor of Bronllys and Glásbury; John Lewis, described on his tombstone as an "honest lawyer," bequeathed £30 to the poor of this parish; Mrs. Sybil Williams, of Trêvithel, in 1761, gave twenty shillings a year to be distributed among the poor of Pipton; and Mrs. Seagood gave £100 for the benefit of the poor of the entire parish, now vested in the public funds, and producing £3. 11. 11. per annum. On an eminence to the south-west of the church are some intrenchments, which formerly surrounded a British camp, called the Gaer. Of the ancient mansion of the Solers family there are no remains, but a farmhouse and a few cottages near its site are still called Pente Solers, or Solerville. Sir Humphrey Solers, the founder of the family at this place, was one of the Norman knights who accompanied Bernard Newmarch in his successful expedition: having settled here, he acquired large possessions, which his descendants continued to enjoy until the middle of the seventeenth century. The next distinguished residents in point of antiquity were the Powells, descended from Rhys Gôch, of Ystrad-iw, one of whom came from Glamorganshire in the fourteenth or fifteenth century, and was married to Joan, daughter and heiress of Tyle-glás. A singular instance of the ferocity of one of the female descendants of the Vaughan family is preserved in an old M.S. pedigree:—"Ellen Gethin (or the terrible) of Hergest, a *devilish* woman, was cousin-german to John



hîr ab Philip Vychan, who was killed by the said Ellen at St. David's church, for that he before killed her brother, David Vaughan, at Llynwent in Llanbister, Radnorshire." The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £649. 5., of which sum, £357. 17. is raised on the Brecknockshire, and £291. 8. on the Radnorshire, portion of the parish.

GLÂSCOMB, or GLÂSCWM (GLÂS-GWM), a parish in the hundred of COLWYN, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (E.) from Builth, on the road to Kington, comprising the joint township of Drewern and Vainor, and containing 514 inhabitants. This parish, which is bounded on the west by the river Edw, or Edwy, famous for its trout, comprises an area of about five thousand acres, of which three thousand are enclosed, and the remainder waste, being applied only to the pasturage of sheep, of which great numbers are fed upon it. The surface is for the most part hilly, and the soil rather barren: some parts are adorned with wood, and present an agreeable contrast to the barren mountains that surround them. In the village stands Glâscomb Court, the picturesque residence of Samuel Bevan, Esq., who, having succeeded by marriage to the considerable estates of the late — Lucas, Esq., in this district, has greatly exerted himself in the embellishment of the neighbourhood: the village and mansion are situated at the extremity of a little dingle, in a verdant spot planted with evergreens, from which circumstance they have derived their present appellation, signifying literally "the green dingle:" the whole, as it bursts suddenly upon the view, after climbing an arduous ascent, has almost the effect of enchantment, contrasted with the dreary and naked steepes of the surrounding mountains. The living is a vicarage, with Colva and Rulên consolidated, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £13. 6. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's, as owner of the impropriate rectory. The church, dedicated to St. David, is a large plain edifice, having little pretension to architectural character, and consisting of a nave and chancel, without either tower or spire, but possessing two bells: the entire length of the edifice is one hundred feet, of which the chancel forms precisely one-third: the windows of the chancel are in the later style of English architecture. Under the communion table is a stone coffin, found in repairing the church: the inhabitants of Colva and Rulên, prior to the erection of their respective chapels, had their appropriate seats on each side of the altar. Giraldus Cambrensis relates an absurd story concerning the miraculous powers of a portable bell, then preserved in this church. There is a place of worship for Baptists, under the patronage of Samuel Bevan, Esq. John Evans, in 1640, bequeathed £40, and David Davies, in 1777, left £60, for the benefit of the poor not receiving parochial relief: these sums are now deposited in the hands of Samuel Bevan, Esq., who, besides their annual interest of £5, pays to the parish a rent-charge of £1, out of the estate of Cwm-mawr, situated within its limits: some other benefactions have also been made, but are now lost. The parish contains several interesting remains of antiquity, but no historical notice of them has been preserved. Among these are four large erect stones, situated at a place called the Little Hill, and stated by tradition to have been erected in commemoration of some great battle fought near this spot.

On the banks of the Edwy, just within the western confines of the parish, are the vestiges of a small fortification, which once probably constituted a castle of some of the British or Norman lords of the surrounding territory: they comprise an area of about half an acre, defended by a rampart nearly perfect, to the north-west of which is a moated tumulus, on which probably stood the keep; and adjoining to this, within the enclosed area, is a moderately elevated piece of ground, which may have formed the site of the inner road: just without the enclosure is a large erect stone, which, together with another now removed, is supposed to have been raised in commemoration of some conflict. Near the source of the river Edwy, in the higher part of the parish, are two remarkable mineral springs, called Blaen-Edwy Wells, situated on the property of the Right Hon. Thomas Frankton Lewis; and adjacent is a respectable house, capable of accommodating about twenty visitors, with a small cold bath attached: the waters of these springs have both the same properties, being strongly impregnated with sulphur, and highly efficacious in the cure of cutaneous diseases. They have been much frequented, but the scarcity of lodgings, and the dreary and uninviting character of the surrounding scenery, operate powerfully to retard their rising importance. They continue, however, to sustain the highest reputation, and are eagerly resorted to by those patients whose habits and circumstances render retirement and economy desirable. In 1806, a shepherd boy observing something glittering in a newly formed molehill, on an eminence to the north of the village, carried it to his master, who, recognising its value, made a search on the spot, and discovered a number of gold and silver coins of a few preceding reigns, sufficient to purchase a small farm, which he still lives to enjoy. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £507. 7.

GLYN, a chapelry in the parish and hundred of DEVYNOC, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (W. by S.) from Brecknock, containing 351 inhabitants. It is situated on the western declivity of elevated ground, to the south of Pen Pont Park, near the source of the Camlas brook, and on the left bank of the river Tarrell. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Devynock. The chapel is dedicated to St. Illtyd, and sometimes gives the name of Llan Illtyd to this division of the parish. On an adjoining eminence, near a pool, are two large stones, placed six feet asunder, at each end of a small tumulus, which is called Bedd Gwyl Illtyd, or "The Grave of St. Illtyd's Eve," from the ancient custom of watching there on the eve of the festival of that saint, who was supposed to have been buried here. A separate assessment for the support of the poor is made for this chapelry, the average annual expenditure amounting to £72. 5.

GLYN, a hamlet in the parish of LLANELLY, hundred of CARNWALLON, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 4½ miles (N. N. W.) from Llanelly, containing 765 inhabitants. It is situated at the western declivity of the Mynydd Sulien mountain; and the old rail-road from the coal-pits at the Mynydd Mawr mountain to Llanelly passes in the vicinity. Coal abounds also in this district.



GLYN, a hamlet in the parish of LLANNON, hundred of CARNWALLON, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (S. E. by S.) from Carmarthen. The population is returned with the parish. A branch of the Gwendraeth-Vawr river passes through the hamlet, the inhabitants of which are chiefly engaged in agriculture.

GLYN, a joint hamlet with Edwinsford, in the parish of LLANSAWEL, lower division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (N.) from Llandilo-Vawr. The population is included in the return for the parish. The river Cothy flows through this hamlet in a pleasing and well-wooded vale. It is conjointly assessed with Edwinsford for the maintenance of the poor, the average annual expenditure being £162. 11.

GLYN, a hamlet in the parish of LLANGENDEIRN, hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. S. E.) from Carmarthen. The population is returned with the parish. A branch of the Gwendraeth-Vâch flows through this township, which forms the western portion of the parish. The mansion of Glyn Abbey is supposed to have been formerly a monastery; but, in consequence of various alterations, no traces of such a building are now discernible.

GLYN-AMAN (GLYN-AMWYN), a hamlet in that part of the parish of LLANDILO-VAWR which is in the upper division of the hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $8\frac{3}{4}$  miles (S. E.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 227 inhabitants. It is situated among the Black mountains; and the river Aman flows through it, forming in one part of its course the boundary line between Carmarthenshire and Glamorganshire. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £40. 2.

GLYNCAERYG (GLYN-CAERIG), a township in the parish of LLANWRIN, hundred of MACHYNLLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. N. E.) from Machynlleth. The population is returned with the township of Llanwrin. This place forms the south-western portion of the parish, and is situated on the right bank of the Dovey, near the confluence of two streams, each called Dulas, which meet here from opposite directions, and join that river. A winding and beautifully romantic valley, through which one of these streams flows, and separates this township from Merionethshire, commences here. This river has a great variety of character, presenting at intervals foaming cascades and tranquil pools, and is enclosed between lofty and partially wooded precipices, at the foot of which passes the road from Machynlleth to Dôlgelley, along the left bank of the river. The road from the former town to Dinasmowddwy also proceeds through the vale of the Dovey, which here exhibits some cheerful corn-fields and meadows, and verdant hills.

GLYN-COLLWYN, a chapelry in the parish of LLANVIGAN, hundred of PENCELLY, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 10 miles (S. S. E.) from Brecknock, containing 274 inhabitants. This place, of which the name signifies "the glen of hazel wood," is pleasantly situated on the upper part of the small river Carvanell, which falls into the Usk at Tal y Bont. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock,

and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Rector of Llanvigan. A cairn in this chapelry was opened within the last thirty years by a person named Twm Bach, who came to this place from North Wales, in the hope of finding treasure, to which he is said to have been prompted by the perusal of some ancient Welsh verses. In the prosecution of his search a large kist was found, in which were various antiquities, but none of them have been preserved; as the finder, disappointed in his expectations of a different kind of treasure, sold them to an itinerant Jew.

GLYNCONNON (GLYN-CYNON), a hamlet in the parish of LLANWONNO, hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $7\frac{3}{4}$  miles (S.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 415 inhabitants. The Pont Cynon aqueduct, which conveys the Cardiff canal over the river Tâf, is situated at the eastern extremity of this hamlet, near where the Aberdare canal joins the former at Navigation House; and here also both the canal and the Tâf are crossed by the road from Cardiff to Aberdare, which proceeds through the vale of the Cynon, overhung in many places with majestic oaks, and other lofty trees, and which, after crossing the river by an alpine bridge, enters the parish of Aberdare. There are numerous pleasing and ornamental residences in different places, especially in that portion of the hamlet which overlooks the valleys of the Tâf and the Cynon, the former bounding it on the east, and the latter on the north-east.

GLYN-CORWG, a parish in the hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, consisting of the chapelry of Blaen-Gwrach, and the hamlet of Glyn-Corwg, each of which is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, and containing 547 inhabitants, of which number, 133 are in the hamlet of Glyn-Corwg, 8 miles (N. by E.) from Neath. This parish, which is very extensive, including a wild and mountainous region of about twelve thousand acres, derives its name from the small river Corwg, which, after flowing through a portion of it, falls into the Avon. It comprises some of the highest mountains in Glamorganshire, and the picturesque aspect of its surface is greatly increased by woods and numerous projecting crags. In Blaen-Gwrach, through which flows the Neath river, is a lake called Llŷn-bâch, nearly a mile in circumference; and the entire parish contains an abundance of fine springs, and is watered by numerous brooks: in Blaen-Gwrach is also Ynys-lâs Cottage, a seat of the Earl of Dumraven. The soil is various, that of the mountains being peaty, and in some places of an argillaceous texture. The portion of arable land is comparatively small; and the species of grain cultivated upon it are chiefly barley and oats, little wheat being grown except near the river Neath: the more extensive mountainous districts are appropriated to the pasturage of sheep and young cattle during summer. In the mountains are found strata of bituminous coal, and in the lower portions of the parish, near the Vale of Neath, some of stone coal and culm, from two to fifteen feet in thickness: these species of fuel are now worked, and exported in large quantities by means of the Neath canal. Iron-ore is also found, and is now worked in the Blaen-Gwrach portion of the parish. The living is a perpetual curacy, with that of Blaen-Gwrach



annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Rev. E. Thomas, by whom it has been lately purchased from the Earl of Jersey. The church, situated in the hamlet of Glyn-Corwg, is dedicated to St. John the Baptist; and in the churchyard are some remarkably fine yew trees, one of which measures thirty feet four inches in girth. Upon the summit of Craig y Llŷn, in this parish, is Carn Moesen, a tumulus of loose stones, marking out a spot which is reputed the most elevated point in the county of Glamorgan; and not far distant from this is Llŷn Mawr, a large pool nearly a mile in circumference. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £207. 1., of which sum, £46. 4. is raised for the hamlet of Glyn-Corwg.

GLYN-RUMNEY (GLYN-RHYMNI), a hamlet in the parish of LLANVABON, hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N. by W.) from Caerphilly, containing 276 inhabitants. It is bounded on the east by the river Romney, over which is the bridge of Pontystrad, leading into Monmouthshire. The road from Caerphilly to Merthyr-Tydvil passes through a vale, parallel with the river, the steep sides of which are well wooded, and are adorned in different places with a few respectable and agreeable residences.

GLYN-TÂF, a hamlet in the parish of EGLWYSILAN, hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, comprising the greater part of the extensive and populous village of Newbridge, and containing 635 inhabitants. It is situated on the left bank of the river Taf, where it is joined by the Rhondda, and affords very fine views up the vale of the latter. The road from Cardiff to Merthyr-Tydvil proceeds here between the river Taf and the Cardiff canal, and within a few yards of both. The bridge called Pont y Prydd, celebrated for the singularity of its architecture, crosses the steep banks of the river Taf at this place, near the village of Newbridge.

GLYNTAWE, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES.—See CAPEL-CALLWEN.

GLYN-TRAIAN, one of the principal divisions of the parish of LLANGOLLEN, Nant heudwy division of the hundred of CHIRK, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (W.) from Llangollen, containing 868 inhabitants. It forms the upper part of this picturesque parish, where the mountains are high and bold, while the river Dee winds at their feet in such an irregular course, as to make the landscape assume a fresh appearance of pleasing and diversified beauty at every turn, which is more fully described in the account of the parish. Several agreeable residences are scattered over the district, which shares in divers charitable bequests for the benefit of the poor of the whole parish. It is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, the average annual expenditure being £415. 10.

GLYNTRÊVNANT (GLYN TRÊV NANT), a township in the parish of TRÊVEGLWYS, upper division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N.) from Llanidloes. The population is returned with the parish. It takes its name from the junction of three streams, which form the river Trêvnant: the church is situated here.

GLYNVÂCH (GLYNN-VÂCH), a hamlet in the parish of LLANIGON, hundred of TALGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $7\frac{3}{4}$  miles (S. by E.) from Hay, containing 67 inhabitants. This place, the name of which signifies "the little glen," forms the south-eastern part of the parish, and comprises a small valley among the Black Mountains of Talgarth, near the spot where the three counties of Brecknock, Hereford, and Monmouth, unite. From the circumstance of its peculiar situation most probably originated that long disputed question respecting the local situation of the chapel in this hamlet, called *Capel y fin*, or the "chapel of the boundary," which was argued at length in the Ecclesiastical Court, in the year 1708, and was ultimately decided in favour of its being within this parish, to which all the witnesses concurred in stating it to have been originally a chapel of ease, and of which the vicar was accordingly enjoined to perform the duties either in person or by his curate. In the narrow rocky vale which forms the chief portion of the hamlet some corn is grown, but the lands are chiefly devoted to the pasturage of young cattle and sheep. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied and in many parts highly picturesque. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The chapel has been rebuilt within the last ten years, at the expense of the parishioners, and is appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service. The hamlet is separately assessed for the support of its own poor, the average annual expenditure for which purpose amounts to £38. 14.

GODWIDD (GORWYDD), a township in the parish of LLANDEWY-BREVI, upper division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. E. by E.) from Lampeter, containing 610 inhabitants. This is the most populous township of the parish, containing the town of Llandewy-Brevi, with its church, and occupying the vale through which the stream, on which that town is situated flows into the Teivi, as well as the lofty mountain protecting it on the north and east. A separate assessment is made for the maintenance of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £115. 3.

GOLLON, or GEULAN, a joint township with Cevnpawl, forming that part of the parish of ABBEY CWM HIR which is in the hundred of KNIGHTON, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (N. E.) from Rhaiadr, containing, exclusively of Cevnpawl, 364 inhabitants. A small plot of land was bequeathed by the Rev. Robert Barlow, in 1610, for the benefit of the poor of this place.

GOLVTYN, a township in the parish of NORTHOP, Northop division of the hundred of COLESHILL, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S. E.) from Flint, containing 289 inhabitants. In Domesday-book this township was called *Ulfmilstone*. It is situated on the æstuary of the Dee, near the mouth of the new channel for that river, which was cut through the sands from Chester, and extends over a large portion of these sands, which are dry at low water, and capable of being brought into cultivation at a moderate expense. A large quay and pier were constructed here, some years since, by the Irish Coal Company, from which vessels sail re-



gularly for Liverpool, London, Dublin, and the ports of North and South Wales. Considerable employment in the fishery being afforded to the inhabitants, the population has latterly increased. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. Golytyn was formerly assessed with Weppre for the maintenance of the poor.

**GORYCOED (TOR Y COED)**, a joint hamlet with Kilarw, in the parish of **LLANGENDEIRN**, hundred of **KIDWELLY**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. E.) from Carmarthen. The population is returned with the parish. The name signifies the extremity of the wood, from which it may be inferred that the neighbourhood formerly abounded with timber.

**GOURTON**, a township in that part of the parish of **WREXHAM** which is in the hundred of **BROMFIELD**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. N. E.) from Wrexham, containing 41 inhabitants. This township is situated on the road between Holt and Wrexham, and consists of the respectable mansion of Gourton Hall and a few farms. It is separately assessed for the support of its poor, pursuant to an arrangement made in March 1830.

**GOYTRE (COED-TRËV)**, a hamlet in the parish of **LLANNON**, hundred of **CARNWALLON**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 15 miles (S. E.) from Carmarthen, containing 315 inhabitants. It forms the south-western portion of the parish, and contains about three thousand acres.

**GRAIG (CRAIG)**, a joint township with Swydd, in the parish of **LLANDEGLAY**, hundred of **KEVENLEECE**, county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E.) from Rhaiadr. The population is returned with Swydd. In this township is Cevn Craig, a very elevated mountain, rising two thousand one hundred and sixty-three feet above the level of the sea, within a recess of which, at its southern base, are the Llandeglay wells, so celebrated for their medicinal properties. The road from New Radnor to Rhaiadr passes near the base of the mountain, which formed part of the ancient forest of Radnor, and within less than half a mile of the wells.

**GRANSTON**, a parish in the hundred of **DEWISLAND**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 6 miles (W. S. W.) from Fishguard, containing 195 inhabitants. This parish is situated in the north-western part of the county, and within a short distance of the coast of St. George's channel: it is intersected by the turnpike road leading from Fishguard to St. David's, and is watered by a small stream, which, after flowing through it, falls into the sea near Aberbach. The surrounding scenery is not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature, though from the higher grounds some good views are obtained over the channel and the adjacent country. Tregwynt, the ancient mansion of the family of Harries, a branch of that seated at Priskilly, is within this parish. The living is a discharged vicarage, annexed to that of Mathrey, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 8.  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Catherine, is a plain edifice, not claiming notice for any peculiarity of architecture: it contains several good mural tablets, erected to the memory of some members of the Priskilly family, of whom several were interred here. There is a large place of

worship for Baptists. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £67. 10.

**GREENFIELD**, a township in the parish, and partly within the limits of the newly-created borough, of **HOLYWELL**, in the Holywell division of the hundred of **COLESHILL**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mile (N. E.) from Holywell. The population is included in the return for the parish. Here is an ancient mansion of the Mostyns, now occupied by the Parys Copper mine Company, who possess extensive works on the small stream which falls into the æstuary of the Dee, on which there are other extensive establishments, consisting chiefly of mills for the manufacture of cotton twist, an account of which is given in the article on the parish. In this township is also included the celebrated mine called the Holywell Level; and within its limits are situated the ruins of the ancient abbey of Basingwerk, near which runs the ancient line of demarcation called Wat's Dyke.

**GRESFORD**, a parish partly in the hundred of **BROMFIELD**, county of **DENBIGH**, and partly in that of **MAELOR**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**, 3 miles (N. E.) from Wrexham, comprising the lordship of Merford and Hoseley, which supports its poor by a separate assessment, and containing 3849 inhabitants. This parish is supposed to have derived its name, anciently *Croes-fordd*, or "the road to the cross," from its situation near an ancient cross, within half a mile to the south of the present church, of which the shaft is still remaining. It is very extensive, comprising upwards of twelve thousand acres; and the village is delightfully situated on the western side of the road from Wrexham to Chester, near the head of a beautiful valley, which opens into the Vale Royal of Cheshire, a tract of country remarkable for the richness of its soil, the beauty of its scenery, and the pleasingly diversified views which it presents. The little vale of Gresford is one of the most lovely in the principality, abounding with pleasing and interesting objects, enlivened by the meanderings of the river Alyn through its meadows, and finely varied with richly wooded eminences, on one of which stands conspicuously its beautiful church, remarkable for the elegance of its architecture and its picturesque appearance; the plantations and pleasure grounds attached to the elegant villas and rural mansions which are scattered throughout this small but romantic dell combine, with the natural beauties of its scenery, to render it in every respect one of the most interesting and attractive spots in this part of the country. Fairs for cattle are held on the second Monday in April, the last Monday in August, Easter Monday, June 24th, August 21st, and October 22nd. Deeply sheltered in the vale is Gresford Lodge, the seat of Mrs. W. Egerton, a stately and elegant mansion, designed by Sir Jeffrey Wyatville, and one of the most tasteful and highly finished edifices erected by this distinguished architect. In this parish are also, Erddig, the seat of S. Yorke, Esq., situated in a detached portion of it, the grounds of which are disposed with great taste, and are beautifully adorned with wood; Gwersylt Park, that of John Williams, Esq.; Trêvalyn Hall, the ancient mansion of the Trevors; Trêvalyn House; and several other mansions. It is bounded on the east by the Dee, and is intersected by the Alyn, a tributary of that river: on the banks of these streams



and of the Pulford brook are extensive but not very rich tracts of meadow, which are frequently flooded: the soil is tolerably good. Coal is found within the parish, and mines are worked to a considerable extent in Gwersylt township, where are also some mills for drawing wire, which afford employment to a small number of persons.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £21. 2. 3½., endowed with five-sixteenths of the great tithes, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a spacious and elegant structure, in the later style of English architecture, with a lofty square embattled tower, of fine proportions, and richly ornamented on the summit with the figures of the twelve apostles, alternated with crocketed pinnacles, and in the south-west angle with an elaborately enriched ogee canopy, surmounting a niche of beautiful design, in which is a statue of Henry VII. The interior consists of a nave, chancel, and north and south aisles, the roofs of which are of oak, panelled, and profusely ornamented with fruit and flowers exquisitely carved: the ancient rood-loft screen, which is of very superior workmanship, is still remaining entire, and separates the nave from the chancel; in the latter are twelve ancient stalls of oak richly carved. In the north aisle is a beautiful niche, surmounted by an enriched canopy, and in the south aisle a piscina of elegant design: in several of the windows are some fine remains of ancient stained glass. Under an arch in the north aisle is an ancient stone coffin, on the lid of which is a shield charged with armorial bearings, round which is inscribed *Hic jacet Gronow ap Iorworth ap Dafydd, &c.*, with the date 1321; and under a flat arch in the south aisle is an altar-tomb, with a recumbent effigy clothed in chain mail, supposed to be that of Madoc ab Llewelyn ab Gruffydd. There are several monuments to the family of Trevor of Trêvalyn, one of which, erected in 1638, during his lifetime, is to the memory of Sir Richard Trevor and his wife Catherine, who are represented in a kneeling posture: the inscription records that he served thirty years in the wars in Ireland, and was governor of Newry, the counties of Down and Armagh, and vice-admiral of North Wales, and that he lived to see his great grandchildren. In the chancel are, a monument by Westmacott to the memory of J. Parry, Esq., late M. P. for the county of Carnarvon; and a white marble tablet to the memory of William Egerton, Esq., with a bust of this gentleman, finely executed by Chantrey. There was formerly a chapel of ease at Allington, but no vestiges of it are now discernible, except the cemetery. At Gwersylt is a place of worship for Baptists; at Allington, one for Calvinistic Methodists; and at Merford, one for Wesleyan Methodists.

Dame Margaret Strode, widow of Sir George Strode, of the Inner Temple, London, by will in 1715, gave £500 in trust to the Bishop of St. Asaph and others, for the purchase of lands, the produce of which was to be appropriated to clothing and instructing three poor boys and three poor girls of this parish, and, if the funds would suffice, to apprenticing them to masters and mistresses of the church of England. Of this sum, £450 was vested in the purchase of land in this parish,

producing a rental of £18 per annum. Dame Dorothy Jeffreys, of Acton, in the parish of Wrexham, in 1728, gave £50 in trust for the instruction of poor children of this parish; and in 1758, the sum of £114, which had accumulated from the former legacy, and £86 from the latter, making together £200, were placed out in mortgage on a farm purchased by the parish, which now realises five per cent. interest. With these sums three poor boys and three poor girls are clothed, taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, and, when of a proper age, are apprenticed with small premiums, when the funds will allow it. In the school-room, which was erected from the funds of Dame Margaret Strode, and is situated near the church, the children of the parish are, together with those on the foundation, gratuitously instructed by subscription. Mrs. Shakerley, of Lower Gwersylt, in 1757, bequeathed £200 for the purchase of lands, directing the rental to be applied in clothing and apprenticing, to husbandry and housewifery, six poor children of this parish. No application having been made for apprenticing, for several years, this sum has accumulated, and the proceeds now amount to £45 per annum. Mrs. Jane Shakerley, in 1777, bequeathed £100, to be applied in the same manner as the last-named bequest. Mrs. Anne Shakerley, in 1748, and the dowager Lady Williams, sister to these two benefactresses, each bequeathed £100, directing the interest to be laid out in clothing the aged poor of the parish, to which purpose is also applied the interest arising from the other benefactions, when no premiums are paid for apprenticing poor children, according to the intention of the respective benefactors. Near the church, and adjacent to the school-house, are two unendowed almshouses. Mr. John Davies, of London, in 1595, bequeathed a rent-charge of £13. 6. 8., on his estate at Allington, to the poor of this parish, among whom are also distributed the proceeds of other charitable bequests. Wat's Dyke passes through the parish, and may be distinctly traced along the eastern bank of the river Alyn, in a direction towards Caergwrlle. Sir Richard Trevor, whose monument is in the church, was born in this parish, and resided at the ancient mansion in the township of Allington, or, as it is sometimes called, Trêvalyn: in this old hall is his portrait, with some emblematic allusions to his former life as a warrior, and his subsequent application to devotion and retirement. At Merford is an ancient British camp, called "the Roft," on an eminence commanding prospects of amazing extent and variety, chiefly over the Vale of Cheshire; and in the township of Erddig is another strong intrenchment, called "the Roman Fort." The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £1157. 16.

GRESHOLM, an island, situated off the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, six leagues (N. W.) from Milford Haven. This is one of the largest and most central of a line of isles and rocks which extends in a westerly direction, at some distance from Skomar Isle on the coast of Pembrokeshire, and terminates at the "Smalls," on which is a lighthouse. Gresholm is lofty, steep, and nearly circular, and is generally the first land seen on approaching Milford from the west. Between this island and the "Smalls," but nearer the latter, is a ledge of rocks, about a mile long, which are visible at low water, and are named the



"Hats and Barrels;" and about a league from Gresholm, nearly in the same direction, are others, called "Skettle," or "Kettle bottom." All these rocks are extremely dangerous to navigation, as the sounding is upwards of thirty fathoms immediately to the north and south. At the distance of a league from Gresholm, north by west, lies a sunken rock, named the "Pope;" and three leagues to the north-east is the "Augre bank," or "Taradr," connected with the "Mascus," a piece of foul ground which is occasionally dry at low water. This range of rocks presents such opposition to the flood tide, that it is generally high water on the coast from two to four hours before it manifests itself amongst them; and the ebb tide is of course equally late.

GRONDRE, a hamlet in that part of the parish of KILLYMAENLLWYD which is in the hundred of DUNGLEDY, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (N. by E.) from Narberth, containing 23 inhabitants. It forms an inconsiderable and detached portion of the parish, all the rest being situated in the hundred of Derllŷs, county of Carmarthen. The population is exclusively agricultural.

GRWYNE-VAWR (GRWYNAU-VAWR), a hamlet in the parish and hundred of TALGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $6\frac{3}{4}$  miles (N. E.) from Crickhowel, containing 21 inhabitants. This hamlet takes its name from the Grwyney-Vawr stream, which rises in the fastnesses of the Black mountains, passes through the vale here, in the same wild district, and falls into the river Usk near the border of Monmouthshire. It forms the south-eastern extremity of the parish, and is bounded on the east by a detached portion of the county of Hereford. The population is exclusively agricultural. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £14. 17.

GRWYNE-VECHAN (GRWYNAU-VECHAN), a hamlet in the parish and hundred of TALGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  miles (N. N. E.) from Crickhowel, containing 108 inhabitants. This place occupies a valley among the Black Mountains, through which flows the Grwyney-Vechan stream, which gives name to the hamlet, previously to joining the Grwyney-Vawr two miles distant. The population is exclusively agricultural. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure being £26. 2.

GUILDSFIELD (CEGIDVA), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of POOL, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  miles (N.) from Welshpool, containing 2994 inhabitants. This parish, the Welsh name of which signifies a place abounding with hemlock, is bounded on the east by the river Severn: the turnpike road from Welshpool to Oswestry runs through it, one branch passing through the village, and the other, which is the most frequented, in a direction parallel with the river Severn, and between it and the Montgomeryshire canal. It contains about sixteen thousand acres of land, the greater part of which consists of old enclosures: about two thousand acres were enclosed by an act passed in 1787. There are several genteel residences near the village, among which the splendid mansion of Garth claims particular notice: it is a modern structure in the decorated style of English architecture, built by the late Rev. Richard Mytton, at an expense of nearly

£100,000. There is a flannel-manufactory at Pool Quay, a hamlet in this parish. The river Severn is navigable up to this hamlet, and the Montgomeryshire canal passes through the eastern part of the parish: a branch from the latter extends from near Trederwen vôr to within half a mile of the village of Guilsfield, a distance of about three miles, and was constructed a few years ago, at an expense of £2000. The petty sessions for the hundred were held here until the year 1830, when they were removed to Welshpool: the townships of Gungrog-Vechan and Trelydan, and part of those of Garth, Hendrehên, Llan with Trawscoed, Llanerchrochwell, Tyrymyneich, and Varchwel, are within the liberties of that borough.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £11, endowed with a fourth part of the tithes (the remainder belonging to Christ Church College, Oxford), and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is in the decorated style of English architecture, and consists of a nave, with a clerestory, north and south aisles, and a lofty square embattled tower, surmounted by a shingled spire. The aisles are each separated from the nave by a row of four arches, supported by massive pillars: over the south aisle there is a gallery, and another at the west end of the church. The roof is divided into compartments, handsomely adorned with carved work: the font is of considerable antiquity, and in the windows is some ancient stained glass. Among the monuments there is a handsome one of veined marble to the memory of the Rev. James Egerton and his family. The churchyard is ornamented with twelve exceedingly fine yew trees, which, according to a document in the possession of John Jones, Esq., of Crosswood, were planted in the reign of William and Mary, and are all of the same age. The parish register commences in the year 1573, and is the oldest in this part of the country. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. A National school for boys and girls, in which about one hundred are at present instructed, is supported partly by subscription, and partly by a rent-charge of £10 on a farm in the township of Llanerchrochwell, bequeathed by Stephen Thomas. Divers bequests have been made for the benefit of the poor, the produce of which is chiefly distributed in bread and clothing: among the principal are, the sum of £110 by John Davies, in 1731; a rent-charge of £5 by William Jones, in 1735; £200 by Charles Christopher, in 1757; and £90 by Elizabeth Lloyd, in 1778. On a high hill, called the Garva (Gaer Vawr), not far from the village, are vestiges of a Roman encampment; and beyond it a Roman road may be traced for nearly a mile, on the road to Pont-yscowryd. Several ornaments of gold, supposed to be relics of the Romans, have been found near this camp: one is in the shape of a wild boar, about two inches long and one high, which probably decorated a helmet, and is now in the possession of D. Mytton, Esq., M. D. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £1215. 3.

GUMFRESTON, a parish in the hundred of CASTLEMARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (W. by N.) from Tenby, containing 103 inhabitants. This place, from its pleasant situation near the coast, and the highly medicinal properties of some springs



which are strongly impregnated with iron, has for some time been rising into consideration, and is likely to become, under judicious management, a place of fashionable resort during the summer season. Three of these springs, all slightly differing in the properties of their waters, but similar in their ferruginous impregnation, rise in different parts of the churchyard, and at their junction form a small rivulet, which flows through the parish. The water is said to have been found highly efficacious in relieving various disorders, and it is now in contemplation to enclose the springs, and to erect a small pump-room, with other appendages, for the accommodation of visitors, who, from its short distance from Tenby, and its pleasingly rural situation and appearance, are in the habit of resorting to this place for the benefit of the water. Coal of hard quality is found in the parish, but is worked only for the supply of the immediate neighbourhood. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 12. 3½., and in the patronage of John Meyrick, Esq. The church is a handsome structure, romantically situated in a richly wooded dell, where it is concealed from distant view, excepting only its lofty square tower, which forms an object of picturesque and interesting appearance. The parsonage-house, which is pleasantly situated, has been much enlarged and improved by the present incumbent, who is about to establish a Sunday school for the gratuitous instruction of the children of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £75. 12.

**GUNGROG-VECHAN (GYNGROG-VECHAN)**, a township in the parish of **GUILDSFIELD**, within the limits of the borough of **WELSHPOOL**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 1 mile (N.E.) from **Welshpool**. The population is returned with the parish. It is within the liberties of the borough of **Welshpool**, and occupies an eminence on the left bank of the river **Severn**. The **Ellesmere** and **Montgomeryshire** canal passes through this township, which is nearly surrounded by the parish of **Welshpool**, and is therefore placed within the new limits of that borough, under the late Reform Act.

**GWAENYSCOR**, or **GWANNYSGOR (GWAEN-ESGÂR)**, a parish in the Media division of the hundred of **PRESTATYN**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**, 7 miles (N.W.) from **Holywell**, on the road to **Holyhead**, containing 247 inhabitants. This parish, which is embosomed in hills, and surrounded by lofty mountains, abounds with lead-ore; and very extensive mines were for many years worked with considerable advantage to the proprietors, but within the last few years have been discontinued. The village is pleasantly situated at the base of a ridge of hills, on the summit of which are numerous verdant tumuli, supposed to be the sepulchres of persons of distinction at some remote period. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of **St. Asaph**, rated in the king's books at £9. 8. 1½., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the **Bishop of St. Asaph**. The church, dedicated to **St. Mary**, is a small edifice of modern erection, romantically situated amid lofty mountains, and is distinguished for possessing the oldest and most perfect register in the principality, and perhaps even in the kingdom: it commences in the year 1538, at which

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time orders for keeping parish registers were first issued: the entries are regular and entire, and the whole is in excellent preservation. In the village there is a place of worship for **Independents**. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £66. 16.

**GWASTEDYN (GWASTADEDD-VAWR)**, a township in the parish of **NANTMEL**, hundred of **Rhaiadr**, county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**, 2 miles (E. by S.) from **Rhaiadr**, containing 423 inhabitants. It is situated at the western extremity of the parish, and a great part of it is occupied by a very lofty hill, on which one of the largest, if not the most perfect, **carneddau** in the county is found. It consists of a large pile of stones, supposed to contain between thirty and forty cart-loads, thrown into nearly a square form, with a hollow in the centre; but this ancient sepulchral monument has sustained so much injury from the destructive effect of ages, that few traces of order are now observable in its construction. **Dyfryn** wood terminates the declivity of this hill on the west; and the valley on the east is populous and well cultivated. The road from **Builth** to **Rhaiadr** passes along the left bank of the river **Elain**, which bounds the township, parish, and county on the south-west.

**GWEMPA**, a joint hamlet with **Velindre**, in the parish of **LLANGENDEIRN**, hundred of **KIDWELLY**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5 miles (S. S. E.) from **Carmarthen**. The population is included in the return for the parish. This hamlet occupies the southern portion of the parish, and is situated on the left bank of the **Gwendraeth-Vechan** river, which is here crossed by a bridge, on the road from **Carmarthen**: the valley through which the river flows contains some well-cultivated farms.

**GWENDDWR (GWEN-DDWR)**, a parish in the hundred of **TALGARTH**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**, 7 miles (S. by E.) from **Builth**, comprising the North and South divisions, each of which maintains its own poor, and containing 460 inhabitants, of which number, 234 are in the North, and 226 in the South, division. This parish, the name of which signifies "the fair water," is bounded on the east and north-east by the river **Wye**, which separates it from the county of **Radnor**, but is not navigable in this part of its course, and is traversed on that side by the turnpike road from **Hay** to **Builth**, which runs parallel and close to the river. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of **Brecknock**, and diocese of **St. David's**, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £700 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of **Arthur Macnamara, Esq.**, as impropiator of the small tithes: the rectorial tithes, which anciently belonged to the priory of **D'or**, were purchased from the crown, during the reign of **Elizabeth**, by **Sir David Williams**, under whose will they are now vested in trustees for certain charitable purposes. The church, dedicated to **St. Dubricius**, has a substantial steeple, but possesses no other claim to architectural notice. Some writers are of opinion that the celebrated seminary of that holy man was situated on the western bank of the **Wye**, in this parish. There is a place of worship for **Baptists**. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the whole parish amounts to £375. 1., of which, £154. 14. is assessed on the North division, and £220. 7. on the South.



**GWERN-HOWELL** (GWERNI-HYWEL), an extra-parochial district, in the hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (W. S. W.) from Pentre-Voelas, containing 73 inhabitants. This place is said by some to belong to the parish of Corwen, though detached, and thirteen miles distant from the church of that parish. It was assessed with the parish of Cerrig y Druidion for the property tax, and supported its poor separately until within a late period.

**GWERN Y BWLCH**, a township in the parish of CEMMES, hundred of MACHYNLLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. by N.) from Machynlleth, containing 522 inhabitants. It is situated on the right bank of the river Avon Yale, which falls into the Dovey, and on the road from Newtown to Machynlleth. Through a break between the mountains a distant view of Cader Idris is obtained; and this bwlch, or gap, gives name to the township, which contains a great portion of common, affording sheepwalks to the contiguous farms.

**GWERSYLT**, a township in that part of the parish of GRESFORD which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. N. W.) from Wrexham, on the road to Mold, containing 834 inhabitants. This township, which is sometimes regarded as divided into Lower and Upper Gwersylt, is pleasantly situated on elevated ground, commanding in some parts a fine view of the Vale Royal of Cheshire. Here are coal mines in active operation, also two mills for the drawing of wire. There is a place of worship for Baptists. Wat's Dyke, an ancient boundary between England and Wales, is distinctly visible in this township, first pursuing a northerly course from the point of the Alyn, near Kumick's Mill, and then following the eastern bank of that river, until it leaves the parish in a direction towards Caergwrle. At the mansion of Upper Gwersylt resided Colonel John Robinson, who distinguished himself in the civil war of the seventeenth century: the grounds command a fine view of the Hope mountains and of Caergwrle castle, and the walks by the side of the river Alyn are romantically beautiful. Lower Gwersylt, soon after the Restoration, became the property of the ancient and respectable family of the Shakerleys, who have made several benefactions to the poor of the parish, and who abandoned this place on account of a calamitous fire which occurred in April 1738: this ancient seat is now the residence of John Williams, Esq.

**GWIDER** (GWYDRE), a joint hamlet with Quarter Mawr, in the parish of LLANTHOYSAINT, lower division of the hundred of PERVETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES. The population is returned with the parish, the church of which is situated in this hamlet. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor, including Quarter Mawr, amounts to £94. 17.

**GWILLER**, a joint township with Trewern, in the parish of LLANVIHANGEL NANT MELAN, within the liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (S. W.) from New Radnor. The population is returned with Trewern. The parish church is situated in this township, which occupies a small vale in the southern portion of the mountainous district called Radnor Forest, near the source of the

Sommergild brook. Here is also the celebrated cascade called "Water break its neck," which is formed by a stream that rises in the above-mentioned district, and, after a fall of seventy feet perpendicularly, joins that brook. The lower portion of the township is well-wooded; and there is a lake, termed Llŷn Llanillyn, about three-quarters of a mile in circumference.

**GWILLY** (GWILI), a joint hamlet with Iscoed, in the parish of LLANEDY, hundred of CARNWALLON, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (N. N. W.) from Swansea. The population is returned with the parish. It is situated on the left bank of the small river Gwili, which joins the river Loughor at no great distance.

**GWNNWS-ISÂV**, a township in the parish of LLANWNWS, upper division of the hundred of ILAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 10 miles (S. E.) from Aberystwith, containing 467 inhabitants. It is bounded on the north by the river Ystwith, the scenery on the banks of which is romantic and picturesque, and is situated on the road between Aberystwith and Trêgarn: the village consists only of a few scattered dwellings.

**GWRAVOG** (GWÂR HAF OG), a hamlet chiefly in the parish of LLANLLEONVEL, but partly in that of LLANAVAN-VECHAN, hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (W. by S.) from Builth, containing, in the Llanlleonvel portion of it, 78 inhabitants, the population of the remainder being returned with the parish of Llanavan-Vechan. The name of this place signifies literally "the summer bank," which is partly descriptive of it, though the surface chiefly forms part of the northern declivity of a well-wooded eminence, a branch of the Eppynt hills, on the northern side of which flows the river Irvon. The poor are supported by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £22. 9.

**GWREDOG**, a chapelry in that part of the parish of LLANTRISAINT which is in the hundred of MENAI, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. by E.) from Llanerchymedd. The population is returned with the parish. This small chapelry, which consists only of two farms, is situated in a very retired part of the county, and is not distinguished by any feature of interest or importance. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llantrisant, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, is a very small and plain edifice, occupying a solitary situation, almost inaccessible in winter, and without any road leading to it. One poor man of this place is eligible to the almshouses founded at Beaumaris, in 1609, by Mr. David Hughes, who also founded and endowed the free grammar school of that place.

**GWYDDELWERN**, a parish in the hundred of EDEYRNION, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, comprising the three principal divisions of Cwm, Uwch-Avon, and Uwch-Mynydd, each of which maintains its own poor, and containing 1577 inhabitants. The village of Gwyddelwern is in the Cwm division, and occupies a pleasant situation in a small valley, on the road from Corwen to Ruthin, 3 miles (N.) from Corwen. The whole of this parish, comprising about four thousand four hundred acres, is enclosed and under cultivation; but the quality of the soil is extremely various:



the elevated parts, forming the greater portion of the parish, command fine views of the Vale of Edeyrnion, watered by the river Dee, and of the surrounding country. The south-western part is intersected by the road from London to Holyhead, and the two high roads from Corwen to Bala: the road from Corwen to Ruthin also passes through it, and has lately been greatly improved by diverting certain parts of it, in order to avoid the hills over which it previously passed. Peat is procured within the parish, for the consumption of the inhabitants of the district. The manufacture of flannel is carried on at Cynwyd, a village six miles distant from that of Gwyddelwern, in the Uwch-Avon division, which is entirely detached from the two other divisions of the parish. At this village was also anciently held the court for the whole comot of Edeyrnion, which contained thirteen baronies, and had independent manorial rights; but, on a quarrel between the lords, as it is stated, the records were burnt, and the courts have been since discontinued. Fairs are held on April 15th, August 5th, and October 18th.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, not rated in the king's books, endowed with £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph: the tithes of the parish are divided into five equal portions, of which four belong to the vicars choral of St. Asaph, and the fifth to the incumbent. The church, dedicated to St. Beuno, is an ancient building, with a rich eastern window, containing some remains of ancient stained glass: there is a curious old chandelier of wood hanging in the interior. There are several places of worship, in different parts of the parish, for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, with Sunday schools attached to each. The parochial school, situated in the village of Gwyddelwern, is partly supported by subscription, having no permanent endowment. Hugh Roberts, in 1807, bequeathed £200, directing the interest to be applied to the instruction of the children of the Uwch-Avon division and the parish of Llangar, two-thirds to the former, and one-third to the latter: the school-room is situated in the village of Cynwyd, and was built by subscription. Divers small bequests have been made, the interest of which is applied annually for the benefit of the poor of the different divisions. On Bettws mountain, in the Uwch-Mynydd division, are vestiges of an ancient British encampment; and about three-quarters of a mile south of the village of Gwyddelwern, in a field by the road side, there is an artificial mound, surrounded by a fosse, called Tommen y Castell, together with some tumuli. Near Gwyddelwern there is a place called Bryn Saith Marchog, from its being the spot where Owain Glyndwr surprised Reginald de Grey and seven knights, whom he made prisoners: it commands a beautiful view of the small but picturesque vale of Glyn. Above the village of Cynwyd is a picturesque waterfall. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the whole parish amounts to £562. 10.

GWYDIR, a township in that part of the parish of LLANRWST which is in the hundred of NANTCONWAY, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, on the western bank of the river Conway,  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile west from Llanrwst, containing 376 inhabitants. The name is a contraction of *Gwaed-dir*, "the bloody land," either from

this having been the scene of some battles fought by Llywarch Hên, about the year 610, or from a sanguinary conflict which occurred, in 952, between the sons of Hywel Dda and the princes Ievav and Iago. The surface of this township is exceedingly hilly, and within its limits is comprised the greater part of the vast lofty mountain called Moel Siabod, one of the most prominent of the Snowdonian chain. The estate of Gwydir comprises thirty-one thousand acres, of which upwards of two thousand consist of plantations, formed since 1790, and five hundred are in lakes, twelve in number: it includes the whole of this township, and extends into the parishes of Trêvriw, Llanrhychwyn, Bettws y Coed, and Dôlwyddelan, and contains an abundance of lead-ore, zinc, and pyrites, all worked, besides four extensive slate-quarries, in active operation. It came into the possession of the family of Wynne by purchase from a descendant of Howel Coytmor, grandson of Davydd, brother of Llewelyn, the last prince of Wales, whose monument is in the Gwydir chapel adjoining Llanrwst church, and continued for several generations to belong to that family, until it passed, in the year 1678, into that of the Duke of Ancaster, by the marriage of Mary, daughter and heiress of Sir Richard Wynne, with Robert Marquis of Lindsay. Priscilla, Baroness Willoughby de Eresby, elder sister of Robert Duke of Ancaster, having espoused Sir Peter Burrell, Bart., the mansion and estate of Gwydir became the property of that gentleman, who in 1796 was created Baron Gwydir; and, at his death in 1820, it descended to his eldest son, Peter Robert Drummond Burrell, second Lord Gwydir, and present Lord Willoughby de Eresby. The ancient mansion was situated beneath the wood-clad rock, called Carreg y Gwalch, or "The Rock of the Falcon:" it was built by John Wynne ab Meredydd, in 1555, and consisted of a greater and a lesser court, but was taken down in 1816, since which time the present structure, on a much smaller scale, has been erected: a small portion of the former mansion still remains, and is now being fitted up in an antique and elegant style: the grounds are laid out with corresponding judgment and taste. In the plantations above the Lower Gwydir stood another edifice, called the Upper Gwydir, which was pulled down several years ago, and the walls of which were almost covered with inscriptions; it was erected in 1604, by Sir John Wynne, who distinguished himself by his partiality to antiquarian researches, and by compiling the memoirs of his family, as a kind of summer house, embracing a fine prospect of the rich and beautiful Vale of Conway, and of the picturesque scenery with which this mountainous district abounds. Near its site stands a small handsome chapel, built by Sir Richard Wynne, in 1673, and lately improved by the present noble possessor of the estate, whose domestic chaplain performs divine service in it, every Sunday, in the English language, which affords great accommodation to the numerous English families resident in the neighbourhood. Carreg y Gwalch was the retreat of Davydd ab Shenkin, a noted partisan of the house of Lancaster, who for some time concealed himself in a cave, called from that circumstance Ogo Davydd ab Shenkin. Mr. Pennant says that the "noblest oaks in all Wales grew on this rock, within memory of man," although they are "totally destitute of earth for a considerable way, so that



the nutriment which the oaks received must have been derived from the deep penetration of the roots, through the fissures of the stones, into some nutritive matter." This township is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £164. 4.

GWYNDY (GWIN-DY, or GWYN-DY), a chapelry in the parish of LLANDRYGARN, hundred of LLYVON, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. by S.) from Bangor. The population is included in the return for the parish. It formerly formed a part of the parish of Holyhead, and is considered to be situated half-way between that port and Menai bridge, though somewhat nearer the former. There is a post-office attached to the inn, which is the principal house in the place.

GWYNVE (GWINVAI), a chapelry in the parish of LLANGADOCK, lower division of the hundred of PER-VETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. S. E.) from Llangadock, containing 845 inhabitants. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Llangadock. This chapelry is situated in a valley in the western division of the Black Mountains, from which the Clydach and Sawdde Vechan streams descend, and, after uniting, join the Sawdde on the northern confines of the chapelry. It contains within its limits a seat of the same name, the property of L. Lewis, Esq. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £325. 11.

GWYNVIL, a township in the parish of LLANDEWY-BREVI, lower division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $6\frac{3}{4}$  miles (N. E. by N.) from Lampeter, containing 315 inhabitants. A chapel, dedicated to St. Gwynvil, which formerly existed here, is now in ruins. There are a few respectable and ornamental residences overlooking the vale of the Teivy. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure being £28. 3.

GWYOTHERIN, a parish in the hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (E. S. E.) from Llanrwst, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, and containing 463 inhabitants. Within this parish, which is situated in the mountainous district of the county, are the sources of the rivers Elwy, Aled, and Alwen, upon the first of which, about two miles below its source, the village is pleasantly seated. The surface of the surrounding country is beautifully diversified, and in many parts the scenery is highly picturesque: within the parish are three noble lakes, Llŷn Alwen, Llŷn Moelvre, and Llŷn Aled, the last of which is enclosed on almost every side by mountains covered with dark and barren heath. St. Winifred is said to have retired hither on the death of Beuno, and to have placed herself under the protection of St. Elerius, who at that time was living in devotional seclusion at this sequestered village, where, finding a convent of nuns under the superintendence of Theonia, she assumed the veil, and after some years' residence became abbess, on the death of her predecessor. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £6. 12. 1., and in the

patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. James, or, as some with probability assert, to St. Gwytherin, who lived in the latter part of the sixth century, is a spacious and ancient structure, but in a very dilapidated condition: in it were deposited the mortal remains of Theonia and St. Winifred, which latter were removed, after a lapse of five hundred years from her death, to Shrewsbury: the wooden chest in which these were preserved is still kept; and in the churchyard are four upright stones, marking the site of her grave, one of which is inscribed and ornamented with a scroll and running foliage. There is also a very ancient gravestone, ornamented with a cross fleury and chalice, and bearing an inscription, which is now almost illegible. Of the chapel of St. Winifred, which stood on the south side of the church, there is not a single vestige, nor can any traces be discovered of the convent over which she is said to have presided. The Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists have each a place of worship. The interest arising from several charitable bequests is annually distributed among the poor of the parish, on St. Thomas's day. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the two divisions amounts to £161. 11.

GYFIN, a parish in the hundred of LLÊCHWEDD-ISÂV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES,  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile (S. by W.) from Aberconway, on the road to Llanrwst, containing 641 inhabitants. This parish, which lies adjacent to, and is intimately connected with, the borough of Aberconway, is distinguished as the scene of a memorable battle, which took place in 880, between the forces of Anarawd, Prince of North Wales, and those of Eadred, Earl of Mercia, in which the latter were defeated with considerable slaughter. It was also here that Llewelyn ab Iorwerth founded the Cistercian abbey, originally called Caer Gyfin abbey, and afterwards Conway abbey, which Edward I. removed to Maenan, when he erected Conway castle, in 1284. The village is pleasantly situated on the small river Gyfin, from which the parish takes its name, and near the confluence of this stream with the river Conway: from its proximity to the port of Aberconway, it shares in all the commercial advantages of that town, of which, indeed, it may be considered as forming an integral part. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £1600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Dean of Bangor, as impropiator of the tithes. The church, dedicated to St. Benedict, is obscurely situated, and in a state of dilapidation. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. The Rev. John Jones, Dean of Bangor, in 1719, bequeathed £100 for teaching twelve poor children of this parish to read Welsh, the interest of which sum is appropriated to that purpose; and there are some trifling charitable donations and bequests for distribution among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £254.

## H.

HALGSTON, called by the Welsh HALCHDIN, a township in the parish of HANMER, hundred of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles



(N. by E.) from Ellesmere, containing 491 inhabitants. It is situated about half-way on the road between Wrexham and Whitchurch, and is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £355. 2.

HALKIN (HELYGEN), a parish in the Northop division of the hundred of COLESHILL, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S.E. by S.) from Holywell, on the road from Chester to Holyhead, containing 1538 inhabitants. The tract of country in which this parish is situated was, at the time of the Norman Conquest, called *Alchene*, from which its present name is derived: the parish contains about one thousand eight hundred acres, having generally a light and productive soil. The village, which has arisen within the present century, and greatly increased since the discovery of some rich mines in the vicinity, is pleasantly situated in a fertile country; and the elevated ground adjacent to it commands a fine prospect of the surrounding country, which, on the north, east, and south, expands into an almost boundless view. The æstuary of the Dee, with the city of Chester at its higher extremity, and the ruins of Flint castle on its southern shore, appears to the north-east, and beyond it the barren peninsula of Wirrall, and the river Mersey, with the Lancashire hills, and the mountains of Derbyshire, Yorkshire, and even Cumberland, in the distance; while the castles of Beeston and Hawarden, and the richly wooded tract between the latter place and Northop, occupy the fore-ground. At a small distance from the village rises the Halkin mountain, rich in mineral treasures, and extending into the parishes of Northop, Ysceiviog, and Holywell, which is one continued series of excavations made in search of lead-ore, of which no part of the principality has been more productive. The late Sir George Wynne is said to have cleared £300,000 by a mine which was discovered in the township of Lygan. The British Mining Company have very considerable works here, which are carried on with success, under the name of the Halkin Mine Company, and there are several others on a smaller scale throughout the whole range of the Halkin mountain. The great Grosvenor mine is said to have been discovered by a peasant cutting a ditch fence. In the lead mines of this neighbourhood, and imbedded in the white clay of the mountain, fossils of almost every variety are found in abundance. The clay above mentioned is in much repute, and is sent to Liverpool in great quantities. Chert, of a beautiful white colour, which is highly esteemed, is also found, and much of it is sent into Staffordshire, to be used in the earthenware manufacture. The whole of the mineral property of the Halkin mountain belongs to the Marquis of Westminster, who, in 1827, erected near the village a splendid castellated mansion, in the ancient English style of architecture, commanding some of the finest views for which the strikingly diversified scenery of this neighbourhood is celebrated; this seat, called Halkin Castle, is occasionally the residence of that nobleman's family. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £14. 7. 11., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small modern edifice, erected in 1745, and contains several good monuments. In the village is a place of worship

for Wesleyan Methodists; at Pentre, one for Calvinistic Methodists; and at Trêv y Cae, one for Independents. A parochial school was founded here in 1829, principally at the expense of the Marquis of Westminster, who pays £60 per annum towards its support: seventy boys and sixty girls receive gratuitous instruction in it. Mr. Henry Lewis bequeathed £50, Mrs. Wynne £30, and Mr. H. Ellis £18, the interest of which sums is annually divided among the poor at Christmas: there are also several other bequests mentioned on the tablets in the church, but, with the exception of the above mentioned, they have all by some means been lost. The Rev. P. Roberts, author of the *Harmony of the Epistles*, *Letters to Volney*, *History of the Cymry*, and various other literary productions, was rector of this parish, in which he died, in May 1819: his remains were interred in the church, and a small mural monument has been erected to his memory on the north side of it. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £479. 9.

HANMER, a parish in the hundred of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, comprising the townships of Bettisfield, Bronington, Halgston, Hanmer, Tybroughton, and Willington, each of which is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, and containing 2731 inhabitants, of which number, 546 are in the township of Hanmer, 5 miles (N. E.) from Ellesmere, on the road from Wrexham to Whitchurch. This parish, anciently called *Handmere*, and subsequently *Hanmere*, takes its name from a spacious mere, or lake, in form resembling a human hand, on one side of which the village is pleasantly situated. This fine sheet of water covers a space of seventy-three acres, and derives a great degree of picturesque beauty from the rich woodlands in its immediate vicinity, interspersed with highly cultivated eminences; from the venerable embattled parochial church, with the circumjacent village; from the principal seat of the Hanmer family, which ornaments its banks on the one side; and from the handsome mansion erected by Lord Kenyon, on the site of the old house of Gredington, which, with its extensive plantations and spacious pleasure grounds, adorns its opposite shores. The situation of the village, and the appearance of the country around it, are strikingly beautiful: the enclosures are small, and the fences full of fine oak timber, of nearly one hundred years' growth, which gives to the scenery, especially near Gredington, a stately magnificence of character. The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Chester, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Sir John Hanmer, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Chad, is a spacious and handsome structure, in the later style of English architecture, with a lofty square embattled tower: from the numerous shields bearing the arms of Hanmer, which are ornamentally distributed through every part of the edifice, it was probably erected by that family in the reign of Henry VII. The interior consists of a nave, aisles, and chancel, with the two chapels of the Fenns and the Hanmers: the roof of the church is of carved oak, and those of the north aisle and the Fenns' chapel are elegantly panelled in small compartments, and richly ornamented with wreaths of flowers, fruit, and foliage. The roof of the Hanmer chapel is of exquisitely carved oak, and the



floor is laid with Saxon tiles : in this chapel are monuments to several of the family, among which are those of Sir Thomas Hanmer, Bart., who died in 1678, and his grandson, Sir Thomas Hanmer, Speaker of the House of Commons in the reign of Anne : this latter gentleman, who died in 1746, is also well known for his superb edition of Shakspeare's Plays, with annotations, in six volumes, published by the University of Oxford, to which he presented the manuscript. In the chancel of the church is a fine mural monument to the memory of Lloyd, Lord Kenyon, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, who died in 1802 : it has a figure of his lordship in his robes, in a sitting posture, under a canopy supported by well-sculptured figures, emblematic of Faith and Justice. In the north aisle is a monument to the memory of Mary, widow of the Lord Chief Justice, which presents a figure of Mary at the feet of the Saviour, beautifully sculptured : both these monuments are from the chisel of Mr. Bacon, Jun., and for beauty of design, delicacy in the draperies, and spirit in the execution, reflect great credit on the artist. In the churchyard, within an iron palisade, is the tomb of Luke and Catherine Lloyd, of the Bryn, who lived together in conjugal bonds for the long period of sixty-eight years.

Mrs. Katherine Eddowes, of Halgston, in 1674, gave to Luke Lloyd, Esq., and others, estates in Sesswick and Pickhill, in the county of Denbigh, in trust, for the support of a schoolmaster, to instruct the poor children of this parish : the estates at present produce a rental of £30, which is applied to that purpose, and for which all the children in the parish are gratuitously taught. In 1624, Sir J. Hanmer, Bart., bequeathed the tithes of Bettisfield for the better maintenance of a "learned preacher in the parish church of Hanmer." In 1730, Sir Thomas Hanmer gave £40 to the poor, making, with several previous donations, the sum of £576, which has been invested in the purchase of a farm, and conveyed to the vicar of the parish and others, in trust, to distribute the annual rental, which is now £50, in clothing to the poor of the parish. At a short distance to the east of the village is Hanmer Hall, the residence of Sir John Hanmer, Bart., a handsome modern mansion of brick, commanding from the grounds much finely varied scenery, and from a turret by which it is surmounted an extensive and almost boundless prospect of the surrounding country, extending into no fewer than nine different counties. About a mile and a half from Hanmer Hall is Bettisfield, the original seat of the Hammers, an ancient brick mansion, pleasantly situated, in which is a fine collection of family portraits by eminent artists : among these are, a head of the late Sir Thomas Hanmer, by Kneller ; a portrait of Isabella, Duchess of Grafton, and Countess of Arlington, married to Sir Thomas Hanmer, in 1698 ; a head of Sir Thomas Hanmer, the second baronet of this family, and another of his wife Susan, daughter of Sir William Hervey ; a portrait, by Cornelius Jansen, of which the subject is unknown ; a portrait, by Kneller, of Sir Thomas Hanmer, robed as Speaker of the House of Commons ; a highly finished head of Charles I., a three-quarters' portrait of the same monarch, and of his Queen, Henrietta Maria ; a portrait of Lady Hanmer, of Lady Warner *à la Magdalone*, and others. About a mile west-south-west from the church is Gredington, formerly a seat belonging to

Sir John Hanmer, from whom it was purchased, in the reign of Charles II., by the Rev. Richard Hilton, vicar of this parish, and passed by marriage with his daughter to Robert Eddowes, of Eagle Hall, Cheshire, whose daughter Jane conveyed it by marriage to Lloyd Kenyon, Esq., in 1729, whose second son Lloyd, Lord Kenyon, the Lord Chief Justice, built part of the present mansion, especially a dining-room and drawing-room, with oriel windows, also the stables, and laid out part of the gardens : the present mansion has been almost rebuilt on the old site by the present Lord Kenyon, after a design by Mr. Harrison, of Chester, in a style of great elegance, and is surrounded by a considerable demesne, including upwards of sixteen acres of woodland, of about one hundred years' growth, to which has been added nearly the same quantity within the present century : the pleasure grounds, including the gardens, which are tastefully laid out, occupy about eight acres, and about one hundred acres more are laid down in pastures, meadows, and other farming land. The house contains some fine paintings by eminent masters, among which are portraits, by Romney, of Lord Chief Justice Kenyon, and Lord Thurlow, Lord High Chancellor ; and two curious paintings, by a French artist, of the eldest son and daughter of James II., given by that monarch to Dr. Kenyon, who, as his physician, attended His Majesty to St. Germain's : in the bosom of the princess is a nosegay of flowers, painted by her own hand. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the whole parish amounts to £1488. 7., of which, £237. 11. is the proportion raised for the township of Hanmer.

HARLECH, a small decayed town, formerly a borough, in the parish of LLANDANWG, hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH (of which it is the ancient shire town), NORTH WALES, 20 miles (N. W.) from Dôlgeley, by Barmouth, 32 (W. by S.) from Bala, by Festiniog and Maentwrog, and 229 (W. N. W.) from London. The population is returned with the parish. This place is conjectured by some writers to have been a fortified post of the Romans, constructed to defend the openings of the two æstuaries to the north of it, called respectively the Traeth Mawr and the Traeth Bâch, and to secure a communication with the opposite shore ; but this opinion rests only upon the discovery of some Roman coins and a golden torques in the vicinity. It is evident that it was formerly a fortified post of the ancient Britons, and was called Tŵr Bronwen, from Bronwen, the sister of Brân ab Llŷr, Prince of Siluria, or Gwent. It afterwards obtained the name of Caer Collwyn, from having been, towards the close of the ninth century, the residence of Collwyn ab Tango, one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales, and lord of Eivionydd, Ardudwy, and part of Lley, who inhabited a square tower which subsequently became a portion of the more modern castle, and of which there are yet some remains. According to some of the British historians, the castle was founded, so early as the year 530, by Maelgwyn Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales : the present structure was built by Edward I., upon the ruins of the former, and was either called Arlech, from its situation upon a rock, or by its present name of Harlech, which signifies "the fair rock : " it was completed prior to the year 1283, for at that time Hugh de Wlonkeslow was constable, with a small garrison



under him, and had an allowance of £100 per annum, which, however, was afterwards much reduced. Owain Glyndwr, during the furious and destructive war which he waged against Henry IV., forcibly took possession of this fortress, in 1404; but it was retaken by the English troops within three years afterwards. In 1459, it became the asylum of Margaret of Anjou, queen of Henry VI., who, after the disastrous battle of Northampton, retired to Coventry, and thence to this fortress, from which, after a short stay, she departed for Scotland, again to take the field in the North of England. On the accession of Edward IV. to the throne, that monarch soon became master of the whole of the kingdom, except two or three strong fortresses in Northumberland, and Harlech castle. The latter was held by Davydd ab Ievan ab Einion, a man of great stature and dauntless valour, and one of the most staunch supporters of the Lancastrian cause. To effect its reduction, Edward, in 1468, despatched Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, with a strong body of men, who, after encountering the most formidable difficulties in their march through a rugged alpine territory, the line of which was afterwards called *Le Herbert*, or "Herbert's Way," invested the castle. The earl entrusted the prosecution of the siege to his brother, Sir Richard Herbert, a knight equal in prowess and bravery to the Welsh commander, whom he summoned to surrender, but received only a laconic and humorous refusal. Finding that the place was so strong, as only to be reduced by famine, after a siege of no ordinary duration, he entered into terms of honourable capitulation with Davydd, whose security and protection he guaranteed by intercession with his sovereign; but in this he was at first unsuccessful, until he boldly offered his own life, and threatened to reinstate the Welsh hero in his impregnable fortress, apprizing the king, at the same time, of the difficulty of obtaining possession of it. From a manuscript in the Cotton Library it appears that, in the reign of Elizabeth, the garrison of Harlech castle consisted of twenty-four men, commanded by a constable receiving an annual allowance of fifty pounds. In 1624, much damage was done to the cattle and other farming stock of the neighbourhood by an extraordinary mephitic vapour, which arose from the sea, and is conjectured by Camden's Annalist, Bishop Gibson, to have been caused by the putrefaction of a great swarm of locusts, which visited the neighbouring coasts about this time, and was suddenly destroyed by the coldness of the climate. During the civil war of the seventeenth century, this castle was alternately in the hands of both parties. Sir Hugh Pennant bravely defended it for the king, until deserted by his men, when it was surrendered to the parliament: subsequently it was again possessed by the royalists, from whom it was ultimately taken by Gen. Mytton, in March 1647, at which time the garrison consisted of twenty-eight men, under the command of Capt. William Owen: it was the last fortress in Wales which held out for the king, in like manner as it appears to have been among the last defended for the house of Lancaster.

The town, which is situated on the shore of the northern part of the great bay of Cardigan, having on one side some of the wildest and most desolate mountains in the principality, and on the other the wide

expanse of sea which separates this part of Merionethshire from the great promontory of Llyn in Carnarvonshire, has declined into little more than a village of inferior size and insignificant appearance. It was made a free borough by Edward I., who granted it certain lands, privileges, and immunities, and placed it under the government of two bailiffs, a recorder, sergeant at mace, and other officers; but the chief of its burgensic privileges were abrogated by an act of enclosure in 1806, and there are now only five burgesses remaining, whose duty is confined to their meeting the parliamentary representative of the county, on the day of election, at the extremity of the town, and walking before him, with wands in their hands, to the town-hall, and thence to his place of abode; and this is the only remnant of municipal authority which the town retains. Owing to the unimportance of the Merionethshire towns, the privilege of sending a member to parliament, granted to those of the other Welsh counties by the 27th of Henry VIII., was withheld from Harlech and the other boroughs of this county; and in lieu thereof, the flourishing town of Haverfordwest, in Pembrokeshire, was invested with the franchise. The county assizes were formerly held here, but were removed to other places about two centuries ago; and the county court was removed from Harlech about the commencement of the present century: the building in which the assizes were held is still standing. The market, which was on Saturday, has fallen into disuse: fairs are held on March 4th, April 14th, the Thursday in Trinity week, June 10th, August 16th, September 22nd, and October 11th, chiefly for the sale of live stock. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, with Sunday schools attached. Here is a parochial school, endowed with £10 per annum by the Rev. John Ellis.

The castle stands on the edge of a lofty perpendicular rock, which overhangs an extensive marsh, once covered by the sea, but enclosed by the act passed in 1806. The buildings surround a spacious square area, at each angle of which is a circular tower, with a turret rising from one of its sides; and on each side of the entrance is also a tower: the apartments, now roofless, are of large dimensions, particularly the banqueting hall, which is seventy-five feet long and thirty in width, and was lighted by four lofty windows on the side facing the sea: the other parts most easily distinguishable are the state chamber, the white chamber, the chapel, dungeons, keep, and water gate; and on the lower part of the rock, adjoining the marsh, are vestiges of walls, with towers of defence. Part of the walls of the original edifice, of native Welsh construction, are yet apparent, the more modern works in some places resting upon them. This fortress was inaccessible on the side next the sea, and was protected on the other by a fosse of extraordinary depth and width, which, prior to the invention of gunpowder, rendered it impregnable. A constable is still appointed, the office being at present filled by Col. Vaughan, of Rûg. From the castle is obtained a delightful view of Cardigan bay and the Carnarvonshire hills, with the lofty Snowdon towering above the rest. The golden torques above mentioned, which was dug up in 1692, in a garden near the castle, is now in the possession of Edward Mostyn Lloyd Mostyn, Esq.: it is a round wreathed flexible bar, about



four feet long, composed of three or four rods twisted together, the spiral furrows being separated by sharp intervening ridges, running its entire length: the ends are plain, truncated, and turned back like pot-hooks: it is about an inch in circumference, weighs eight ounces, and is supposed to have been a Roman British ornamental badge of dignity, hung round the neck and breast, with the quiver suspended from it behind. In the vicinity are some scattered vestiges of ancient Druidical monuments.

**HARMON (ST.)**, a parish in the hundred of **RHAIADR**, county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**, 3 miles (N. N. E.) from Rhaiadr, containing 828 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from that of the saint to whom its church is dedicated, is pleasantly situated on the river Wye, by which it is separated from the adjacent parish of Cwm-toyddwr, and is about four miles in length, and, across the centre, nearly the same in breadth. The lands are but partially enclosed, and only a portion of them is under cultivation: slate is found in the neighbourhood, and some quarries are worked in the parish, which is intersected by the high road from Rhaiadr to Llanidloes, in the county of Montgomery. This place constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, rated in the king's books at £3. 17. 3½, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 15. 2½, endowed with £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Garmon, and rebuilt in the year 1823, is a neat plain edifice, consisting of a nave, chancel, and aisles, without either tower or spire, having one small bell suspended beneath a shed. There are places of worship for Anabaptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists; and Sunday schools, in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations, are supported by subscription. The produce of some small charitable donations and bequests by unknown benefactors, amounting in the whole to fifty shillings, is annually distributed among the poor on New Year's day. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £326. 4.

**HARPTON**, a township in the parish of **OLD RADNOR**, within the liberties of the borough of **NEW RADNOR**, county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**, 1¾ mile (S. E.) from New Radnor, containing 212 inhabitants. This township, of which the Welsh name is *Trêv y Delyn*, is situated on the road from New Radnor to Kington, and the principal respectable residence is Harpton Court. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £62. 17.

**HARROLDSTON (ST. ISSELS)**, or **EAST HARROLDSTON**, a parish in the hundred of **RHÔS**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 1½ mile (S. E. by S.) from Haverfordwest, containing 304 inhabitants. This parish, which is pleasantly situated on the bank of the western Cleddau, appears to have derived its name from Harold, the founder of an ancient family of distinction, that for several generations occupied an old seat here, which, by marriage with Alice, daughter and sole heiress of Sir Richard Harold, passed to the family of Perrot, ancestors of Sir John Perrot, Lord Deputy of Ireland in the reign of Elizabeth, and first high sheriff of this

county, who was a native of this place: the ancient mansion is now in a very dilapidated condition. Fern Hill, the seat of Sir Henry Matthias, Knt., is pleasantly situated on the bank of the river Cleddau, and surrounded by thriving plantations. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of James Higgon, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Ishmael. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. The hermitage of St. Caradoc, it is said, was in this parish; and on the common within the limits of which the Haverfordwest races are held is a well, still called St. Caradoc's Well, round which, till within the last few years, a pleasure fair, or festival, was annually held, for the celebration of rustic sports. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £50. 14.

**HARROLDSTON (WEST)**, a parish in the hundred of **RHÔS**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5½ miles (W.) from Haverfordwest, containing 155 inhabitants. This place, distinguished by its adjunct from Harroldston East, or St. Issels, like it derives its name from an ancient Anglo-Norman proprietor, who, as well as his successors, was lord paramount over several manors in this part of the principality: the residence of these lords was at this place, which, from the foundations of ancient buildings still remaining, appears to have been formerly of much greater extent than at present. The parish is finely situated on the eastern shore of St. Bride's bay, in St. George's channel, and comprises a considerable tract of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is richly diversified, and the views from the higher grounds embrace extensive prospects over the channel and the adjacent country, which abounds with picturesque beauty. The parish rates are collected by the ploughland. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Master and Fellows of Pembroke College, Oxford. The church, dedicated to St. Madoc, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £47. 18.

**HASGUARD**, a parish in the hundred of **RHÔS**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 4½ miles (N. W. by W.) from Milford, containing 106 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated in the western part of the county, and nearly in the centre of the peninsula which separates Milford haven from St. Bride's bay. The lands are all enclosed and cultivated, and the soil is generally productive; but the surrounding scenery, though pleasingly varied, is not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature. The views from the higher grounds embrace some fine prospects over the adjacent country, having in the distance St. Bride's bay on the north, and Milford haven on the south. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £18. 6. 6., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is not remarkable for any architectural details of importance. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £100. 12.





Arms.

**HAVERFORDWEST**, a sea-port, borough, and market town, and a county of itself, locally in the hundred of Rhôs, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $10\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.) from Pembroke, and 250 (W. by N.) from London, through Gloucester and Monmouth, containing 4328 inhabitants. This town, called by the Welsh *Hwlfordd*, of which

its present name is supposed to be a corruption, with the addition of another distinguishing syllable, was originally built by the Flemings, who, driven from their native country by an inundation of the sea, which laid waste a great part of Flanders, obtained from Henry I. an asylum in England, and were subsequently settled by that monarch in this part of Wales, in order to serve in some degree as a check upon the movements of the native inhabitants, who were constantly endeavouring to recover the territories of which they had been dispossessed by the English. The Flemings, who were equally expert in husbandry and in war, maintained possession of the district which had been assigned to them, notwithstanding all the efforts of the Welsh to regain their ancient possessions; and their descendants, who are easily distinguished from those of the aboriginal inhabitants by their language and manners, still constitute a distinct class among the inhabitants of the principality. The district in which these strangers thus settled, and of which Haverfordwest became the metropolis, obtained, from the similarity which subsisted, between the Flemings and the English, both in manners and in language, the appellation of "Little England beyond Wales." The town was fortified with a strong castle, erected on a commanding eminence above the Western Cleddau river, and surrounded by an embattled wall having four principal gates, three of which remained in nearly a perfect state till within a very recent period, but have been subsequently removed. The erection of the castle is by most writers attributed to Gilbert de Clare, first Earl of Pembroke, who appointed Richard Fitz-Tancred his castellan, upon whom he also conferred the lordship of Haverfordwest, in which he was succeeded by his son Robert, called also Robert de Hwlfordd, who founded on the bank of the river, at a short distance from the town, a priory of Black canons, in which he afterwards passed the remainder of his days. The lordship, upon this, devolved to the crown, and was granted by King John to Walter Marshall, or le Mareschal, from whose descendants it again reverted to the crown in the reign of Henry VII., and since that time has continued to form part of the royal demesnes. In 1220, Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, taking advantage of the absence of the Earl of Pembroke, who had been appointed by Henry III. to the command of his forces in Ireland, laid waste the territories of that nobleman in Wales, and extended his ravages to this place, but was unable to make any impression on the castle. Richard II. honoured the town with his presence, and conferred upon it many valuable privileges: during his stay he confirmed a grant made by Robert Niger, of a burgage in Haverfordwest, to the Friars

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Preachers, which was the last public act of his reign. In that of Henry IV., the command of this fortress was entrusted to the Earl of Arundel, who valiantly defended it against the assaults of the French auxiliaries whom Charles VII. of France had sent over to the aid of Owain Glyndwr. These forces, immediately after landing at Milford, advanced to this place and laid siege to the castle, but they experienced so formidable a resistance from the garrison, and sustained so considerable a loss in their numbers, that, after setting fire to the town and suburbs, they were compelled to abandon their attempt to reduce it. During the civil war in the seventeenth century, the castle was garrisoned for the King by Sir John Stepney, but was never regularly besieged: the garrison, apprized of the rapid successes of the parliamentarians in the surrounding country, hastily withdrew, leaving behind them their ordnance and all their military stores and ammunition.

The town, which may be regarded as the modern capital of Pembrokeshire, is finely situated at one of the inland extremities of Milford Haven, upon the declivities, and at the base, of very steep hills, round which the Western Cleddau flows: it consists of numerous streets, some of which are regularly built, and contain the town residences of many of the neighbouring gentry; others are steep and narrow, and, from the inequalities of the ground, which prevail throughout the town, travelling is attended with much inconvenience. The streets are but indifferently paved, and the town is partially supplied with water from the "Fountain Head," on the road to Milford, which is brought by pipes into a public conduit; and also to private houses, on the payment of a small annual rate to the lessee of the corporation, by whom this plan for supplying the town was carried into effect about a century ago. Considerable alterations are at present contemplated under the provisions of an act of parliament, about to be obtained, for removing nuisances and widening the streets and bridges. The plan embraces the removal of certain obstructions in the line of a new street, to be formed in continuation of the High-street, to Cartlet bridge, on the other side of the river, a distance of a quarter of a mile; the erection of a new bridge across the Cleddau, and the improvement of the other approaches; lighting the town with gas, the supply of the upper part of it with water, and the construction of a common sewer. These alterations, which are to be carried into effect under the superintendence of Messrs. W. and J. Owen, architects of this place, will materially contribute to the improvement of the town, and render it in every respect worthy of the distinguished rank which it holds among the chief towns in the principality. The views from the higher grounds are extensive; and along the summit of the castle hill is a public walk, overlooking the river and the ruins of the ancient priory, and commanding an extensive prospect of the surrounding country. Theatrical performances occasionally take place by itinerant companies, but no particular building is appropriated to that use; and meetings are held at the assembly-rooms, which, though possessing no exterior attractions, are considered as the best ball-rooms in South Wales. The Pembrokeshire races take place annually in the Autumn, and are held on "Poor-field," commonly called Portfield, an unenclosed and spacious common adjoining the town. They were originally



established about sixty years ago, but afterwards partially abandoned: in 1829 they were re-established, and are liberally supported, and in general well attended: the members for the county and the borough each give a plate of £50; and a £50 plate is also given by the tradesmen of the town, exclusively of sweepstakes, contingent on the amount of subscriptions. The Pembrokeshire Hunt, established in the year 1813, and which is supported by the principal gentry of the county, has its meetings at this town, where a pack of fox-hounds is kept. The hounds go out twice every week during the season; but in the second week in November, called the "Hunt Week," the members assemble in the town, and the hounds are out three days, namely, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, on the evenings of which days a ball is held at the assembly-rooms.

The port is dependent on that of Milford, to which it is a creek, having a custom-house subordinate to the establishment there; but from its central situation it attracts considerable trade, chiefly coastwise: the exports are principally oats and butter, with a small quantity of leather and bark; the imports are chiefly groceries, manufactured goods, and other miscellaneous articles, for the supply of the shops. Coal is brought by water from Newport in Monmouthshire, and from Liverpool; but the poorer inhabitants principally use culm, which is brought from a distance of about three miles: the hard or stone coal, for malting, procured about five or six miles off, is here shipped to the southern coast of England, and even to London. A great quantity of native cattle is sent from the neighbouring district for sale to the English market. The river is navigable to the bridge for barges, to a lower part of the town for larger vessels, and to a place immediately below the town for ships of two hundred and fifty tons' burden. According to the official returns, one hundred and thirty vessels (including different arrivals of the same) entered inwards, and fifty-nine (reckoning as above) cleared outwards, at this port, in the year ending January 5th, 1831; and in the course of the same year five hundred and thirty-eight quarters of wheat, six hundred and thirty-eight quarters of barley, and seven thousand seven hundred and thirty-one quarters of oats, were shipped coastwise. The trade of the town consists chiefly in the supply of the inhabitants and the neighbourhood with various articles of home consumption, and its commercial intercourse is greatly facilitated by its situation on the mail-coach road from London to Ireland, by way of Milford. The markets are held on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, the last of which is for corn; and during the three winter months an additional market is held, every Thursday, for the sale of cattle. Fairs, at which tolls are taken, for the sale of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs, are held annually on May 12th, June 12th, July 18th, September 23rd, and October 18th; and another, which is toll-free, has been recently established. A very commodious market-house has lately been erected; it is a spacious quadrilateral building, containing covered shambles for eighty butchers, with ample accommodations for the sale of poultry, butter, vegetables, and hardware: there are also convenient market-places for the sale of corn and fish.

Corporate Seal.



Obverse.

Reverse.

This town, which had received divers privileges from Richard II., was, by charter of Edward IV., constituted a county of itself, and invested with additional immunities, which were afterwards confirmed by the 27th of Henry VIII., which conferred corporate rights and the privilege of returning a member to parliament. A subsequent charter of incorporation was granted by James I., confirming the previous grant, and enacting, amongst other important things, that the sites of the priory and house of Friars Preachers, the hill called Prior's Hill, the prior's marshes, and the friars' gardens, situated within the limits of the town, should for the future be esteemed part of the said town and county of the town of Haverfordwest. Under this last charter the corporation consists of a mayor, sheriff, two bailiffs, and twenty-four common-councilmen, of whom fifteen are styled aldermen, assisted by a town-clerk, chamber-reeve, two serjeants at mace, and other officers. By an ancient grant of the crown, made while Pembrokeshire was a county palatine, this town enjoys the privilege of having a lord-lieutenant of the town and county of the town, which is possessed by no other town in Great Britain. The mayor, who is also admiral of the port, coroner, escheator, and clerk of the market, is annually elected from the common-councilmen at the first hundred-days' court held after the festival of St. Michael: the sheriff is chosen from the same body, or from among the burgesses at large; and the bailiffs are elected from among the latter only. The borough first received the elective franchise in the 27th of Henry VIII., when its superior importance caused it to be endowed with this privilege in lieu of its being conferred on the Merionethshire boroughs, and since that time it has continued to return one member to parliament. The right of election was formerly vested in freeholders of forty shillings a year, inhabitants paying scot and lot, and the burgesses: but the late act for amending the representation of the people has vested it in freeholders in fee or fee tail of forty shillings per annum, in the present freeholders for life or lives of forty shillings, in after freeholders for life or lives of ten pounds, in resident burgesses and those within seven miles, in male householders occupying premises of the annual value of ten pounds, and in scot and lot inhabitants for their lives, provided they be capable of registering as the act demands. The towns of Fishguard and Narberth, and the villages of Prendergast and Uzmaston, are now entitled to share in the representation. The present number of houses of the annual value of ten pounds within the limits of the borough, which have been enlarged by the late Boundary



Act, and are minutely described in the Appendix to this work, is three hundred and ninety-six; and the number of resident burgesses is one hundred and forty-two, and of those within seven miles, fifty-six: the sheriff of Haverfordwest is the returning officer. The freedom of the borough is obtained by birth, being inherited by all the sons of a freeman; by servitude of seven years to a resident freeman; and by election of the burgesses at large, on the presentation of the mayor and common-council. The mayor for the time being, and his immediate predecessor for one year only after the expiration of his mayoralty, are justices of the peace within the limits of the town and county of the town, within which the magistrates of the county of Pembroke have no concurrent jurisdiction: the other magistrates of the town are appointed in the same manner as in counties at large. The corporation hold courts of assize and quarter session, at which the mayor presides, for the trial of all offenders not accused of capital crimes; a court of record every month, for the recovery of debts to any amount exceeding forty shillings; a fourteen-days' court, for the recovery of debts under that amount; and a mayor's, or, as it is generally called, a hundred-days' court, for swearing in burgesses, and transacting other business relating to the corporation. The assizes for the county of Pembroke are also held at Haverfordwest, which by the late act has been made one of the polling-places in county elections. The guildhall, situated at the extremity of High-street, (and obstructing a fine view of the venerable church of St. Mary, of which the tower, when surmounted by its delicate spire, must have formed a fine object terminating the view,) is a plain structure, comprising only, in the upper story, the court in which the assizes and sessions are held: there is no room for the accommodation of the grand jury, who consequently sit at one of the principal inns: the lower part was formerly appropriated to the use of the market, previously to the erection of the new market-place. The borough gaol and house of correction, a modern building situated on St. Thomas' Green, in the upper part of the town, is now, by a recent act of parliament, devoted to a lunatic asylum, as well for Pembrokeshire as for Haverfordwest; and by the same act the common gaol and house of correction for Pembrokeshire, to the purposes of which the remains of the ancient castle have been assigned, are appropriated for the reception of prisoners both for Pembrokeshire and Haverfordwest: the buildings are well calculated for the classification of prisoners, and comprise eight wards; two work-rooms, one for males and one for females; eight day-rooms and eight airing-yards, in one of which is a tread-mill.

The town and county of the town comprise the whole of the parish of St. Mary, and part of the parishes of St. Thomas and St. Martin, together with a very small part of the parish of Prendergast, and a large extra-parochial area called "Poor-field:" the parishes of St. Thomas and St. Martin also comprise divisions respectively called the hamlets of St. Thomas and St. Martin, which are within the hundred of Rhôs; the hamlet of St. Thomas separately maintains its own poor, independently of that part of the parish which is within the borough. The living of St. Mary's is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St.

David's, endowed with £20 per annum chargeable on the tithes of the parish of Tremaen, in the county of Cardigan, under the will of Mr. Laugharne, dated in 1714, for reading daily prayers; with £200 private benefaction, £200 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Corporation, who are impropriators of the tithes, and pay the incumbent a stipend of £100 per annum. The church, situated at the upper end of High-street, is a spacious and venerable structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a low tower, which was anciently surmounted by a spire of elegant proportion. The interior consists of a nave, chancel, and north aisle: the nave is lofty, and ceiled with panelled oak, richly ornamented with carving; it is lighted on each side by a range of clerestory windows, of various character, and is separated from the chancel by a lofty pointed arch, supported by clustered columns, and from the north aisle by a series of similar arches of lower elevation, resting on clustered columns having capitals richly ornamented with sculpture. The east windows of the chancel are lofty, and highly enriched with tracery; and the windows of the north aisle, which are similarly embellished, are of good proportion and elegant design. There are several good monuments, and in the chancel are some of splendid character, to the memory of various members of the family inheriting the neighbouring seat of Picton Castle. The living of St. Thomas' is a rectory not in charge, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church is situated on the summit of a hill, and in the centre of an extensive cemetery, overlooking the ruins of the priory: according to some records preserved at St. David's, it appears to have been built in the year 1225; but these most probably refer to the ancient church of the priory, which was also dedicated to St. Thomas, for there is nothing in the style of architecture which corroborates that testimony: it is a plain building, with a square tower crowned with a projecting battlement. The living of St. Martin's is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1200 royal bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Hugh Webb Bowen, Esq. The church, supposed to be the most ancient in the town, is a venerable structure, displaying portions in the early style of English architecture, with a low tower surmounted by an elegant spire: it consists of a nave, chancel, and south aisle, but has suffered so extensively by the insertion of windows and other alterations, that little of its original character remains: the nave and chancel are long and lofty, and are separated by a fine old arch, which reaches to the roof; in the chancel, on the southern side, are some ancient stalls in recesses. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, Moravians, and Presbyterians.

The free grammar school was founded by Thomas Lloyd, of Kŷl Kifŷh, Esq., who, by will dated November 22nd, 1612, endowed it with dwelling-houses, lands, and fee-farm rents, in the parish of St. Martin, Pembrokeshire, and in the parishes of St. Mary, St. Thomas, and St. Martin, in the town and county of Haverfordwest, producing at present an income of £144. 15. 4.: to this, Mr. John Milward, late of this town, added a third part of certain houses and lands near Birmingham,



in the county of Warwick, giving the other two portions respectively to the master of the Birmingham free grammar school, and the Principal and Fellows of Brasenose College, Oxford, for the foundation of a scholarship in that college for a boy from each of those schools alternately. The portion of the estate assigned to the school of this town, having been let by the corporation, who are trustees, upon a lease of ninety-nine years, produces only £18 per annum, and the other two portions being injudiciously let on leases for twenty-one years, subject to large fines on renewal, produce only £8. 6. 8. per annum each; consequently, the scholarship is not sufficient to induce any young man from either of those schools to enter at that college: the mastership of the Haverfordwest school is in the gift of the mayor and corporation, who also nominate the boys to be educated in it. Sir John Perrot, in 1579, by deed gave certain houses, lands, and fee-farm rents, in the parish of Camrhôs, in Pembrokeshire, and in the parishes of Haverfordwest, now producing £173. 16. 4. per annum, for the repair of the roads, walls, bridges, and quays, and for the general improvement of the town, and supplying it with water. James Howard bequeathed an annuity of £22, payable out of an estate in the parish of Merton, in the county of Surrey, for the augmentation of Haverfordwest hospital, which annuity, as no such hospital has existed for many years in the town, is divided by the corporation among the poor. William Vawer, by deed in 1607, gave houses, lands, and fee-farm rents, in the parish of St. Mary, Haverfordwest, and in the city of Bristol, now producing £161. 14. 4. per annum, towards the support of six decayed burgesses of this town; and Anne Laugharne bequeathed an annuity of £6, payable out of an estate at Boulston, near this place, for the relief of aged women of honest fame in the parishes of St. Mary and St. Thomas: to the poor of the latter parish the late Captain Parr, of this town, also bequeathed £5 per annum, to be distributed in bread. Mary Tasker, otherwise Howard, bequeathed certain farms and lands in the parish of Camrhôs, now producing £133. 14. 4. per annum, for the erection of an almshouse, and for the education of poor children of both sexes, in the parishes of Rudbaxton, Steynton, and Haverfordwest. The same benefactress also bequeathed, in 1634, an annuity of £20 for the maintenance of poor children; and William Middleton gave £100 for apprenticing four poor children of the town: the former of these benefactions does not appear to have been ever paid. In addition to these several charities, for the appropriation of which the corporation are trustees, are numerous others, of which the greater part, also in their patronage, have been lost by failure of securities in their investment, or by other accidents. Of these may be noticed, a bequest of £265 by Richard Howell and Owen Phillips, for the use of the poor; £200 bequeathed by Rebecca Flaerton, in 1744, for the relief of aged widows, on the nomination of Robert Prust; £100 by William Middleton, for apprenticing poor children; £80, given in 1739, by Mary Llewelyn, for such charitable purpose as should be recommended by Robert Prust; £100 by a person unknown, for the relief of insolvent debtors in the gaol of this town; £100 given by William Fortune, in 1764, to the poor of this town; a rent-charge of £10 by William Wheeler, for the poor; an annuity of

£3. 10. given by Thomas Roch, in 1707; and various other donations which appear to have been for a considerable time unavailable to the purposes for which they were originally given.

The priory of Black canons, originally founded, as before observed, by Robert de Hwlfordd, and situated in a meadow on the western bank of the river Cleddau, continued to flourish till the dissolution, at which time its revenue was estimated at £135. 6. 1., and the site was granted to Roger and Thomas Barlow. The present remains, consisting chiefly of the skeleton of the church and some foundations of ancient buildings, afford indications of an establishment originally of considerable extent: the church was a spacious cruciform structure, apparently in the early style of English architecture, with a lofty central tower, supported on four noble arches, of which portions are still remaining: it appears to have been one hundred and sixty feet in length from east to west, and eighty feet in breadth along the transepts, and was no less elegant than spacious, the windows being composed of lancet-shaped lights. The house of the Friars Preachers originally occupied the site on which the Black Horse Inn, in Bridge-street, was subsequently built: its founder, and the exact time of its erection, are unknown, but it was in existence prior to the time of Richard II., in whose reign, as before noticed, the grant of a burgage for the enlargement of the house was confirmed. To this establishment Bishop Hoton left £10, and his successor, Bishop John Gilbert bequeathed £100, with vestments, desiring also to be interred within its walls. The castle, from the discovery at various times of foundations of buildings and portions of ruined walls, appears to have occupied the whole of a rocky ridge on the northern declivity of the eminence on which the town is situated; and from its commanding site, as well as from its extent and massive walls, it forms a conspicuous and imposing object, towering above all the surrounding buildings, and overlooking the town. The remains consist principally of the keep, a spacious quadrangular pile, with lofty and massive walls, and which, from the elegance of its pointed windows and other architectural embellishments, especially on the eastern side facing the river, appears to have comprised the chapel and the state apartments, and conveys an idea of its original grandeur and magnificence. This venerable portion of the remains has been converted into the county gaol, without in any degree detracting from its interest as a noble relic of ancient baronial splendour. In the suburb of Pendergast, on the opposite side of the river, are the remains of an ancient mansion, formerly inhabited by a family of that name; and about a mile and a half below the town is the ancient seat of the family of Haroldston, now in ruins. Skomar, an islet off the coast of Pembrokeshire, near the mouth of the Bristol channel, forms part of the parish of St. Martin: it consists principally of limestone rock, and comprises an extent of about seven hundred acres, of which a considerable portion is let to a resident tenant, and in a state of cultivation: it is plentifully supplied with water, and abounds with rabbits. This islet, which forms the northern limit of St. Bride's bay, is separated by a strait about a mile and a half in breadth, called Broad Sound, from the islet of Skokham, which is about three miles from the main land, and about five miles west by south



from the mouth of Milford haven. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £1082. 7. for the whole town, of which the proportion for the parish of St. Martin is £402. 3., for that of St. Mary £510. 9., and for St. Thomas' £169. 15.

**HÂVODDRYINOG (HÂVOD-DREINIÖG)**, a hamlet in the parish of LLANWONNO, hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (S.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 679 inhabitants. Near the junction of the Tâf and the Rhondda, at the south-eastern extremity of the hamlet, stands the modern and thriving village of Newbridge, where a weekly market for provisions is held, and whence a considerable quantity of corn is conveyed by the canal, for the supply of Merthyr-Tydvil. Within a quarter of a mile of the village is the celebrated bridge of Pont y Prydd, thrown from the bold and wooded banks of the Tâf across that river, consisting of one arch of one hundred and forty feet in the span and thirty-five in height, with three cylindrical and graduated holes in each spandril, to lighten the weight of the haunches, and a low parapet on the top, so as to give the whole the extremely light appearance of an elevated bow projecting from bank to bank. This extraordinary effort of art was projected by, and executed under the superintendence of, William Edwards, son of a farmer in the neighbouring parish of Eglwysilan, who, after two unsuccessful attempts, accomplished his arduous undertaking in 1755. The view of the scenery up the vale of the Rhondda from the top of this bridge, and from another crossing that river at right angles with the former, is highly interesting and beautiful. There is a succession of three waterfalls within a short distance of each other, rivalling in grandeur and picturesque beauty: the first is called the "Salmon Leap," and the others follow between this and the junction of the Rhondda Vechan, where there is another bridge, called Pont y Cymmer, which, with the high, precipitous, and well-wooded rocks bounding these rivers, adds to the extreme beauty of the scene. A rail-road passes from the Cardiff canal up the right bank of the Rhondda Vawr to some coal-pits in the upper part of the vale.

**HAWARDEN**, a market town and parish, comprising several hamlets, of which that of Saltney only separately maintains its own poor, in the hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (E. by N.) from Mold,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  (S. E.) from Flint, and 196 (N. W.) from London, and containing 5414 inhabitants. This place, which is of very remote antiquity, was by the Welsh called "Pennard Halawg," or more properly "Pen y Llwh," the headland above the lake, probably from the Saltney and other marshes, which now form an extensive flat between it and Chester, having been formerly covered by the sea; and by the people inhabiting that district, of which the principal part is comprehended within this parish, the town is still called Pennard. In the Norman Survey it occurs under the Saxon appellation "Haordine," of which its present name is only a very slight modification. It is supposed to have been originally occupied by the ancient Britons, as a barrier against the incursions of the Cornavii, a portion of whose territories were adjacent to this part of the principality; and to have served also as a place of defence against the invasion of the Romans. This opinion seems to derive confirmation from the appear-

ance of several heights within the town and its vicinity, which exhibit strong indications of having been fortified in the ancient British manner. The open nature of the surrounding country rendered it an easy prey to the Mercian Saxons, during whose occupation of this place it formed the principal manor of the extensive hundred of Atiscros; and at the time of the Norman Conquest it was in the possession of Edwin, a Saxon chieftain, who, for the protection of the territories which his predecessors had usurped in this portion of the principality, is said to have occasionally resided at this place, which served also as a frontier to his Mercian dominions. On the conquest of Britain by William I., Hawarden was included in the extensive territories granted by the Conqueror to Hugh Lupus, and formed part of the county palatine of Chester. The castle was soon afterwards erected, and appears to have been in the possession of Roger Fitzvalerine, son of one of the numerous followers of the Conqueror, from whom it passed to the family of the Montaults, or de Montalto, barons of Mold, who held it as seneschals of the palatinate, and made it their principal residence.

The peculiar situation of this place, on the only part of the marches through which access could be obtained by the English to the heart of North Wales, subsequently rendered it the scene of many of the most important events connected with the subjugation of the principality. In the year 1157, Henry II., having assembled a formidable army at Chester, advanced into Flintshire with a view to the conquest of Wales, and encamped his forces on Saltney marsh, in this parish. To repel this attack, Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, led his forces to Basingwerk near Holywell, where he took up his station within a few miles of the royal army. The boldness of Owain's movements inducing Henry to hope that he intended to risk a general engagement, in which he expected that the superior number and discipline of the English would ensure them success, the king despatched a chosen body of troops, under the command of his principal barons, to bring the Welsh to action, or to dislodge them from their post. This party, having to pass through the narrow defile of Coed Euloe, were suddenly attacked in that dangerous pass by Davydd and Cynan, sons of Owain, who with a strong body of forces had been placed in ambush to surprise them. The English, from the suddenness and impetuosity of the assault, and the difficulties of the ground on which they had to contend, were routed with great slaughter; and the few who escaped retired, in the utmost disorder, to the main body of the army. Henry, exasperated by this unexpected discomfiture, immediately arranged the whole of his forces, and pursued his march along the sea-coast into the heart of the enemy's country; and Owain, breaking up his camp, retired with his forces to St. Asaph. On the extinction of the ancient Earls of Chester, the castle of this place, together with several other fortresses, was resumed by the crown; and in 1264 Llewelyn Prince of Wales held a conference at Hawarden with Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, in order to negotiate a treaty of peace. In the following year, the Earl of Leicester compelled Henry III., whom he held in captivity, to yield up this castle to the Welsh prince, by whom it appears to have been destroyed; for, among other articles of a proposed treaty of marriage between Llewelyn and



Eleanor de Montfort, the Welsh prince undertook to restore to Robert de Montault all his lands in Hawarden, restraining him at the same time, by an additional clause, from erecting any castle, fortress, or strong hold for the ensuing thirty years. The castle appears, notwithstanding, to have been soon rebuilt, and, on the suppression of Leicester's rebellion, to have reverted to the crown; for, in the year 1280, notice of it occurs under the appellation "*Castrum Regis*."

In the fifth year of the reign of Edward I., that monarch, intending to penetrate the principality by that part of its frontier which borders upon the river Dee, advanced with a large army from Cheshire, and encamped his forces on Saltney marsh, while his pioneers were employed in opening roads through a deep forest which occupied much of the country between the confines of Cheshire and the mountains of Snowdon. In this post they remained till Edward had erected the castle of Flint, and strengthened that of Rhuddlan, for the preservation of those parts of the principality which he had already subdued; after which that monarch led his forces to Aberconway, where he compelled Llewelyn to conclude a treaty of peace on the most humiliating terms. The severity of these conditions excited a general feeling of disgust among the Welsh chieftains, who simultaneously united to throw off the yoke which Edward had imposed upon them, and took up arms to resist his authority. Davydd, the brother of Llewelyn, to whom he had but recently been reconciled, committed the first act of hostility, by surprising the castle of this place, which he attacked during a dark and stormy night on the evening of Palm-Sunday, 1282; having taken the fortress, he put the garrison to the sword, and wounded and took prisoner Roger de Clifford, justiciary of Chester, whom he carried off to Snowdon. This act of violence was the signal for a general insurrection of the Welsh, which terminated in the defeat and death of Llewelyn, and in the entire subjugation of Wales to the English crown. The castle remained in the possession of the family of Montault, till the first year of the reign of Edward III., when Robert, the last baron, dying without heirs, it was assigned to Isabel the queen mother, on whose subsequent disgrace it reverted to the crown. Edward III., in 1337, granted the stewardship of Chester, with the castle of Hawarden, to William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, in whose family it continued till the death of his grandnephew, John Earl of Salisbury, who was beheaded at Cirencester in the year 1400, after an unsuccessful insurrection in favour of his deposed sovereign, Richard II., when it again reverted to the crown. Henry IV. bestowed the castle on his second son, Thomas Duke of Clarence, after whose death at the battle of Baugy, in 1420, it passed to Henry V., by whom it was granted to his son, afterwards Henry VI., who in 1443 conferred it on Sir Thomas Stanley, comptroller of his household; but resuming the grant in 1450, that monarch bestowed it on his son Edward Prince of Wales. The castle afterwards passed to the Nevilles, Earls of Salisbury, and from them to Lord Stanley, whose son and heir, Thomas, afterwards Earl of Derby, married Margaret, Countess of Richmond, and mother of Henry VII. This monarch spent some time at the castle on a visit to his mother, for the purpose of amusing himself with the diversion of the chase; but his principal object was to reconcile

the earl after the ungrateful execution of his brother, Sir William Stanley. After the death of Margaret, the castle descended to Thomas Earl of Derby, grandson of the late earl, and remained in that family till the execution of James, the seventh earl, who was beheaded at Bolton in 1651, after which it was placed in sequestration by the parliament. Soon after the commencement of the parliamentary war, the castle was betrayed by the governor into the possession of the parliament, who retained it in their hands till 1643, when it was attacked by a party of royalists under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Marrow, to whom after a fortnight's siege, the garrison, beginning to want provisions, surrendered, on condition of being allowed to march out with half arms, and to have a convoy to Wem, or Nantwich. The castle remained in the possession of the royalists till after the surrender of Chester to Sir William Brereton, in 1645, when it was besieged by Major-General Mytton; the garrison sustained the assault for several weeks, till the governor, having received orders from the king, surrendered it upon honourable terms: it was, towards the close of the same year, together with four other castles in this part of the principality, dismantled by a vote of the parliament. After the death of James, seventh earl of Derby, the castle was purchased from the agents of the sequestration by Serjeant Glynne, who, on the Restoration, compounded with the eighth earl of Derby, from whom he obtained a grant of this property, which has descended to his heirs, and is now in the possession of Sir Stephen Richard Glynne, Bart.

The town is situated within a mile and a half of the south bank of the river Dee, on the turnpike road from Chester to Holyhead, and consists principally of one street, nearly a mile in length; the houses are in general well built, and the town, though not paved, is amply supplied with water. Considerable improvements have been made in the neighbourhood, by the commissioners of the turnpike roads, who have recently expended £1000 in diminishing the ascent of the hill at the lower end of the town. The parish abounds with coal in various parts, the strata of which lie under freestone and shale of a saponaceous quality, with occasional beds of ironstone and gravel; the upper seam of coal, which is called the Hollin coal, is from six to seven feet in depth; the second, which is called the Brassy coal, is about three feet in thickness; the third, which is called the rough coal, is also about three feet thick; and the fourth and lowest seam, which is called the main coal, is ten feet in thickness: this last, which is of very superior quality, is in great request for the Dublin market. Collieries, which are worked on an extensive scale, have been established in various parts of the parish; and there are also several large brick and tile works, in the former of which fire-bricks of various sizes are made, besides numerous potteries for the manufacture of the coarser kinds of earthenware. An extensive iron-foundry is still carried on in the town, and attached to it is a mill for boring cannon, which was formerly cast here. A laboratory for the making of Glauber salts, sal ammoniac, and ivory black, has been established in the township of Saltney since the year 1781, and is conducted on an extensive scale. The river Dee, or Chester channel, passes within a mile and a half of the town; and there



are two rail-roads for the conveyance of the produce of the various collieries and potteries to the river. Several schooners and flats are employed in the transport of coal, bricks, and other articles produced here; and two smacks are engaged in a fishery off the Isle of Man, which is conducted by inhabitants of the parish. In 1734, Messrs. Kinderley and Co. obtained an act of parliament for improving the navigation of the river Dee, under the provisions of which a canal from Chester to the estuary of that river, passing through Saltney marsh in this parish, was completed in 1737: the company, incorporated under the name of the "Company of proprietors of the undertaking for recovering and preserving the navigation of the river Dee," in prosecution of their work, appropriated to their own use eight hundred acres of the marsh on the north side of the canal, in consideration of which they are bound by the act to pay to the lord of the manor of Hawarden, and other trustees, £200 per annum, to be applied to any use that five of them may direct; they are also charged with the maintenance of two ferries across the new channel of the Dee. A considerable acquisition was also made to the parish in the enclosure of more than three thousand acres of land on the north side of the Dee, by the same company, between the years 1754 and 1790; this district, now called Sealand, forms a township in the parish. In 1778, an act of parliament was obtained for enclosing Saltney marsh, under the provisions of which about two thousand acres were erected into a township, called Saltney, which now maintains its own poor: several hundred acres of the marsh are still unenclosed and open to the sea. The market is on Saturday; and fairs, principally for cattle, are annually held on April 28th and October 22nd. The town is within the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, who hold petty sessions monthly; and courts leet and baron are held in May and at Michaelmas by the lord of the manor, at which respectively constables are appointed, and debts under forty shillings are recoverable. A house of correction has been erected on the site of an ancient cross, of which there were formerly two in the town.

The living is a rectory, in the peculiar and exempt jurisdiction of the incumbent, rated in the king's books at £66. 6. 5½., and in the patronage of Sir Stephen Richard Glynne, Bart. The rector holds his ecclesiastical court on the Tuesday preceding Holy Thursday. The church, dedicated to St. Deiniol, is an ancient and spacious structure, with a square embattled tower, and was thoroughly repaired in 1764, towards defraying the expense of which the Hawarden trustees appropriated £700 from the annual payments of the river Dee company; the chancel was almost entirely rebuilt in 1817, at an expense of £1400, jointly defrayed by the Hon. and Rev. George Neville Grenville, the present rector, Charles Dundas, Esq., and the inhabitants. In the hamlet of Buckley a new church was erected in 1822, by grant of the parliamentary commissioners, who gave the sum of £4000 for that purpose: it is a neat edifice in the later style of English architecture, with a tower surmounted by a spire, and contains seven hundred and forty sittings, of which four hundred and eighteen are free: the living is a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of the Rector. In the township of Broughton is also a chapel of ease to the mother church. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A

grammar school was founded here, in 1606, by Mr. George Ladsham, who bequeathed £300 for its erection and endowment. The school-room was built in 1608, at the west corner of the churchyard, and was rebuilt and enlarged, and a house erected for the master, in 1814, by the feoffees, from small savings accumulated at compound interest, and by subscription among the inhabitants; and a piece of ground was given to it by Sir Stephen R. Glynne. The salary of the master, including the interest of a donation of £50, is now £20 per annum. Three National schools in different parts of the parish, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children of both sexes, are supported principally by the rector and by Sir Stephen and Lady Glynne. Two schools on the National system were erected at Buckley in 1819, and a dwelling-house for the master, at an expense of £1200, defrayed by subscription. A Sunday school is supported in connexion with the established church. There were numerous charitable donations and bequests for the poor of the parish, but the greater part has been lost by bad securities: the remainder is distributed among the poor, according to the intention of the benefactors. The ruins of the ancient castle of Hawarden occupy an artificial eminence at the eastern extremity of the town, within the park of Sir Stephen R. Glynne; the wide and deep trenches by which it was defended now form picturesque ravines filled with trees of luxuriant growth, above which the ruins are seen with romantic effect: a considerable improvement has been made in the appearance of these remains, by the removal of the accumulated ruins of the walls, by which the foundation was concealed. It appears to have been originally of a pentagonal form, with a strong gateway entrance on the western side, and a barbican on another of its sides: the principal portion now remaining is the keep, a circular tower situated in one of the angles of the enclosed area, and nearly entire; the other remains are chiefly fragments of the walls and various buildings, some of which appear to have been subterraneous chambers, appropriated as dungeons for the confinement of prisoners. About a quarter of a mile from the turnpike road leading from Chester to Holyhead, within this parish, are the picturesque ruins of Euloe castle, supposed to have been an outpost dependent on the castle of Mold: from their situation in a retired and thickly wooded dingle, they cannot easily be found without the assistance of a guide: they occupy a site defended on one side by a deep ravine, and on the other by a wide fosse, and consist chiefly of the remains of a large oblong tower, rounded at one extremity, about fourteen yards in length and twelve in breadth: there are also some outworks, the principal of which encloses a quadrangular area, at one angle of which are the remains of a circular tower. These ruins are finely mantled with ivy, and have a very picturesque appearance. To the west of the church are the remains of an ancient British encampment, called Truman's Hill; and near Broad-lane House are vestiges of another, called Connah's Hill. Hawarden Castle, the seat of Sir Stephen Richard Glynne, Bart., is a stately and handsome castellated mansion, situated within an extensive park, comprising much diversified scenery, and comprehending the site and remains of the ancient castle: the grounds are tastefully laid out and ornamented with extensive and thriving plantations. Sir John Glynne, the ancestor of



the present proprietor, was a man of distinguished talents, and during the parliamentary war was made steward of Westminster, which city he represented in the two parliaments of 1640, and recorder of London; he was afterwards appointed by Cromwell one of his council, and made chamberlain of Chester. On the Restoration he was favourably received by Charles II., who bestowed on him the honour of knighthood, and created his eldest son a baronet: he retired from public business, and in 1666 died in London, and was interred in St. Margaret's church, Westminster. Hawarden gives the title of viscount to the family of Maude. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £1535. 6.

HAY, a market town and parish, in the hundred of TALGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, containing 1959 inhabitants, of which number, 1709 are in the town of Hay, 15 miles (N. E. by E.) from Brecknock, and 154 (W. by N.) from London, on the road through Hereford to Brecknock, Carmarthen, and Milford. The Welsh name of this town is *Tregelli*, variously rendered Hazelton, "the town in the hazel grove," or simply "the town in the forest," and probably derived from its proximity to the extensive forest of Traveley, Traneley, or Traneleia, so frequently mentioned in ancient grants, though no longer in existence. Its present legal name is supposed to be a modernized Norman translation of the Welsh appellation, having been derived from the Norman word *haier*, to enclose, and anciently written *Haia*. Leland and Camden are of opinion that the town was once occupied by the Romans: the former writer states that Roman coins, which the country people called Jew's money, and also the foundations of ancient buildings, had been discovered here; but these relics have long since disappeared, not even the memory of them being now preserved on the spot; and modern writers commonly ascribe to it a Norman origin. On the conquest of Brecknock by Bernard Newmarch, that powerful leader, in his division of the newly-acquired territory granted the manor of Hay to Sir Philip Walwyn, who, in the opinion of some writers, erected here a castle for his own residence and the security of his domains, but does not appear to have long remained in possession; for, by a grant made by William Revel, to the Benedictine priory at Brecknock, of the church of St. Mary "at the Hay," it is said to be given with the consent of his lord Bernard Newmarch, who was present at the dedication, and to whom the entire domain seems now to have belonged. The manor of Hay henceforward descended with the other possessions of this nobleman; and all accounts concur in stating that the castle was at last re-erected by his great grandson on the female side, William de Breos, some even considering him its sole founder, while, according to the vulgar tradition of the place, the same was effected in one night by the prodigious strength of his wife, Maud de St. Valeri, more familiarly known among the Welsh peasantry by the name of "Moll Walbee." Many other marvellous tales are related of the exploits of this lady, whom authentic history proves to have been a woman of masculine courage and understanding. On the attainder of William de Breos, the manor of Hay, with the other possessions of that nobleman, was forfeited to the crown, but was shortly restored, with the rest, to his son Giles, Bishop of Hereford: this prelate was succeeded in these possessions by

his younger brother Reginald, who had married a daughter of Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, and, with his father-in-law, joined the confederacy of the English barons against King John, who, highly incensed at this conduct, advanced at the head of an army into this part of the marches, in 1215, laid waste the country, and plundered the castle of Hay. This fortress was afterwards entirely demolished by the Welsh, but, in 1231, was rebuilt by Henry III., who, having no other immediate object to accomplish, employed upon this work the army which he then commanded in person in the marches. In 1233, it was taken by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, together with all the other castles belonging to the English in the ancient territory of Brycheiniog, except that of the borough of Brecknock. In 1263, it was taken by Prince Edward, afterwards Edward I., who being himself taken prisoner, with his royal father, in the following year, the confederate forces of Llewelyn ab Gruffydd and the English barons, under Simon de Montford, regained possession of it, and set it on fire. The decay and ruin which characterized this place in the reign of Henry VIII., when visited by Leland, and even down to a much later period, are ascribed to the frequent irruptions made by Owain Glyndwr into the marches; and it appears, from an instrument dated at Devynock, in September 1403, that many of the inhabitants of this lordship were suspected of favouring the cause of the Welsh chieftain. After the death of the last Duke of Buckingham of the Stafford family, the castle of Hay was restored to his son, the Lord Stafford: it afterwards, by some irregular means, became the property of James Boyle, as part of the possessions of the priory at Hereford, to which it had never belonged, and, in the reign of James I., descended to Howel Gwyn of Trêcastle, by marriage with Mary, granddaughter of Boyle; and this gentleman, it is supposed, erected on the site of part of the castle a mansion still standing, which appears, from the style of its architecture, to have been built in the latter part of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, or in that of James I. On the death of Mrs. Gwyn, in 1702, it was let in apartments to different families.

The town is pleasantly situated on the southern bank of the river Wye, which here separates the counties of Brecknock and Radnor, but immediately below enters that of Hereford, and is bounded on the east by the small river Dulas, which falls into the Wye at this place, after separating for some distance the counties of Brecknock and Hereford. It consists of one principal thoroughfare, extending nearly parallel with the Wye, and of several other streets diverging from it in different directions: one of these leads north-westward to the church, another south-eastward round the castle, a third due east to the market-place, and a fourth northward to the same point. The whole is now being paved by a rate, producing about £90 per annum; but it is not lighted or supplied with water by any artificial means, enjoying an abundant supply of the latter from the Dulas. Within the last twenty or thirty years its improvement has been steadily progressive: the streets in many places have been widened, and divers unsightly obstructions removed; old houses have been modernized, and new ones of a highly respectable character built, among the latter of which is an excellent inn and posting-house. The principal remaining evidence of the



ancient rudeness of the buildings is the market-house, which it is intended shortly to pull down and re-erect. At the extremity of one of the streets is a bridge over the Wye, partly of stone and partly of wood, replacing a handsome stone bridge of seven arches, destroyed by a flood in 1795, and some remains of which form part of the present structure: toll is taken on this bridge under the authority of an act of parliament obtained in the 29th of George II., which grants that privilege for a term of ninety-eight years, from the first day of August, 1763, at the expiration of which the bridge is to be toll-free. The air is remarkably salubrious; the environs comprehend much of the beautiful and picturesque scenery which adorns the banks of the Wye; and from the higher grounds in the parish are some fine views over the adjacent country, which abounds with objects of interest and with features of pastoral beauty. A woollen manufactory is carried on in the town, which affords employment to between seventy and eighty persons, chiefly in making fine Welsh flannels, and flannel shirting for the colliers and miners in the more southern manufacturing districts. The situation of this place, in the centre of an extensive and fertile agricultural district, on the confines of three several counties, is highly favourable for trade, although little use has hitherto been made of its natural advantages. The Wye, however, is only navigable to its vicinity after excessive floods, and then only for flat-bottomed barges, which are occasionally used for the conveyance of timber hence to Chepstow, when the annual fall in the vicinity is greater than the consumption. This town and its neighbourhood enjoy the advantage of obtaining coal and lime on moderate terms from the confines of the counties of Brecknock, Glamorgan, and Monmouth, by means of the Hay railway, constructed early in the present century, extending from the head of the Brecknockshire canal, at Brecknock, to Eardisley and Kington in the county of Hereford, the waggons on which return laden with agricultural produce to the southern mining districts. The market, which is abundantly supplied with grain, and with provisions of every kind, is on Thursday; and fairs, which are well attended for the sale of cattle, pigs, hardware, &c., are held annually on May 17th, the second Monday in June, August 12th, and October 10th. In the reign of James I., a market, in addition to the present, was held weekly on Monday, but it has since that period been discontinued. The town was anciently a borough by prescription, and a bailiff is still appointed, but he does not exercise magisterial authority. It is wholly under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates; and the borough court of record for the recovery of debts has long been disused. The lord of the manor holds a court leet and court baron annually, at the former of which is elected the bailiff, whose duties are now confined to billeting soldiers and receiving the tolls of the market and fairs. These tolls being formerly uncertain, and exacted at the will of the lord in an arbitrary manner, gave rise, in the reigns of James I. and Charles I., to frequent disputes, which in several instances were not terminated without loss of life. After various complaints the attorney-general, at Michaelmas term in the 6th of James I., filed an information against Howel Gwyn, then lord of the manor, to show by what right he exercised such arbitrary authority. This cause having been settled by the

payment of a sum of money, a new grant was made to the lord, in which his brother-in-law, James Tomkins, was included; but a second information was filed in Hilary term, in the 4th of Charles I., in which they are charged with imprisoning several persons, and extorting large sums, by way of toll, from those who frequented the market and fairs: these tolls are, however, now fixed and certain.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 0. 5., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Arthur Macnamara, Esq. The ancient parish church, dedicated to St. John, and situated in the centre of the town, was, in 1684, in sufficient repair to be used as a school-house, though it had long ceased to be appropriated to the performance of divine service. In 1700, part of this building fell down, since which time the whole has been removed, and the site is now occupied by a small prison, or lock-up house. The present church is dedicated to St. Mary, and is situated at the western extremity of the town, overlooking the Wye: it is a small edifice, in the early style of English architecture, with a square tower at the west end; and consists of a nave and chancel, containing only four hundred sittings, of which forty are free. The pointed arch over the principal entrance, and that separating the nave from the chancel, are enriched with numerous mouldings, and with the toothed ornament: the font is also adorned in the same style. This is the church given to the Benedictine priory at Brecknock by William Revel, as above stated; but the general appearance of the present edifice shows it to be of a later date than the reign of William Rufus, in which that grant was made. The sacramental chalice, which is of silver, bears the inscription "Our Lady Paris of the Haia," and is apparently of very great antiquity. In the churchyard, which is of very small extent, and commands a fine view over part of the Vale of Wye, is an effigy of stone, much defaced, which is generally supposed to represent some female, and, according to the common tradition of the county, was placed there in memory of their celebrated townswoman, Maud de St. Valeri, or Waleri, wife of William de Breos; but, according to Mr. Jones, it was more probably designed to commemorate one of the monks of Brecknock, to whose monastery the church and its dependencies were attached. Between the churchyard and the town is a deep moat communicating with the Wye, which river flows under the northern side of the cemetery. An ancient chapel, which Leland notices as being situated in the environs of the town, has long since wholly disappeared. There are handsome places of worship for Baptists, and for Wesleyan and Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. In the year 1827, National schools were established for children of both sexes, and school-rooms erected at an expense of £527, of which, £213 was raised by voluntary subscription, and £150 was granted by the parent society in London, the deficiency being supplied by the Rev. Humphrey Allen, curate of the parish, to whose indefatigable exertions the poor are chiefly indebted for the benefit of this excellent institution. The girls' school is for the present discontinued, but about fifty boys are now instructed in the other: the salary of the master is £47 per annum, of which £12 is paid by the Governors



of Christ's Hospital, London, under the will of the late William Pennoyre, Esq., who left it to be paid to a schoolmaster for instructing poor children of this parish, together with £2 per annum for the purchase of books: the master is appointed by the Governors of Christ's Hospital. There are also three Sunday schools, one connected with the established church, and the other two with the Welsh and Wesleyan Methodist congregations, in which a great number of children are instructed by gratuitous teachers. An almshouse for six aged persons was founded here by Mrs. Elizabeth Gwyn, daughter and coheirress of Thomas Gwyn, of Hay Castle, Esq., who died in 1702, bequeathing a house, lately built by her in the Water-gate of this town, for the residence of six of the most poor and helpless inhabitants of the town and parish, to be appointed by the lord of the manor, the churchwardens, and the overseers; and endowed it with a tenement called Pen y Wern, in the parish of Disserth, in the county of Radnor, and £100 to be invested in purchasing other land, which was accordingly very profitably laid out in the purchase of a small tenement called Brÿnrhÿd, adjoining that of Pen y Wern; and the rents of both, now amounting to £28 per annum, are appropriated to the maintenance of the almspeople, as also is the interest of £400, vested in three per cent. stock, the amount of a single sale of timber cut from the estate, and that of a further sum of £670, arising from a second sale of timber, which was recovered for the parish by Mr. James Spencer, solicitor of this town, in whose hands it still remains, this gentleman paying for it an annual interest of five per cent. The present trustees of Mrs. Gwyn's charity are, six of the principal inhabitants of the town, with the churchwardens and overseers for the time being: the inmates of the almshouses are usually chosen from among the most deserving female objects of charity. Several other bequests have been made to the poor of this parish, which, however, have been lost: viz., £2. 10. per annum, charged on the estate of Lord Hereford; ten shillings per annum, charged by William Watkins, of Pen yr wrlodd, on his estate; and thirteen shillings and fourpence, charged on a tenement in the borough of Brecknock, by James Watkins; with other small donations. Near the western entrance into the town a remarkably neat stone building, in the Elizabethan style of architecture, comprising six small cottages of four rooms each, is now in progress of erection, at the expense of Miss Martha Harley, of Bayswater, in the county of Middlesex, who, it is said, intends to endow them as almshouses. The town was anciently surrounded by a wall, and, when visited by Leland, three of its gates and a postern were still standing. Near the church is a mound, noticed by the same antiquary as having probably been thrown up for some "fortres of bataille," which was once, perhaps, the site of a prison for the lordship of Hay. There are likewise some remains of the castle, consisting chiefly of a fine old gateway, beautifully mantled with ivy, affording evidence of the ancient grandeur and importance of this fortress, together with some walls, which are supposed to be portions of the castle erected by Henry III., and are now incorporated with the more modern edifice, erected on part of the site in the reign of Elizabeth or James I. In the reign of Henry VIII., some ruins of a gentleman's

house in this town were pointed out to Leland as the remains of the mansion which had been the residence of Sir Elias Walwyn, who, in the year 1282, conducted the English army across the river Wye near Builth, in pursuit of Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, the last Prince of Wales of native British blood, whose melancholy death immediately ensued. At a short distance from the town, within the limits of the parish, stands Oakfield, a substantial modern mansion, the seat of Henry Allen, Jun., Esq. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the town and parish is £653. 2.

**HAYSCASTLE (HAYS-CASTLE)**, a parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. W. by N.) from Haverfordwest, containing 367 inhabitants. This parish, which is of considerable extent, is for the greater part enclosed, and in a good state of cultivation. It constitutes, together with that of Brawdy, a prebend attached to the decanal stall in the cathedral church of St. David's. The living is a discharged vicarage, consolidated with that of Brawdy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, and in the patronage of the Bishop, as Dean. The church is dedicated to St. Mary; and at the small village of Ford, in this parish, there is a chapel of ease. There are places of worship for Independents and Methodists. Several tumuli were formerly discernible in this parish, but they have been nearly levelled. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £50. 10.

**HENDREDENNY (HENDRE-DENNI)**, a hamlet in the parish of EGLWYSILAN, hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. S. E.) from Newbridge, containing 373 inhabitants. It is situated on the south-eastern declivity of a lofty hill, called Mynydd Moylo, and on the right bank of a stream, which separates it from the hamlet of Energlyn: on the banks of this stream are some iron-works, with a few pleasing residences and well-wooded enclosures.

**HENDREVORVYDD (HENDRE-FORFUDD)**, a joint parcel with Penallt, in the parish of LLANGATTOCK, hundred of CRICKHOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (N. W.) from Crickhowel. The population is returned with the parish. This parcel comprises the northern portion of the parish, and the Brecknock canal passes through the lower part of it, nearly parallel with the river Usk.

**HENDREVYGILLT (HENDRE-VIGYLL)**, a township in the parish of HALKIN, Northop division of the hundred of COLESHILL, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S.) from Holywell. The population is returned with the parish. It is situated close to the road between Northop and Holywell, and the inhabitants are principally employed at the lead mines in this district. The prospect of the æstuary of the Dee, the county of Chester, and the Vale Royal, on the approach to this place from Flint, is most extensive and pleasing, in consequence of its very elevated situation.

**HENEGLWYS (HÊN-EGLWYS)**, a parish in the hundred of MALLTRAETH, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (W.) from Llangenvi, on the Holyhead road, containing 335 inhabitants. This parish, the name of which signifies the old church, is of considerable extent, and is situated in a marshy district surrounded by rugged and rocky elevations. The scenery of the



neighbourhood is wild and dreary: the lands are principally enclosed and under cultivation, but the soil is cold and unproductive. Its situation, about half-way between Bangor and Holyhead, on the new line of road, has rendered it a place of some traffic; and the Mona Inn, a spacious and commodious hotel and posting-house, has been erected here for the accommodation of travellers; but the situation is bleak and exposed, and the immediate neighbourhood uninviting, consisting chiefly of swampy flats and rocky promontories. The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacy of Trêvwalchmai annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £9. 3. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Llwydian, is an ancient edifice, distinguished by no architectural feature claiming especial notice. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The Rev. Hugh Hughes bequeathed land for apprenticing a poor boy of this parish, and for other uses; and William Bold, in 1688, gave land for the poor: there are also some smaller charitable donations, the produce of which is distributed among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £185. 16.

HËN-GOED, a hamlet in the parish of LLANELLY, hundred of CARNWALLON, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (N.) from Llanelly, containing 1183 inhabitants. The name implies an ancient wood, by which this place was formerly covered: several of the inhabitants are employed in the coal trade and in manufactures. The rail-road from Llanelly to the Mynydd Mawr mountain passes through this hamlet.

HËN-GOED, a hamlet in the parish of GELLYGAER, hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 10 miles (S.E.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 273 inhabitants. It forms the south-eastern portion of the parish, and was formerly covered with wood, as the name implies. The river Romney, which is here crossed by two bridges, separates it from Monmouthshire on the east; and the greater number of the inhabitants consist of respectable families, whose residences are scattered on the banks of this river, and the streams falling into it.

HËNLLAN (HËN-LLAN), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, containing 122 inhabitants. This parish is beautifully situated on the river Teivy, over which here is an ancient bridge of three arches, with projecting angular piers, from which the turnpike road from Newcastle-Emlyn to Carmarthen, on which it is situated, is continued through the village. The scenery on the banks of the Teivy, at this place, is strikingly picturesque and beautiful, the channel of the stream being contracted by huge masses of projecting rock, over which the river rushes with great impetuosity, and the banks on both sides are ornamented with extensive and luxuriant groves. In this parish are some interesting cascades, formed by a rivulet which falls into the Teivy, a little above the bridge: these are called Frydiau Hênllan, or the "Hênllan Falls," and are the most picturesque in this part of the Vale of Teivy. Hênllan is within the lordship of Dyfryn Teivy and Atpar, belonging to the Bishop of St. David's, and comprising the entire

parishes of Bangor and Hênllan, with part of that of Llandyvrïog, and two farms in that of Llandysilio-Gogo: courts for the lordship are held at Trebedic, in this parish. The living is a rectory not in charge, annexed to that of Bangor, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's. The church is a very small edifice, not characterized by any remarkable architectural feature, but interesting from its secluded and picturesque situation. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £29. 8.

HËNLLAN (HËN-LLAN), a parish in the hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. W.) from Denbigh, containing 2703 inhabitants. This parish, which is fifteen miles in length, and in some parts more than seven in breadth, though averaging about four, extends from St. Asaph, on the north-east, to the source of the river Alwen, near Llanrwst, on the south-west, embracing a large tract of country, in some parts richly wooded, and abounding with gentlemen's seats, in the grounds belonging to several of which are some of the most majestic oaks in the principality. The scenery is finely diversified, and from some of the higher grounds are obtained extensive and delightful views of the surrounding country, which is in many places characterized by features of great interest and beauty. About six thousand acres of waste land within its limits, together with the adjacent two thousand acres forming the tract called Denbigh Green, were enclosed under the authority of an act of parliament obtained in 1802: these lands are chiefly on the Hiraethog hills, and some portions of them have a sound soil upon limestone, while others are heathy and peaty: in making the enclosure, fifteen miles of new roads were formed. Here are several isolated limestone rocks, containing lead-ore. The village is partly within the limits of the borough of Denbigh, in returning a member for which place, the inhabitants of the portion so included are entitled to vote: in the township of Bannister Uchâv is even included a considerable portion of two streets of the town of Denbigh. The living is a rectory, annexed to the deanery of St. Asaph, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £20. The church, dedicated to St. Sadwrn, was taken down, and rebuilt upon an enlarged scale, in 1806: the new edifice, which is a neat plain structure, occupies the site of the ancient church, and is situated on a fine level; but the tower, a massive square pile, presenting each of its angles towards one of the cardinal points, and which was always detached, stands on the summit of a rock adjoining the road, and at a considerable distance to the east of the church. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists in the village, and for the latter also in the townships of Eriviatt and Lleweny, and one for Independents in the township of Uwch-Caeran. A National school was erected, in 1829, by subscription, aided by a grant from the parent society: in this establishment, which is supported by subscription, fifty boys and sixty girls at present receive gratuitous instruction. Three tenements, purchased with sums left by various benefactors, now produce a rental of £36. 10. per annum, which sum, together with the interest arising from other charitable bequests, is distributed in bread and flannel to the poor. At the bottom of Vale-street, Denbigh, but within the township of Bannister Uchâv, formerly



stood a Carmelite priory, founded, according to some accounts, by John Salusbury, of Lleweny, before the year 1289, in which he died, but according to others, by John de Sunimore, in 1399: it flourished, and formed the mausoleum of the Salusbury family, until the dissolution, when its revenue was granted to Richard Andrews and William L'Isle. The ruins of the priory church have been converted into a malt-house, but the window-frames, richly ornamented, still remain; and on the site of this ancient establishment, now called the Abbey, a genteel mansion has lately been erected. Lleweny, in this parish, was the residence of Prince Davydd, brother of Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, and the last of the native princes of Wales, who was cruelly put to death at Shrewsbury by Edward I. The old mansion of Foxhall, now in ruins, was the residence of the celebrated antiquary, Humphrey Llwyd, who died there, and was buried at Whitchurch, near Denbigh, where a mural monument has been erected to his memory, on which is his effigy, in a Spanish dress, kneeling at an altar. In Gwaenynog park, in this parish, is a monumental urn to the memory of Dr. Johnson, which is noticed in the article on Denbigh. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £1781. 16.

**HENLLAN (HËN-LLAN)**, a hamlet forming that part of the parish of **LLANDEWI-VELVREY** which is in the hundred of **DUNGLEDDEY**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 2 miles (N. E.) from Narberth, containing 39 inhabitants. It appears to have taken its name, signifying "the old church," from a chapel of ease, which, according to tradition, originally existed here. A considerable portion of the land within its limits, called "the Bishop's land," is tithe-free; and it is not improbable that, being in a detached portion of the hundred of Dungleddy, entirely surrounded by that of Narberth, it was originally wholly held of the bishop, and that the occupiers of it did service at Lawhaden, the principal residence of the bishops of St. David's. The seat of John Lewis, Esq., bearing the same name as the hamlet, is pleasantly situated on an eminence within its limits. There are no remains of the ancient chapel; but there is a place of worship for Baptists. In this part of the parish are two ancient British encampments, one called Cyra, probably a corruption of Caerau, the other Pen y Gaer, but no particulars of their history have been recorded. Within the last few years, a pot of silver coins was dug up on a farm in this hamlet, but, being sold immediately on their discovery, no particular account of them has been preserved. The inhabitants are assessed for the repair of their own roads, but do not separately support their poor.

**HENLLAN-AMGOED (HËN-LLAN-AMGOED)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of **DERLLÛS**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 7 miles (W. N. W.) from St. Clear's, on the old road from Llanboidy to Narberth, containing, with the chapelry of Eglwys Vair a Chyrig, which supports its own poor, 411 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the river Tâf, is more than three miles in length, and two in breadth, and is for the most part enclosed and cultivated. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 10. 5., and in the patronage of the Freeholders in the parish. There is a place of worship for Presbyterians. In a field in

this parish, near a place called Cevn Varchen, is a Roman monumental stone, on which is inscribed, in rude characters, *Cati Menvendani filii Barcuni*; and in the neighbourhood are several remains of Roman and British antiquity. The late Rev. Nathaniel Rowlands, son of the celebrated Daniel Rowlands, of Llangeitho, was buried at this place: he was chaplain to the Duke of Gordon, and to Lady Huntingdon, and one of the most popular preachers of his time. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £180. 17., of which sum, £91. 8. is assessed on that portion of the parish which is not included within the chapelry of Eglwys Vair a Chyrig.

**HËNLLÛS**, a township in the parish of **LLAN-VIHANGEL GENEU'R GLYN**, upper division of the hundred of **GENEU'R GLYN**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 7 miles (N. E. by E.) from Aberystwith, containing 496 inhabitants. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £112. 14.

**HENRY'S MOAT**, a parish in the hundred of **KEMMES**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 10½ miles (N. E. by N.) from Haverfordwest, containing 282 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from an ancient tumulus in the form of a truncated cone, surrounded by a moat, and in all probability formerly surmounted by a military work, called by the Welsh *Castell Hên-drêv*, or "the castle of the old town," which name has been corrupted by the English settlers in this part of the principality into its present appellation. The lands in this parish are for the greater part enclosed, and in a good state of cultivation; and considerable portions of unenclosed land, consisting chiefly of heath and turbaries, afford pasturage for sheep, and supply the principal fuel of the inhabitants. The soil is various, being rich and fertile in the lower and cultivated grounds, but in other parts of the parish poor and unproductive. The surrounding scenery, though not distinguished by any striking peculiarity of feature, is generally pleasing; and the views over the adjacent country are interesting, and in some instances extensive. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 6. 8., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Colonel Scourfield. The church, dedicated to St. Bernard, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £112. 5.

**HËNVYNYW (HËN-VYNYW)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of **LLAR**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 14 miles (N. W. by W.) from Lampeter, containing 625 inhabitants. This parish, which is washed on one side by the waves of the fine bay of Cardigan, in St. George's channel, is separated from the parish of Llandewy Aberarth by the powerful stream of the Aëron, and contains about two thousand acres of land, the soil of which is various, being in some places argillaceous and wet, and in others of a good quality for the produce of corn. It is intersected by the turnpike road from Cardigan to Aberystwith, and the neighbourhood is characterized by that varied and strikingly bold scenery which prevails on this part of the Welsh coast. The surface is boldly undulated, and from the higher grounds are obtained



some interesting views of the bay of Cardigan, and some extensive prospects over the adjacent country. This parish contains the small but flourishing sea-port town of Aberaeron, which, within the last few years, has attained a considerable degree of commercial importance, and of which a separate account is given. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Precentor and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of St. David's, who receive the tithes and pay the minister an annual stipend of £8. The church, dedicated to St. David, is a neat plain edifice, consisting only of a nave and chancel, situated in a remarkably large cemetery. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. A school-room was built by the late Rev. Alban Thomas Jones Gwynne, of Tŷglyn, in which the children of the parish are instructed on the National system, partly by subscription, and partly at the expense of their parents. Close to the sea-shore, and not far from the boundary line between this parish and that of Llandewy Aberarth, are the remains of an ancient encampment. The name of Hênvynyw signifies literally "Old Menevia;" and there is a tradition that the cathedral of St. David's was originally designed to have been erected there: near the church is a spring, still called Fynnon Ddewi, or "St. David's Well;" and this parish is distinguished as the place where that saint was brought up from his infancy. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £104. 4.

**HERBRANDSTON**, a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (W. N. W.) from Milford, containing 221 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from one of the Norman or Flemish settlers in Pembrokeshire, named Herbrand, who, soon after the Conquest, fixed his residence at this place. It is situated on the eastern side of a small bay in Milford Haven, and is only of small extent; but the land is very fertile, and in a high state of cultivation. A fair is held annually in the village on the 12th of August, chiefly for hiring farm servants. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a plain ancient structure, with a low massive tower. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £116. 19.

**HEYOP**, a parish in the hundred of KNIGHTON, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. N. W.) from Knighton, containing 187 inhabitants. This parish is divided into two portions, of which the eastern forms part of the borough of Cnwclas, the remainder of which is in the parish of Beguildy, and the western part of the township of Cwm Heyop, of which the remainder is in the parish of Llangunllo. It is pleasantly situated near the river Teme, and contains upwards of eight hundred acres of enclosed, and between two and three hundred acres of unenclosed, land: the surface is boldly undulated, and the soil generally fertile, forming excellent pasture and meadow land in the vales, and good arable land on the sides of the hills: it is watered by a rivulet which takes its name from the parish. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diver-

sified, and from the higher grounds some good views are obtained. The only seat within the parish is Dôl y Velin, formerly the residence of the late John Pritchard, Esq., and now the property of J. S. Bodenham, Esq., but unoccupied. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 6. 8., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. David, is a small ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a low tower, containing three bells. The Rev. John Davies, D. D., in 1741, gave £50 for the benefit of the poor not receiving parochial relief; and the Rev. John Foley, and Anne his wife, by deed, gave a certain portion of land, the produce of which, together with the interest of the former sum, making a total of £3. 16. per annum, is distributed weekly in bread to the poor frequenting the church. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £49. 10.

**HIGHLIGHT**, an extra-parochial district in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (S. W.) from Cardiff. The population is returned with that of the adjacent parish of Merthyr-Dovan. It comprises an extent of about four hundred acres, forming two farms, the occupants of which have a pew in the church of Merthyr-Dovan, where they attend divine service.

**HILARY (ST.)**, a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mile (S. E.) from Cowbridge, containing 168 inhabitants. The village is pleasantly situated, a little southward from the line of the great western road through the county, on an eminence in the Vale of Glamorgan, above one of the sudden depressions of the surface which are of such frequent occurrence in this district, and commands a fine view of the southern parts of the county, the Somersetshire hills, and the Bristol channel, with its numerous shipping: the deep and thickly wooded dingles by which it is surrounded, and the diversified scenery of the immediate neighbourhood, add greatly to the picturesque beauties of its situation. The substratum of the parish is limestone, in which lead-ore has been found, and worked to a limited extent; but the undertaking was not attended with sufficient advantage to lead to the establishment of any permanent works. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £5. 14.  $4\frac{1}{2}$ ., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Archdeacon and Chapter of Llandaf. The church is a neat substantial structure of two aisles, with a square embattled tower at the west end, and an east window of very elegant design: the interior is very appropriately arranged. A small school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported by the family of Trahearne, who have a residence occupying an agreeable situation in the village. In a fine meadow, about a mile from the village, originally called *Beau Prés*, and now Bewper, stood one of the palaces of the royal house of Sitsyllt, the progenitors of the family of the Cecils, Marquises of Salisbury and Exeter. On the site of the original mansion, which was one of the most ancient in the principality, was erected another, of which there



are some strikingly picturesque ruins, particularly deserving notice on account of some embellishments to the principal front of the building, which are considered to be among the earliest introductions of the Grecian style of architecture into this country, and were erected in 1600, at the expense of Richard Bassett, Esq. They consist of three stages of columns, of which the lowest is of the Doric, the middle of the Tuscan, and the upper of the Corinthian order; the capitals, intaglios, and other sculptures, are executed in a masterly style, and immediately over the entrance are the family arms, finely sculptured in alto relievo, with a commemorative inscription in Roman capitals. These embellishments were added from a design by a stonemason named Twrch, whose family had for many generations been proprietors of the freestone quarries in the neighbourhood, and who, having left home on account of some domestic quarrel, visited Italy and other places on the continent, where he greatly improved himself in masonry and sculpture, and, on his return to his native place, displayed so much talent in this piece of art, which continues to attract the admiration of all travellers, that it procured for him the notice of several of the gentry of the county. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £91.

HIMMINIOG (AMMINIOG), a township in the parish of LLANRHÛSTID, lower division of the hundred of ILAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (S. S. W.) from Aberystwith, containing 785 inhabitants. This township is situated on the sea-shore, on the road from Aberystwith to Aberaeron, and contains the parish church: it forms the lower division of the parish. The river Gwyrai flows through it into Cardigan bay, in which, at flood-tide, here are six fathoms of water, within half a mile of the shore. The fortress called LlanrhÛstid, or Dinerth castle, is said to have stood in this division of the parish, but there are no remains of it.

HIRNANT, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of LLANVYLLIN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. N. W.) from Llanvyllin, containing 290 inhabitants. The village is situated in a small valley, enclosed by lofty hills, and watered by an inconsiderable stream, tributary to the Tanat. Peat is procured within the parish, for the consumption of the inhabitants. In the year 1830, an unsuccessful attempt to procure lead-ore was made on a high hill in the township of Cwmmwr, between the village and the adjoining parish of Llangynog, the lead mines in which are upon the northern side of the same hill, at no great distance. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £4. 3. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Illog, is a building of considerable antiquity. David Humphreys, by will dated in 1718, bequeathed £10 for the benefit of the poor. Not far from the church is a well, called Fynnon Illog, formerly much resorted to for the cure of diseases; but it is doubtful whether it ever possessed any medicinal properties. On the summit of an eminence, called Carnedd Illog, there is a tumulus, which is supposed to have been raised over the remains of the tutelar saint. Upon a hill on the south-eastern side of the parish, bordering upon that of Llanrhaiadr, there is a large intrenchment, about four hundred yards in length,

called Clawdd Mawr, the mounds of which are distinctly visible; and about two miles from this, on an opposite hill on the northern side, adjoining the parish of Pennant, is another, less distinctly traceable. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £87. 11.

HIRNIN, a joint hamlet with Egwad, in that part of the parish of LLANEGWAD which is in the higher division of the hundred of CATHINOG, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. N. E.) from Carmarthen. The population is returned with the parish. It occupies the left bank of the Cothy, near its junction with the river Towy, where it is crossed by a bridge on the high road between Carmarthen and Llandovery. There is a slate quarry in this hamlet.

HODGESTON, a parish in the hundred of CASTLE-MARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (E. S. E.) from Pembroke, on the road to Tenby, containing 72 inhabitants. This parish is by some writers supposed to have been the site of an ancient religious establishment, of the existence of which, however, there are not the slightest traces, nor has it even a traditional history. The supposition rests chiefly, if not entirely, upon the evidence of an ancient deed still extant, in which John Stackpool styles himself "Capellanus," and dates it from "Oggeston;" but there is every probability that the writer was chaplain of the Episcopal palace at Lamphey, about half a mile distant, and held the rectory of this parish at the same time. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 13. 4., and in the patronage of Sir John Owen Bart., for two turns, and Pryse Pryse, Esq., for one. The church is a neat edifice, in the early style of English architecture, with a lofty square embattled tower. Dr. Thomas Young, formerly Bishop of St. David's, and afterwards Archbishop of York, was a native of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £57. 14.

HOELWERMWOOD (HOEL - CHWERMWD), a hamlet in the parish of MERTHYR-TYDVIL, hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, adjoining the town of Merthyr-Tydvil. The population is returned with the parish. In this hamlet is situated the principal part of the extensive and populous market-town of Merthyr-Tydvil. It contains the Dowlais, Penydarren, and other iron-works, and the Plymouth furnaces, and abounds with coal and iron-ore. The Tâf Vawr river flows on its western side, on the left bank of which proceeds the road from Cardiff to Merthyr-Tydvil. At Twyn y waun, an eminence on the eastern side of the hamlet, fairs are held on the first Monday in July and the first Monday in August, and horse-races occasionally take place: near this eminence passes the road to the Tredegar iron-works in Brecknockshire. The lower part of the hamlet, on the banks of the Tâf, is tolerably well wooded.

HOLT, a parish in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, comprising the borough of Holt, and the parochial chapelry of Is y Coed, in which latter are the townships of Cacca Dutton, Dutton y Brân, Dutton Difeth, Ridley, and Sutton, each of which is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, and containing 1609 inhabitants, of which number, 1015 are in the borough of Holt, 29



miles (E. S. E.) from Denbigh, 21 (E. by S.) from Ruthin, and 191 (N. W.) from London. This parish, which is the only portion of the grant made to the see of Chester by Edward the Confessor, of all the lands on the western side of the river Dee, now remaining to that see, is supposed to have contained, under the Roman dominion in Britain, an outpost to the station *Deva* (Chester); and the fortress erected here, according to some antiquaries, was called, from that circumstance, *Castra Legionis*, or "the castle of the legion," preserved in its synonymous Welsh name of *Castell Lleon*, which, on its coming into the possession of John Earl Warren, in the reign of Edward I., was probably, by mistaking *Lleon* for the plural of *Llew*, changed into "the Castle of Lions," or "Lyons," which it continued to bear for ages. Its present name is probably derived from a family of the name of Holt, who are said to have held it prior to this period, probably under a lord paramount. Warren having, after the death of Madoc, (one of the sons of Gruffydd ab Madoc who had been entrusted to his guardianship by Edward I., and whom he caused to be drowned under Holt bridge), obtained from that monarch a grant of Dinas Brân and all Bromfield, in order to secure his possessions, began to erect the castle of Holt, for which this parish is chiefly distinguished, and which gave rise to the present borough; but dying soon after, he left the completion of it to his son William. This castle afterwards came by marriage into the possession of Edward Fitz-Alan, Earl of Arundel: after the attainder and execution of Richard Earl of Arundel, in the reign of Richard II., it reverted to the crown, and that monarch deposited there, during his expedition to Ireland, plate and jewels of the value of two hundred thousand marks, and one hundred thousand marks in money, all which treasure, together with the fortress, was delivered up to Bolingbroke, in 1399, prior to the deposition of that monarch. In the following reign the estates were restored to the Fitz-Alans; and Thomas Earl of Arundel, in 1410, granted the inhabitants a charter of incorporation, but, jealous of the Welsh, who were ever on the alert to throw off the English yoke, precluded all but Englishmen from participating in the privileges then bestowed. In the reign of Henry VII., the lordship and castle of Holt were granted to Sir William Stanley, who repaired and altered the latter at a great expense, but on whose subsequent attainder for high treason, Henry not only resumed the lordship, but confiscated to his own use the treasures found in the castle, which, exclusively of jewels, amounted to more than forty thousand marks in money and plate. Henry VIII. bestowed this lordship on his natural son, Henry Fitzroy, Duke of Richmond, on whose decease soon after, at the age of seventeen, it again reverted to the crown. In the reign of Edward VI., Thomas Seymour, Lord Admiral, and brother of the Protector, had possession of the lordship and castle, the latter of which he made subservient to the promotion of his ambitious projects, collecting in it a large magazine of warlike stores and ammunition; but, being attainted of high treason, and found guilty, he was beheaded on Tower Hill, London, in 1549, when Holt once more reverted to the crown. During the civil war in the reign of Charles I., this castle was an important fortress, and was alternately in the possession of each of the contending parties. In 1643, it was besieged and taken for the parliament, by

Sir William Brereton and Sir Thomas Myddelton; but was shortly after retaken by the royalists, and valiantly defended by Sir Richard Lloyd, of Esclusham, near Wrexham, in 1646, against the parliamentary forces under Major-General Mytton, to whom, after an obstinate resistance, it was finally surrendered upon honourable terms, and was immediately demolished by order of the parliament.

Though anciently a place of some note, this borough at present constitutes only an inconsiderable village, situated on the road from Wrexham to Nantwich, on an eminence rising gently from a spacious vale, and on the western bank of the Dee, in the navigable part of its course, and immediately above the point where this river is joined from the west by the powerful stream of the Alyn. The surrounding scenery, owing to the flatness of the country, is not of the most pleasing character; the Dee, in this part of its course, flowing smoothly through a tract of meadows unadorned by any picturesque beauty. This river is here crossed to the village of Farndon, in Cheshire, by a stone bridge of ten arches, of very curious and ancient construction, which appears, from an inscription formerly to be seen over a portion called the Lady's Arch, to have been built in the year 1345. The parish comprises two thousand seven hundred and twenty-six acres, which are flat and liable to be flooded by the river Dee: the soil consists partly of gravel and partly of clay. A market, which was formerly held at Holt, has long been discontinued: it nevertheless has two annual fairs for cattle, on June 12th and October 29th. By virtue of the above-mentioned charter of Thomas Earl of Arundel, granted with the royal sanction, and dated from his "Castle of Lyons," it is still governed by a mayor, two bailiffs, and a coroner, who are elected annually. By the 27th of Henry VIII., Leon, otherwise Holt, was made a contributory borough, to share with those of Denbigh and Ruthin in the return of a member to parliament: the right of election was formerly vested in the resident burgesses, in number at present one hundred and fourteen. Serious quarrels concerning the election of a burgess have at different times arisen, from great numbers of strangers being made burgesses of Holt, for the express purpose of voting at these elections. By the act for amending the representation of the people, recently passed, the town of Wrexham has been added to this district of contributory boroughs; and the privilege of exercising the elective franchise has been extended to all male persons of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided they be capable of registering as the act directs. The limits of the borough are co-extensive with the township of Holt, and comprise an area of about nine miles in circumference: the present number of houses of the annual value of not less than ten pounds is thirty-eight: the bailiffs of Denbigh are the returning officers. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Chester, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Winchester. The church, dedicated to St. Chad, is a handsome structure, in the later style of English architecture, with a good square embattled tower: the interior consists of a nave and



aisles of equal height, without a clerestory. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. A school for the instruction of children of this parish was founded in 1664, by Mr. Griffith Roberts, who endowed it with property now producing £52 per annum. Mr. John Brown bequeathed the interest of £200, and Mrs. Gartside the interest of £50, to be annually distributed in bread to the poor of the borough; and there are also some other bequests for charitable purposes. The castle was a strong pentagonal fortress, occupying the summit of a rock, environed on three sides by a broad moat, excavated in quarrying stone for its erection, and on the fourth by the river Dee: it was defended at four of the angles by massive circular bastions, from which issued slender embattled turrets, and at the fifth angle and also at the entrance by square towers, of which the former was the "donjon," or keep, while the approach to the latter was defended by a drawbridge and portcullis. Of this once strong and important fortress there are no remains, except slight vestiges of the moat. Coins of Antoninus and other Roman emperors have been found here; and slight traces of earthworks, supposed to be of Roman construction, are yet visible near the castle, and on the opposite side of the river. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the town and parish amounts to £660. 15., of which sum, £386. 15. is raised for the township of Holt.

**HOLYHEAD**, a sea-port, borough, market town, and parish, partly in the hundred of TŶLYBOLION, but chiefly in that of LLYVON, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 24 miles (W. by N.) from Beaumaris, and 260 (N. W. by W.) from London, containing 4282 inhabitants. This place, which is of very remote antiquity, derives its Welsh name, *Caer Gybi*, implying "the fortified place, or city, of Cybi," from its situation in a small island at the western extremity of Anglesey, called *Ynys Gybi*, from its having been for many years the residence of a British saint of that name, who, according to Cressy's Church History, was the son of Solomon, Duke of Cornwall. Upon the authority of the same historian, St. Cybi, who was also surnamed Corineus, having travelled for the prosecution of his studies into Gaul, where he greatly distinguished himself by his able refutation of the Arian heresy, returned to his native country about the close of the fourth century, and passed the remainder of his days in devotional retirement at this sequestered place, which, from the sanctity of his life and the veneration in which he was held, obtained its present English appellation of "Holyhead," as forming a projecting headland of the island, which also from the same circumstance received the name of the "Holy Island." This place appears to have been known to the Romans, who, according to Tacitus, carried on a considerable trade with Ireland during the time of Agricola, though they may not have had any fixed or permanent settlement in that country. The extensive remains of Roman architecture which are found in this parish, more especially in the churchyard, and which in their construction exhibit every peculiarity of style observable in other ruins of the buildings of that people in Britain, afford an almost conclusive demonstration that they had a station or fortress here for the protection of their commerce with Ireland. About the middle of the fifth century, the Irish-Scots, under a leader named

*Sirigi*, or "the Rover," made a descent upon the coast of Mona, now Anglesey, and, having massacred many of the inhabitants, at a place in the vicinity of this town, which is still called *Careg y Gwyddyl*, or "the Irishman's rock," laid up their fleet at this place, and took up a fortified station in the vicinity. To oppose these invaders, Einion Urdd, at that time sovereign of West Britain, sent his eldest son, Caswallon Law-Hîr, or Caswallon the Long-handed, who, having succeeded in drawing them into a general engagement, amply retaliated for the slaughter of his countrymen, and drove them from the island with prodigious loss, having slain their leader with his own hand. After this battle, which was fought on the site of the present town, this place is supposed, by some antiquaries, to have been fortified, with a view to prevent the recurrence of similar attempts; but no particulars of this work are recorded, nor has any thing of historical importance connected with the town occurred since that period, with the exception of the loss of the Charlemont packet belonging to Parkgate, on December 18th, 1790, which was wrecked on Salt Island, at the mouth of Holyhead harbour, when one hundred and ten persons perished.

The town is situated on the north-eastern side of Holy Island, on the shore of the Irish sea, near its junction with St. George's channel, and is separated from the main land of Anglesey by a narrow strait, in some parts fordable at low water, over which the great Holyhead road is continued by an embankment about three-quarters of a mile in length, having in the centre an arch nineteen feet in the span. The small island on which it stands comprises the parishes of Holyhead in the north, and Rhôscolyn in the south, and consists chiefly of barren, rocks and dreary sands; but, from its being that part of Britain which is nearest to Ireland, it has always been a place of great resort for persons visiting the capital of that country. Owing to the very extensive intercourse which now subsists between the two kingdoms, the town has, within the last few years, rapidly increased in extent and improved in appearance, being now large and well-built, and affording ample accommodation of every kind for the numerous passengers who embark at the port. From its advantageous situation it has been selected as the principal station of the post-office packets for conveying the mails to Dublin; and, among other improvements, a new line of road has been constructed under the walls of the town, upon the shore of the *traeth*, or sandy æstuary, which forms the harbour, extending more than a mile along a lofty artificial embankment, from the entrance of the town to the commencement of the pier. At the extremity of the town a handsome swivel bridge over what is called the sound connects the pier with the main land; and beyond this bridge are, the engineer's house, the custom-house, the harbour-master's offices, and the dépôt for the post-office stores: further on is the grand triumphal arch, built by subscription of the gentry of the county of Anglesey, to commemorate the circumstance of the royal squadron having anchored in Holyhead bay on the night of the 6th of August, 1821, and the landing of His Majesty George IV. on the following day: the king proceeded to Plâs Newydd, the seat of the Marquis of Anglesey, where he slept that night, and on the following day returned and embarked on board the Royal George, then lying at anchor outside the harbour,



intending to sail next morning for Dublin; but in the course of the night a gale of wind came on. At an early hour warps were procured, and the yacht hove within the pier: at the same time the signal was given for the squadron to get under weigh, and take an offing. The weather continuing boisterous until the morning of the 12th, one of the post-office steam-packets, afterwards called the Royal Sovereign, was hauled alongside the Royal George, to receive His Majesty on board, and immediately proceeded on her passage to Dublin; at the same time the whole of the royal squadron got under weigh, and sailed also for the same destination. At first, it was not the intention of His Majesty to land on his way to Ireland; though it was arranged that the squadron should rendezvous in the bay until its approach could be made known in Dublin. But, receiving such demonstrations of loyalty and attachment from the inhabitants, who had made considerable preparations on the pier, in anticipation of his landing, the king altered his intention, and on the seventh at noon announced his determination to land: the royal yacht, with His Majesty on board, was placed under the care of the harbour master, as pilot, from the time she anchored in the bay until her departure. This arch, which was opened in August 1824, is a chaste and elegant structure of Mona marble, brought from the Red Wharf quarry, and consists of a central carriage-way, separated on each side, by two handsome pillars of the Doric order, from a footway, enclosed exteriorly by a wall ornamented at the extremities with antæ of corresponding character, the whole twenty feet high, and supporting a boldly projecting cornice, surmounted by three diminishing tiers of masonry, forming a platform: over the carriage-way, on each side, is a large entablature, respectively bearing inscriptions in Welsh and Latin, commemorative of the event. In the vicinity of the town are several respectable mansions.

It does not appear at what time Holyhead was first selected as a station for the post-office packets to Dublin; but, in the reign of William III., packets are known to have sailed from this port, and in the month of January, 1696, the mail boat from Holyhead was wrecked in the bay of Dublin, when the bags were lost, and the passengers and crew perished. Since that time it has been a regular station, and great improvements have been made in the port and harbour, which were previously inadequate either to the security of the vessels, or to the regularity of their departure and arrival. The packets were frequently damaged by the heavy swell running into the harbour, and their time of sailing was uncertain, being frequently aground for eight hours out of the twelve. During fresh gales from the east, which are favourable for their departure, the packets could not warp out, and were frequently detained for two or three days in the harbour, with a wind which, had they been at sea, would have carried them to their destination. The difficulty of entering the harbour was equally great during the prevalence of gales from the westward, which were perfectly favourable to their arrival, and the landing of passengers was attended with great personal hazard. To remedy these inconveniences, an act was obtained in the 50th of George III., for improving the harbour, under the provisions of which a noble pier was constructed, and at its eastern extremity one of the finest lighthouses in the

kingdom was erected. The pier extends from the small island called Ynys Halen, or "Salt Island," in an east-south-easterly direction into the sea, and from the triumphal arch before noticed is three hundred and sixty yards in length: it is connected with the main land by a handsome iron bridge of one arch, dividing in the centre, and each part turning on a swivel, to afford a passage on either side. On the south side this pier is faced with a perpendicular wall of hewn stone, and near the east end is a projection at right angles, twenty yards in length, affording shelter from the easterly winds. The wall is continued in a curve from the triumphal arch to the bridge, and from the bridge round the custom-house. On the eastern side the pier is open to the basin, and on the western its summit is protected by a lofty stone wall, along the top of which is a fine promenade of great breadth, affording one of the most interesting marine views imaginable. The side of the pier next the sea forms an inclined plane from the top of this parapet, composed of large rough stones placed edgewise, as close together as possible, and wedged with smaller ones. The lighthouse is built entirely of hewn stone, and without any other timber than what was necessary for the door-cases and window-frames: the foundation is an inverted arch, and the substratum of the pier being sand, the building has sunk considerably, but has, notwithstanding, preserved its perpendicular position. It consists of three stories, the ceilings of which are groined, and the floors are of smooth stone: its base is six feet above the level of high water mark, and is protected from the sea by a strong glacis. The tower, which is circular, is thirty-three feet in height to the gallery, and the lantern, which is ten feet higher, is lighted with twenty brilliant lights of oil gas, having reflectors plated with silver, and displaying a strong white light, which, being at an elevation of fifty feet above the level of the sea, affords a safe guide to vessels approaching the harbour. Gas-works have been constructed on Salt Island, for the supply of the lighthouse, and for lighting the pier and harbour up to the Royal Hotel; but, in case of any accident, oil lamps are constantly in readiness to be put up. The whole of these works were completed at an expense of about £130,000; and a graving dock was constructed at an additional expense of £12,000.

By an act obtained in the 4th of George IV., the harbours of Holyhead and Howth were united, and the whole lines of road from London to Holyhead, and from Howth to Dublin, were placed under the same regulations, by means of which a considerable portion of time is saved in performing the journey between the capitals of the two kingdoms. So late as 1784, the mail-coach from London was forty-eight hours in arriving at Holyhead, a distance which is now travelled in twenty-seven hours and a half. Since the construction of the pier, and the erection of the lighthouse, the harbour has afforded proper facility of entrance and security of shelter to the packets: in all states of the weather vessels pass in a few minutes from the open bay to the quay, on which are cranes and other necessary apparatus for landing horses and carriages, and the mail and passengers are landed with expedition, and with perfect safety. The post-office establishment at this place consists of six steam-packets, of two hundred and thirty tons' burden, which sail regularly twice every day, at stated



hours, from this port, and from Howth, keeping up a constant intercourse between the two kingdoms. They are substantial, well-built vessels, affording every accommodation for passengers, and are propelled by steam-engines of one hundred horse power, generally performing in six hours the passage from Holyhead to Howth, a distance of sixty miles, which, previously to their introduction, was often not accomplished in less than twenty hours, and frequently, in unfavourable weather, attended with a delay of several days. The local advantages of Holyhead have made it also a favourite place of embarkation for Ireland, in preference to Liverpool, Parkgate, and other places, the passage from which is attended with considerable hazard from the rocks by which the Welsh coast is lined; and consequently, independently of its being a government station, it derives from that circumstance a considerable degree of traffic, although the recent establishment of packets between Liverpool and Dublin has much diminished the number of passengers by this route. The adjacent promontory called the Head, which is a bold and lofty projection, is easily recognized at sea; and the entrance to this port being free from rocks and shoals, and having a channel light-house on each side of the bay, and a third at the extremity of the pier, vessels can at all times come up in safety to their moorings in the harbour; and in clearing outwards, within half an hour after leaving the pier, they are in a position having fifteen leagues of offing in nearly all directions, owing to the central situation of the Head in St. George's channel. The harbour affords a secure asylum for vessels in strong gales: during the last ten years above one thousand sail of ships have taken refuge in it each year, averaging a burden of above seventy-eight thousand tons annually, exclusively of the government packets, which average an additional tonnage of one hundred and sixty-seven thousand nine hundred, making in the aggregate two hundred and forty-five thousand nine hundred tons entering the harbour annually, and sailing therefrom. Owing to several vessels having been lost in endeavouring to enter the harbour, a plan is at present under contemplation for its extension. In the year ending January 5th, 1831, exclusively of the government packets, two hundred and twenty-five vessels (including different arrivals of the same) entered inwards, and eighty-six (reckoning as above) cleared outwards at this port, which is a creek to that of Beaumaris. On the summit of the adjacent mountain, about two miles from the harbour, is a double signal station, one portion belonging to government packets, and the other to the merchants of Liverpool: the merchants' station communicates with the latter port by a chain of nine signal posts, conveying intelligence of inward or outward bound vessels from the agents at Holyhead to Carreglwyd, and thence to the port, an overland distance of sixty miles, in the space of ten minutes. These stations were established and first brought into operation in the year 1826, and have been found highly beneficial to the interests of commerce.

Connected with the harbour, and materially contributing to facilitate its access, is the South Stack lighthouse, erected upon the summit of an isolated rock on the coast, about five miles westward from Holyhead, and separated from the main land by a chasm

ninety feet in width. This splendid structure was raised by the Corporation of the Trinity House, under the immediate superintendence of Captain Evans, in the year 1808. The elevation of the summit of the rock on which it is erected is one hundred and forty feet above the level of the sea at high water mark; the height of the tower from the base to the gallery is sixty feet; and the lantern is twelve feet high from the gallery; making the total elevation of the light two hundred and twelve feet above the level of high water mark. The light consists of twenty-one brilliant lamps with powerful reflectors, placed on a revolving triangular frame, displaying a full-faced light every two minutes, which in clear weather is distinctly visible at the distance of ten leagues. From the rough sea caused by the strong tides about the Head, a communication by boat was found to be very precarious. Mr. Evans first contrived to cross in a box or cradle running upon two strong ropes, with two others at the top, to keep it steady, and hauling lines at each end: this mode served for five years, subsequently to which a bridge of ropes, which was used for fifteen years, was constructed, and during the whole of both these periods not a single accident occurred; but, from the continual wear of the ropes, it was always attended with a degree of danger, and, on a subsequent inspection of the place, the committee of the Elder Brethren of the Trinity House ordered a suspension chain bridge to be thrown over the sound, which was accomplished in 1827. This bridge is of one hundred and ten feet span: the chains are firmly bolted into the rock on both sides of the sound, and carried over two massive pillars of stone from the Moelvre quarries, erected for the purpose, and capped with single stones weighing nearly four tons each: the chains support a platform of timber, five feet in breadth, and seventy feet above the level of the sea at high water mark. The erection of the South Stack lighthouse has been of the most extensive benefit to the navigation on this whole line of coast, which was previously dangerous from the numerous rocks and shoals which are scattered around in various directions. Before its erection scarcely a winter passed without some vessels being wrecked off it: during the forty years previous to 1808, no fewer than seventy-three vessels are recorded to have been totally lost here; while, during the twenty-four years that have elapsed since the erection of this lighthouse, only four vessels have been wrecked, having run on shore at the back of the Head during the night in very hazy weather: it has been found of essential benefit to the government packets in particular, which could not, without its aid, have navigated these seas with safety. There is now a moveable light placed at the South Stack, principally for the use of the government packets, which approach the Head with the London mail about half past nine o'clock, P. M., which is lighted in hazy weather: it is a red light, running upon an inclined plane, with a crab winch at the top, and having three lamps and reflectors. In a thick state of the atmosphere the margin of the coast is frequently seen, about thirty or forty feet above the sea, when more elevated objects are completely obscured. Two men, with their families, constantly reside on the island, to attend to the lights, occupying two very neat cottages, also built by the Corporation of the Trinity House, and each re-



ceiving a salary of £65 per annum : from the time of the erection of the lighthouse until 1823, every ship that passed paid a halfpenny per ton, but since the latter period this charge has been reduced to a farthing per ton. The scenery around the point on which the lighthouse is built is strikingly bold and romantic, and the structure itself forms one of the most prominent and interesting features in the scenery of this part of North Wales.

No manufactures are carried on at this place : several attempts have been made, at considerable expense, to explore the mineral treasures with which the parish was supposed to abound, but nothing of importance has yet been discovered, except some veins of the Mona marble, called "verd antique," which have been worked to some extent. In these quarries are frequently found fine specimens of steatite, which is also found in the parishes of Amlwch and Llanvechell : this mineral has attracted more attention since it has been ascertained that chromate of iron, a valuable pigment, belongs to the same formation. The trade consists principally in the building of coasting vessels, the repairing of all the post-office steam-packets belonging to the several ports of England and Wales, and the making of ropes and cables. For these purposes there are very extensive premises, consisting of wet and dry docks, smithies, and other works, in which numerous workmen are constantly employed. In the works belonging to the post-office department alone more than four hundred men are generally employed, under the superintendence of a resident engineer appointed by the commissioners of the general post-office. The market is on Saturday. The parish comprises about six thousand acres, of which one thousand are common and uncultivated : the soil, though rocky, is in many places very productive. Holyhead was made, by the late act for amending the representation of the people, a borough contributory, with the newly created boroughs of Amlwch and Llanegwini, to Beaumaris, in the election of a member to serve in parliament : the right of election is vested in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the yearly value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act demands : the present number of tenements of this value within the limits of the borough, which are described in the Appendix to this work, is one hundred and twenty. It is now also a polling-place in the election of a member for the county.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £300 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Principal and Fellows of Jesus' College, Oxford, who, in 1820, augmented the income of the curate with an additional stipend of £20 per annum. The church, dedicated to St. Cybi, is by some historians said to have been originally founded by that recluse, during his retirement in this remote part of the principality, about the close of the fourth century ; but by others its foundation is attributed to Maelgwyn Gwynedd, whose arms are placed over the principal entrance, and who, soon after its erection, is said to have endowed it with lands in this county and in that of Carnarvon, and to have made it collegiate for a provost and twelve prebendaries, sometimes styled

the rector and brethren. This collegiate establishment, however, is stated on better authority to have been founded by Hwva ab Cynddelw, lord of Llŷs Llivon, in the reign of Owain Gwynedd, who ascended the throne of North Wales in the year 1137 : it continued to flourish till the dissolution, at which time its revenue was £32. 12. 6., of which sum, £8. 12. 6. was received by the provost, and £24 by the prebendaries. This revenue remained in the possession of the crown till the time of James I., who granted it to Francis Morris, from whom it passed through several hands into the possession of Rice Wynne, Esq., who, in 1640, gave the whole of the great tithes of this parish, together with those of the parishes of Bôdewern, Bôdwrog, and Llandrygarn, which were originally chapelries in the parish of Holyhead, to the Principal and Fellows of Jesus' College, Oxford, for the maintenance of two fellows and two scholars ; and directed that the advowson should remain with that body, so long as they should appoint the officiating minister from amongst the said scholars. The present church is a spacious cruciform structure, principally in the decorated style of English architecture, consisting of a nave and aisles, a chancel and north and south transepts, with a very curious and ancient southern porch : its tower, originally rising from the intersection of the nave and transepts, has been rebuilt at the western end, at a comparatively modern period. The exterior of the south transept, and the porch, are curiously ornamented with rude sculpture, representing boars, bears, and other animals, among which is the dragon, supposed to bear some allusion to the reputed founder, Maelgwyn, who was called *Draco Insularis*. The exterior of the church is embattled, and on one of the walls is the Latin inscription "*Sancte Kubi, ora pro nobis.*" The nave is separated from the aisles by ranges of pillars and pointed arches, of which those on the south side are more lofty than those on the north. The chancel, which, as well as the tower, is of comparatively recent date, is greatly inferior in its character to the nave and transepts, which are much more elegant in the tracery of the windows and other architectural details. The columns which supported the original tower, with their highly enriched capitals, and the springs of the arches, are still remaining at the point of intersection ; and the modern tower, which is square and embattled, but of very inferior character, is surmounted by a low pyramidal roof. There were formerly various other churches, or chapels, in this parish, which, as before observed, was anciently of greater importance and extent than at present ; but they have long since been in ruins, and the only remains are those of Capel Lochwyd, Capel y Gorllŷs, Capel St. Fraed, Capel Gwyngenu, and Towyn y Capel : the last of these, situated on the sea-shore, near the old road, occupied the summit of a mound or tumulus, in which a vast number of human bones have been exposed to the view by the action of the waves which wash its base. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Dr. Edward Wynne, in 1748, built a school-house in the churchyard, and endowed it with £120, the interest of which he appropriated to the payment of a master for teaching six poor boys of this parish. A National school was founded, and a school-



room was built by subscription in 1818, at an expense of £320, for the gratuitous instruction of children: the building is capable of accommodating three hundred and sixty, and there are at present one hundred and five boys and one hundred and eighty girls, exclusively of the six boys under Dr. Wynne's endowment, who are gratuitously instructed by the same master, to whom the interest of the £120 is paid. Catherine Roberts, in 1756, bequeathed £250 in trust to the minister and churchwardens of this parish; the interest of £125 to be divided annually among four distressed housekeepers, and the interest of the remainder to be distributed among the poor generally. Arthur Griffith bequeathed small portions of land; John Prichard in 1745, bequeathed £40, with preference to his poor relations; Margaret Owen bequeathed a small portion of land; and there are also some other charitable donations and bequests, the proceeds of which are distributed among the poor. There are two unendowed almshouses, which are appropriated as residences for the poor, and called respectively the old and new poor houses.

Of the monastery, said to have been founded here by St. Cybi, towards the close of the fourth century, there are no remains. The walls of the churchyard point out the site of the Roman station supposed to have existed here: they enclose an area in the form of a parallelogram, two hundred and twenty feet in length, and one hundred and thirty feet broad. On one side this area is open to the harbour, having only a parapet along the edge of the precipitous cliffs; but on the other three sides it is defended by strong walls of masonry, six feet in thickness and seventeen feet high. At the angles were circular bastion towers, a small portion only of one of which is now remaining. The walls are still in good preservation, and are perforated with two rows of circular openings, about four inches in diameter, the insides of which are smoothly plastered, and in every respect resembling those which form so remarkable a feature in the walls of *Segontium*, adjacent to Carnarvon. The cement, mixed with coarse pebbles, is extremely hard, and in every other respect the work displays strong characteristics of Roman origin. On the summit of a mountain, about three miles from the town, are the remains of an ancient military post, consisting of a circular tower, and some portions of walls, in some parts eight feet in height, extending in a straight line for a considerable distance. These ruins, which are called *Caer Twr*, have by some antiquaries also been considered as of Roman origin; and the mountain on which they are situated is called *Pen Caer Gybi*, or "the summit of the fortress of Cybi." On the mountain on which the signal station has been established, and not far from the latter, are the remains of an ancient camp, which appears to have been surrounded with a wall of uncemented stones, of which vestiges may still be traced. In 1825, several gold coins of the Emperor Constantine were found in a high state of preservation on one of the hills near Holyhead: one of these, now in the possession of the Marquis of Anglesey, has on the obverse a fine head of the emperor, and on the reverse a wreath, within which is the legend *VOTIS. TSE*, in high relief. On a farm called *Trêvignerth*, about a mile to the south-east of Holyhead, is a cromlech nearly perfect. The promontory called the Head, by which the harbour is sheltered from the westerly winds, presents

a singular aspect, its sides towards the sea forming in some parts immense perpendicular precipices, while in others they are worn, by the continued action of the waves, into caverns of magnificent and romantic appearance. Of these, one called the "Parliament House" is accessible only by boats at half ebb tide, and consists of a stately series of receding arches, supported by massive and lofty pillars of rock, displaying an interior of picturesque beauty and sublime grandeur. Some of these caverns afford shelter to gulls, razor-bills, guillemots, ravens, cormorants, herons, and other birds; and the loftiest crags are frequented by the peregrine falcon. The eggs of these birds are in great request as a delicacy for the table, and some of the hardiest inhabitants of the vicinity are employed in the hazardous task of procuring them for sale. For this purpose, one man is lowered down by a rope fastened round his body, with the other end secured in the ground on the summit of the cliff, where another remains to guard it: after depositing the eggs in a basket slung at his back, he is drawn up to the brow of the rock, and in this perilous situation is assisted over the edge of the precipice, with his booty, by his companion. The adventurers have become so accustomed to this dangerous employment, that accidents rarely occur; although it has occasionally happened that the man on the summit of the cliff, being overpowered by the weight of his companion, while assisting him to land, has been drawn over the brink, and both have perished. The common near this place, called *Towyn y Capel*, is bounded on the west by some rocks, over which the sea breaks with tremendous violence, and which, being covered at high water, are exceedingly dangerous to mariners incautiously approaching this part of the coast. William Morris, distinguished as a collector of Welsh manuscripts, and brother of the learned Lewis Morris, a celebrated antiquary and poet, was Comptroller of the Customs at this place, where he died in 1764. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £910. 2.

**HOLYWELL** (called by the Welsh *TRÊFYNNON*), a borough, market-town, and parish, partly in the Holywell, and partly in the Northop, division of the hundred of *COLESHILL*, county of *FLINT*, *NORTH WALES*, 5 miles (W. N. W.) from Flint, and 207 (N. W.) from London, on the road to Holyhead, containing 8969 inhabitants. This place derives its Welsh name of *Trêfynnon*, or "the town of the well," from one of the most powerful springs in the island, which issues from a rock just below the town, and has been celebrated for many ages for the miraculous efficacy traditionally related to have been imparted to its waters by St. Winifred, to whose memory, after her decease, the fountain was dedicated. Its reported Saxon name of *Welston* appears to have been derived from the same source; and its present appellation of *Holywell* has originated in the supposed sacredness of its spring, to which numerous pilgrims of every rank resorted from all parts of the kingdom, to present their offerings at the shrine of its tutelary saint. St. Winifred, according to the monkish legend, was the daughter of Thewith, a powerful lord in this part of the principality, and niece to St. Beuno, under whose protection she lived in monastic seclusion, in a vale which, for its remarkable aridity, had obtained the name of *Sych Nant*, near the foot of



the hill on which the town of Holywell now stands, where Beuno had built a small church, and where there are two fields, still called Gerddi St. Beuno, or "St. Beuno's Gardens." The same authority states that Cradocus, son of a neighbouring king, enamoured of the beauty of St. Winifred, and enraged at her disdainful repulses, struck off her head with his sword, as she was endeavouring to escape from his pursuit; that the severed head, after rolling down the side of the hill, stopped near the church of St. Beuno, and that a spring of prodigious force burst forth with impetuosity from the spot on which it rested. The moss on the sides of this spring is said to have diffused a fragrant odour; and the stones, which were discoloured with her blood, to have assumed, on the anniversary of her decollation, a colour not possessed by them at other times. St. Beuno, taking up the head, united it to the body, which instantly became resuscitated; and Winifred is said to have survived her decapitation for fifteen years, and to have died at Gwytherin, in Denbighshire, where her remains rested till the reign of Stephen, when they were removed (by divine admonition, as it is said,) to the abbey of St. Peter and St. Paul at Shrewsbury, where a fraternity or guild was founded in honour of her memory. After her death her sanctity is said to have been proved by numerous miracles; and the waters of the miraculously formed well were found to be efficacious in the cure of all corporeal infirmities. The legend of St. Winifred would scarcely have been worthy of repetition here, had not its influence on the prosperity of the town of Holywell, and even on its very existence, by causing a vast resort of pilgrims to the extraordinarily copious spring, been extremely great, having even yet hardly ceased to operate. In Domesday-book no mention is made of Holywell, whence Bishop Fleetwood concluded that the story above related was purely the invention of monks living in a later age; and it is somewhat singular that, if the well had really attained the celebrity which it is said to have done at so early a period, the wonder-telling Giraldus Cambrensis, who lodged a night at the abbey of Basingwerk, in this parish, in 1188, in company with Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, then preaching the crusades in Wales, should make no mention of it; a circumstance which induced Dr. Powell to regard the whole story as a fiction, and ascribe it to the monks of the neighbouring abbey, under whose protection the place seems first to have risen into importance, and who procured for it the grant of a market and fair.

This abbey is said to have been founded, in 1131, by Ranulph Earl of Chester, for Cistercian monks, being probably the first establishment of that order in Wales. This is the origin assigned to it by Bishop Tanner; but, according to Bishop Fleetwood, it was founded by King Henry II.; and Mr. Pennant is inclined to attribute its origin to some of the later Welsh princes, who were great benefactors to it, and in their respective charters recite that they give and confirm the several donations to God, St. Mary, the monastery of Basingwerk, and the monks, which had been bestowed on the latter by their predecessors, for the salvation of their souls. Ranulph, however, must in any case have been a great benefactor to this house, as from this period may be dated its rise to importance; and about this time part of the buildings yet standing seems to have

been erected. Its previous existence, however, is recorded by a monkish writer, who relates that Richard, son of Hugh Lupus, and the second Norman Earl of Chester, on his return, in 1119, from Normandy, where he had been educated, undertook a pilgrimage to the well of St. Winifred, and that, either in going or returning, he was attacked by the Welsh, and compelled to seek refuge in Basingwerk abbey, in which insecure retreat he applied for relief to St. Werburg, who miraculously raised certain sands in the æstuary of the Dee, between Flintshire and the promontory of Wirrall in Cheshire, which enabled Richard's constable to pass over to his assistance: the sands, said to have been thus formed, have to this day borne the designation of "the Constable's Sands." It was probably Earl Richard who afterwards erected a castle at Basingwerk, for the defence of the abbey, and which was destroyed by the Welsh in the reign of Stephen. During the protracted struggle between the Anglo-Norman invaders of Wales and the native population of this country, the abbey of Basingwerk, upon which the town of Holywell was dependent, appears, together with the surrounding country, to have been alternately in the power of each party; but the monks, by good management, contrived to keep friends with both, at least so far as to escape serious molestation. In 1150, Ranulph Earl of Chester, and Madoc ab Mededydd, Prince of Powys, invading the territories of Owain Gwynedd, sovereign of North Wales, that monarch advanced into Flintshire, to check their progress; and meeting them at Counsylvll, Coleselt, or Coleshill, in the eastern part of this parish, contrary to the usual custom of the Welsh, of scarcely ever risking a general engagement, or of attacking an enemy unless in situations of advantage, he availed himself of the ardour of his forces, and gave them battle. This conduct obtained for Owain a brilliant victory over his enemies, who were superior in number; and so entire was the defeat of the English that few escaped but such as by the swiftness of their horses were enabled to elude the fury of the pursuers. Owain Gwynedd again took post in this parish, at Basingwerk, in 1157, to await the invasion of the English forces led by Henry II., in person, who, having advanced along the sea-shore to Flint, thought either to bring the Welsh prince to an immediate engagement, or to penetrate into the interior of the country. But Owain avoided a battle, and the English, passing through a long narrow defile at Coleshill, after proceeding so far that it was alike hazardous either to advance or retreat, were attacked by the Welsh, who rushed upon them with furious impetuosity from the woods, and threw them into the greatest disorder. Henry was compelled to flee, and several of his nobility were slain, among whom were Eustace Fitz-John and Robert de Courcy; and the few of the vanquished that escaped the slaughter, falling back upon the main body of the English army which was entering the defile, spread a general panic. A report of the king's death being propagated, the Earl of Essex, hereditary standard-bearer of England, threw down the standard, and, in the general consternation that prevailed, the Welsh made dreadful havoc in the ranks of the invaders. The rout was becoming general, when Henry, having escaped from his perilous situation, exposed himself by lifting up the visor of his helmet, and thus restored the courage of his troops, who, led on by their sovereign,



drove the Welsh back into the woods, and passed through the defile without further opposition.

Henry, after his escape from this ambushade, restored the castle of Basingwerk, which he left well fortified and strongly garrisoned, in order to secure a retreat for his forces in case of any similar disaster in their marches through the interior of the principality, much of which at that time formed a dangerous extent of wild forests. As an additional security, and also probably for the protection of the numerous English devotees who went to present their offerings at the shrine of St. Winifred, the same monarch founded here a house of Knights Templars, a military order which had been introduced into England during the preceding reign. He also confirmed the grants already made to the abbey of Basingwerk, and added to them some further immunities, a circumstance which induced Leland mistakenly to ascribe to him its original foundation. The castle, after its restoration by Henry, was twice assaulted by the Welsh, who, after vainly attempting to reduce it, were on both occasions repulsed with considerable loss. After the second attempt, made in 1158, the garrison was considerably augmented, and continued to maintain possession of it till 1165, when, (while in the possession of Hugh de Beauchamp, on whom it had been bestowed by the English monarch), the Welsh, under the conduct of Owain Gwynedd, after defeating the garrison, fired and otherwise so entirely demolished the castle, that not a single vestige of it is now discernible: this exploit facilitated the re-conquest of the maritime parts of Flintshire. Giraldus calls the monastic establishment at this place "*Cellula de Basingwerk.*" A castle is said to have been built at Trêfynnon, or Holywell, in 1210, by Ranulph, the third Earl of Chester of that name. When Edward I. was making preparations for the final conquest of the Welsh, he issued two mandates for the protection of the abbey, on condition that the monks should cease all commerce with the Welsh rebels. This condition they appear to have implicitly observed, and henceforward to have closely attached themselves to that which was so obviously the strongest party. At this period, the monastery of Basingwerk was raised to the dignity of a mitred abbey; and the abbot was summoned by royal mandate to five parliaments which were held during the reign of this monarch. The resort of pilgrims to the well of St. Winifred received the greatest encouragement from the Roman pontiffs; and in the reign of Henry V., Pope Martin V. furnished the abbey of Basingwerk with pardons and indulgences to sell to the devotees. This house continued to flourish until the dissolution, when its revenue, estimated at £157. 15. 2., was granted to Henry ab Harry. The delusive practices above mentioned were renewed in the reign of Mary, by the interest of Thomas Goldwell, Bishop of St. Asaph, who, on the accession of Elizabeth, fled into Italy. The last pilgrim of royal lineage who visited the shrine of St. Winifred was James II., on August 29th, 1686; on which occasion he is said to have received part of the dress worn by Mary Queen of Scots at the time of her execution. His queen addressed to Sir Roger Mostyn, Bart., an order for putting the chapel over the well into the possession of a Roman Catholic priest. At the commencement of the last century, the market and fair formerly held at

Holywell having long been disused, the former was revived by letters patent from the crown, dated January 20th, 1703, granted to Sir John Egerton, Bart., bestowing also the privilege of three annual fairs, which, however, were never established. The resort of pilgrims to this place has now nearly ceased, notwithstanding an attempt made some years ago to restore the belief of the vulgar in the miraculous virtues of the waters of St. Winifred's well, in a pamphlet written by Dr. Milner, the Roman Catholic bishop, entitled "*Authentic Documents relative to the miraculous cure of Winifred White, of the town of Wolverhampton, at Holywell, in Flintshire, on the 28th of June, 1805;*" and containing also details of numerous other cases of the most lamentable diseases said to have been cured by once bathing in the fountain: a triumphant reply to this pamphlet was published by the Rev. P. Roberts, the late learned rector of Halkin.

The parish of Holywell extends for some miles along the southern shore of the wide and sandy æstuary of the Dee, and comprises within its limits the whole course of the Holywell stream, with its attendant valley. Whatever celebrity this place may have anciently derived from the supposed sanctity and miraculous efficacy of the waters of its spring, has been altogether eclipsed by the real and substantial benefits resulting from the application of its copious and powerful stream to manufacturing purposes, by the almost inexhaustible wealth of its mines, and by its advantageous situation near the æstuary of the river Dee; all which have powerfully contributed to raise it to the highest rank among the towns of the principality, whether considered in respect of its mineral productions, its manufactures, or its commerce. The town is pleasantly situated within a mile and a half of the shore, on the declivity of a lofty hill of limestone, in a beautiful vale watered by the impetuous stream issuing from St. Winifred's well, at the bottom of the town, sheltered on one side by lofty hills, and open on the other towards the sea, embracing a picturesque view of the interesting ruins of the ancient abbey of Basingwerk, and a fine prospect over the open country towards Liverpool. The streets are spacious and well paved; the houses are handsome and well built; and the whole town is well lighted with gas, and abundantly supplied with water by wells. The environs, which are enlivened with numerous handsome residences and gentlemen's seats, abound with richly diversified scenery; and from the higher grounds are obtained extensive and beautiful prospects over the surrounding country, which is rich in picturesque beauty. The gently undulating valleys are finely contrasted with the lofty hills by which they are enclosed, and the richly wooded eminences, with the fine stream by which the lower grounds are intersected, and, in the distance, with the expansive waters of the Dee. The air is salubrious, and the opportunities of cold and sea bathing which the place affords render it not only a pleasant place of permanent residence, but also of occasional resort for invalids, for whose comfort every accommodation is provided, with the benefit of good medical advice, and the advantage of numerous pleasant rides and walks in the immediate neighbourhood.

The celebrated well of St. Winifred, the miraculous efficacy of the waters of which was for ages in such repute, and the really sanative virtues of which still at-



tract the notice and regard of numerous visitors, is certainly the most copious in the island. It rises with prodigious force from under the rock immediately below the church, and is received into a spacious and elegant polygonal basin, surrounded by a broad pavement, and surmounted by a beautiful chapel in the later style of English architecture. From the angles of the polygon rise lofty and finely clustered columns, with highly enriched and beautifully ornamented capitals, from which spring arched ribs of appropriate design, exquisitely sculptured at the intersections, and uniting in a common centre, which support an elaborately wrought canopy of exquisite beauty. From the point of intersection is a pendant, on which is sculptured the legend of St. Winifred; and around it, and throughout the whole of the interior, are shields charged with armorial bearings, displaying the arms of England, of Catherine of Arragon, of the Stanley family, and of the abbey of Basingwerk; and opposite to the entrance is a richly canopied niche, in which was formerly a statue of the patron saint. Above this is the chapel of St. Winifred, in the same style of architecture, elaborately ornamented with similar details: the roof of the eastern part, which is pentagonal, and formerly lighted by five windows, is richly groined, and supported on slender columns of light and graceful form. This chapel is lighted by lofty windows of elegant proportion, enriched with delicate tracery; and in front is a recess, separated by an arched screen of elegant design, the roof of which was of finely carved oak. This beautiful edifice, which was erected by the Stanleys in the reign of Henry VIII., has long been used as a school-room, and is still the only room in the town which is appropriated to the use of public meetings. In front of the building is a pleasure bath, thirty-eight feet in length, sixteen in breadth, and eight in its greatest depth, entered by steps, and in which is found in profusion the violet-scented moss so eagerly sought for by visitors at Holywell. This moss is not peculiar to this place, but is found also in several other parts of the kingdom, and in great abundance at a fine spring in the parish of Llandysilio: it is called by botanists *Jungermannia Asplenioides*. Another species is also found here, called by Linnæus *Byssus Iolithus*, and by Schwenckfelt *Muscus Subrubeus*, which adheres to the stone like a coating of fine velvet: the *Conferva Gelatinosa* is also found in the water of this spring. The chapel is private property, but the spring is common. The well was formerly in the highest reputation for the cure of all disorders, under the auspices of St. Winifred, in honour of whom, as votive offerings from patients said to have been healed by the waters, the crutches of the lame, and the barrows of the impotent, are suspended from the ceiling of the canopy. The water of the well is peculiarly adapted for the purpose of cold bathing: its mean temperature is about 48° of Fahrenheit, and though sometimes, after showers, tinged with a colour like that of whey, it is generally limpid and transparent: it contains a considerable quantity of fixed air, and holds in solution sulphate of lime. According to an experiment lately made, it appears that the water flows into the well at the rate of one thousand two hundred tons per hour: the strong ebullition occasioned by this discharge accounts for pebbles of an ounce in weight being continually suspended, or rather supported aloft, in the stream, which supplies the greater part of

the town, and within the distance of one mile and two hundred and thirty-four yards, in which it completes its course to the Dee, works no less than eleven extensive mills, with a power equivalent to that of a thousand horses. On the outside of the great well, close to the road, is a small spring, the waters of which were once famed for the cure of sore eyes.

The beautiful valley at the head of which the town is situated, and through which the waters of St. Winifred's well take their short and precipitate course to the sea, is far more distinguished for the extent and variety of its trade and manufactures, than any tract of similar extent in North Wales; a superiority which it owes to the convenience of its powerful stream for giving motion to machinery, of its situation on the æstuary of the Dee being favourable for maritime commerce, and of the fuel, both of coal and wood, for the manufacture of metals, which abounds in the vicinity. For many ages, the copious stream of St. Winifred served only to turn a corn-mill belonging to the abbey, and a few others for similar purposes, till about the middle of the last century, when several attempts were made to apply it to other purposes, and some small mills in various branches of manufacture were erected. But it was not till the year 1777 that Holywell can be said to have emerged from obscurity, and to have risen into manufacturing and commercial importance. At that time Mr. Smalley introduced the cotton manufacture into this place, and erected a mill on a principle similar to that of one which had been then recently erected at Cromford by Sir Richard Arkwright. Soon after this, Mr. Smalley was joined by an opulent company from Lancashire, who introduced into the manufacture the improved machinery of Sir Richard Arkwright, and in 1783 erected a larger mill, now called the Upper Mill, which works twelve thousand two hundred and eighteen spindles. The same company, in 1787, erected the Lower Mill, adapted to the working of seven thousand four hundred and ninety-two spindles; and in 1791, the Crescent Mill, in which eight thousand two hundred and eighty-six spindles are kept in motion. These mills are applied to the spinning of cotton thread, of which twenty-six thousand and ninety-six lb. are produced on an average weekly, furnishing employment to nearly one thousand persons. There are also upon the same stream several extensive copper-mills, the first of which, for rolling sheet copper, was erected in 1781, by the Parys Mining Company, who in 1783 erected another, called the Hammer Mill, for the manufacture of every description of copper vessels, but particularly the large vessels used in the West India islands in the granulating process of the sugar manufacture. The copper bolts now universally used in ship-building were first invented by the proprietors, and manufactured under a patent at these works, from which also the royal dock-yards were supplied with copper sheathing and rudder bands, previously to the establishment of similar works by government at Portsmouth. The Meadow Mill, an extensive and handsome building, erected in 1788, is appropriated to the manufacture of copper cylinders, which, after being engraved with various patterns, are used in the printing of muslins, and for which a patent was obtained by the same company. In 1806 a mill for drawing copper wire, to be manufactured into copper nails and spikes, for the



supply of government, was erected. In these several mills, all of which are worked by the same stream, and form conspicuous and extensive structures in the vale through which it flows, more than a thousand tons of copper are annually manufactured into the various articles above enumerated, and more than a hundred persons are constantly employed. There are also very extensive mills for rolling copper and sheet lead, for casting and drawing patent lead pipes, and for the manufacture of white and red lead, affording constant employment to more than a hundred persons. A foundry for iron castings of every description gives employment to more than fifty persons; and a manufactory for paper by patent machinery has been recently established, in which more than forty persons are regularly engaged. A mill for throwing silk was erected in the town, in 1822, in which more than a hundred persons find employment; and at Pen y Maes a manufactory for the weaving of narrow silk goods was established, in 1821, in which sixty looms are in operation, and about ninety persons employed. In the township of Bagillt, in this parish, are three separate and very extensive establishments for the smelting of lead-ore, in which, conjointly, more than a hundred thousand tons are smelted annually; and attached to these works are refineries, in which, upon an average, forty-two thousand ounces of silver are annually separated from the ore: connected with them are manufactories for sheet lead and pipes; in these several works nearly three hundred men are employed.

The district immediately around Holywell is pre-eminently distinguished for the richness of its mineral treasures, and particularly for its mines of lead and calamine, which appear to have been worked from the earliest period, and still continue to form an almost inexhaustible source of wealth. Several new mines have been opened with success, and have amply rewarded the labours of the enterprising adventurers. Among these, the most considerable is the Milwr mine, about a mile from the town, which was first wrought in 1822: in each of the years 1829 and 1830 it yielded to the proprietors a clear profit of £17,000, and in the latter year alone produced nearly three thousand tons of lead-ore: a steam-engine, with a seventy-inch cylinder, is at present being constructed for the use of this mine, in which two hundred persons are regularly employed. The mine called the Holywell Level was first opened in 1773, from which time till the year 1795 the adventurers lost more than £5000 by the undertaking: from 1800 to 1825, however, the accumulated profits amounted to £131,850, or nearly to £5,300 per annum; but, from the increased expense attending the working of it since this last period, the average profits have not exceeded £1000 per annum. The approach to this mine is near St. Winifred's well, and it was formerly entered by boats, which floated on the water drained from the mine, by means of which the ore was brought to its mouth; but, in 1830, a rail-road was laid down, communicating with the several workings in the level, which extends in a westerly direction for more than eighteen hundred yards, and from which branches another level, extending five hundred yards in a direction from north to south. The ore of this mine, from the greater proportion of silver which it contains, is always worth £1 per ton more than that of any other; the average produce

is about a thousand tons per annum, in obtaining which about one hundred men are generally employed: a steam-engine of adequate power is at present being constructed for the use of the mine, and will be fixed about five hundred yards above the mouth of the level. There are several smaller mines of lead-ore in the parish, and also considerable mines of calamine; but the latter have not been worked for the last few years, as that article can now be imported from Germany at a much cheaper rate than that at which it can be obtained in this country. Coal is found in great abundance in the township of Greenfield, in this parish, and is now being worked to a considerable extent; and in the township of Bagillt are also very extensive collieries, affording employment to two hundred and fifty persons, and producing annually more than forty thousand tons of coal, which is chiefly sent coastwise to Chester, Liverpool, and the distant parts of North Wales. The commercial importance of Holywell is commensurate with its manufacturing pre-eminence: its situation on the æstuary of the Dee affords great facility of commercial intercourse with the chief towns in the principality, and with Liverpool and the principal ports on the neighbouring parts of the English coast. Vessels of two hundred tons' burden can approach within two miles of the town, at all states of the tide; and steam-boats and other vessels sail daily for Liverpool from the quay at Bagillt, and from that at Mostyn, near the northern boundary of the parish, by means of which a constant intercourse with that port is regularly maintained. The market, which is one of the largest and best supplied in North Wales, is held on Friday; but the fairs, which were originally obtained by the monks of Basingwerk, and discontinued after the dissolution, have never since been regularly established. By the act for amending the representation of the people, recently passed, Holywell has been created one of the eight contributory boroughs within this county, which unite in returning a member to parliament: the right of election is vested in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act requires: the limits of the borough are described in the Appendix, and the number of houses of the value above mentioned is at present one hundred and fifty: the bailiffs of Flint are the returning officers. Petty sessions for the division are held here once a month.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £9. 15., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the proprietor of the estate of Llanerch, in the county of Denbigh, on the nomination of the Principal and Fellows of Jesus' College, Oxford. The church, dedicated to St. Winifred, and rebuilt in 1769, is a spacious structure of Grecian architecture, sixty-eight feet long and fifty-six wide, consisting of a nave, with north and south aisles, and a chancel, in which is a handsome east window, embellished with modern stained glass: it has also two spacious and elegant galleries over the aisles, and the whole is calculated to contain about three thousand persons. The steeple is plain, square, and very strongly built: remains of the ancient edifice,



which was of the same dimensions as the present church, are yet seen in the remarkably plain pillars on each side of the nave of the latter. Part of the churchyard forms a gentle slope, but the greater portion is almost precipitous. There are in the town places of worship for Baptists, Independents, Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, and for Methodists of the New Connexion; also a Roman Catholic chapel: the chapel of the Calvinistic Methodists is a large and handsome building: in the township of Bagillt there are also places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists; in that of Brÿnvordd, one for Independents; and in that of Greenfield, one for Calvinistic Methodists. Mr. Williams bequeathed £100 for educating poor children in the grammar school of this parish, to which Mrs. Poole added £25; Mrs. Keay, otherwise Fox, £60, secured on the Flint turnpike; Edward Price, £25; and an unknown benefactor, £120: the interest of these sums, amounting to £14 per annum, is paid to the master of a school held in the ancient chapel of St. Winifred, who, in consideration of this stipend, instructs gratuitously fifteen boys, for the purchase of books for whose use William Wenlock, in 1691, and Catherine Wenlock, in 1708, each bequeathed a small rent-charge. A National school, in which six hundred poor children are gratuitously instructed; and a dispensary for the relief of the indigent poor, have been established, and are liberally supported by subscription. Ellis Parry, a native of Bagillt and a citizen of London, in 1628, bequeathed a messuage, tenement, and lands, in the township of Bagillt, comprising thirty-five acres, let on lease at a rent of £43. 4., which is distributed weekly in bread to the poor of the parish. The same benefactor also bequeathed a rent-charge of £6, to be paid out of his tenements in London, of which £2 was to be appropriated to placing out two poor boys in service, the same sum as a marriage portion to two poor maids, and the remainder to be equally divided between the vicar and the churchwardens of the parish. Edward George, in 1640, bequeathed a messuage and thirteen parcels of land in the parish of Ysceiviog, for clothing the poor of this parish annually: of this land, six parcels appear to have been lost through neglect: the remainder, comprising fifteen acres, is let on lease at a rental of £19. 19. 6. Mrs. Catherine Jones and Mrs. Sidney Edwards gave to the vicar the sum of £130 in trust for the poor. Mrs. Ellis of Bagillt bequeathed £10; and David Parry of the same township, £50, to which £10 was added by his executors, William Wenlock and John Lloyd, the interest of which sums, together with that of £17, obtained from the sale of Irish cattle which were seized under an act of parliament prohibiting their importation, and £13, the accumulated interest of the last-mentioned bequests, making a total of £100, is annually distributed among the poor. Mrs. Jones also bequeathed £13, which has been deposited since 1826 in the savings bank, and of which the interest is to be applied to the same purpose. There are also several other charitable donations and bequests.

Among the various endowments of the ancient abbey of Basingwerk, which consisted of possessions widely scattered through an extensive tract of country, were the Spon chapel at Coventry, in the county of Warwick, the churches of Glossop and Longdendale, in the county

of Derby, and other property in distant places. The remains of the conventual buildings, which are considerable, are situated near the mouth of the Holywell stream, on a slope towards the sea, protected on the west by a deep gully formed by the stream, and on the north-east by the vast ditch and rampart, forming the ancient line of demarcation, called Wat's Dyke, which, proceeding northward through the Strand Fields, near Holywell, terminates on the sea-shore below the abbey. They display various styles of architecture, from the rudest circular arch and low massive column of the earlier Norman, to the middle era of the early English style. The church, which, from the slight traces of its foundations, appears to have been an extensive structure, has entirely disappeared; but two of the Norman arches of the monastery are entire, and the eastern walls of the conventual buildings, with narrow lancet-shaped windows, are almost perfect: the south gable of the refectory, with its beautiful windows, is in tolerable preservation, and the whole of these venerable ruins have an imposing and interesting appearance. The site and revenue of the abbey were granted, in the 32nd of Henry II., to Henry ab Harry, whose daughter conveyed them by marriage to the family of Mostyn of Talacre, ancestor of Sir Edward Mostyn, Bart., the present proprietor. In the field adjoining the abbey are the remains of an ancient oak of large dimensions and venerable appearance, even in its present decayed state: it is called the Abbot's Oak, and is supposed to have been planted in the time of the last abbot. There are also in various places vestiges of a fine broad road anciently leading through the woods from the abbey to St. Winifred's well, and portions of the walls of the commandery of the Knights Templar are still remaining. The name of a hill of narrow and steep ascent immediately above the church, called Brÿn y Castell, appears to mark it as the site of the ancient castle of Trëfynnon, supposed to have been built by Ranulph Earl of Chester, about the year 1210, but of which no historical notice is preserved, and the only vestiges are some small portions of its foundations. In digging the foundation of some of the smelting-houses, the remains of a Roman hypocaust were discovered, a circumstance corroborating the supposition that the mines of this place, which are known to have been worked at a very early period, were not unknown to the Romans. An eminence in this parish, called Brÿn Dychwelwch, or "the Return Hill," is said to have been the place from which Henry II. gave orders for the retreat of his forces, when his whole army was engaged in the defile at Coleshill. The commemoration of St. Winifred's decollation is still annually celebrated on the 22nd of June, and that of the translation of her remains to Shrewsbury on the 3rd of November. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £2508. 16.

HOPE, or ESTYN, a small borough, and a parish, in the Hope division of the hundred of MAELÖR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, on the road from Wrexham to Mold, 5 miles (N. N. W.) from the former, 6 (S. E.) from the latter, 12½ (S. S. E.) from Flint, and 193 (N. W.) from London, containing 2747 inhabitants. This place has been distinguished in the Welsh border history from a very early period. Its castle, situated about a mile from the village, has been generally known by the appellation of Caergwrle, which anciently was also



probably applied to the whole parish, and is supposed to be derived from the ancient British words *Caer gawr lleon*, signifying "the fortress of the gigantic legion;" in explanation of which etymology it is stated that the native Britons gave the distinguishing appellation of "gigantic" to the twentieth Roman legion, surnamed *Victrix*, whose principal station was that of *Deva*, now Chester. This conjecture has received material support from the circumstance of a Roman sudatory having been found here, and from vestiges of Roman roads and other works having been until lately visible in the neighbourhood; from which it may be presumed to have formed, like Holt, an outpost to the grand station of *Deva*. After the withdrawal of the Roman forces from Britain, it appears, from remains still visible, to have been occupied as a post of defence by the native population, who, at some remote period, erected here a mural fortress, which, in the reign of Henry II., formed part of the possessions of a chieftain named Gruffydd Maelor. The first mention of Hope under its present name occurs in the Norman survey, where it is noticed as a small hamlet in the possession of one Gislebert. It gave name to the extensive territory of Hopedale, for which Eustace de Cruer, in the reign of William Rufus, did homage to that monarch, and which appears subsequently to have formed part of the possessions of the Montaltos, Stewards of Chester. The castle, with its dependent territories, was bestowed by Edward I. on Davydd, the brother of Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, who, about the year 1280, was sued for the village of Hope, or Estyn, by William Venables, an Englishman, before the Justiciary of Chester, contrary to the custom of the Welsh, and to the spirit of the agreement under which he held them of the English king. The Justiciary cut down his woods in the neighbourhood of Hope, as well as those of Llewelyn, another of his estates, and sold the timber, which was carried to Ireland. He was moreover threatened, when Reginald de Grey, the other Justiciary, should come into the country, that he should be deprived of his castle of Hope, and that his children should be secured as pledges of his fidelity to the English cause, which, however, undoubtedly influenced by this harsh treatment, as well as by other cogent reasons, he shortly after abandoned for that of his brother and his country. In consequence of this defection, about the middle of June, 1282, Edward I. invested in person the castle of Hope, which was surrendered to him by the dependents of Davydd, almost as soon as he appeared before it, and which he is said to have granted to his queen Eleanor, who rested in it for one night on her route to Carnarvon, where she was about to reside for the purpose of reconciling the newly subjugated Welsh to the government of their English conquerors, by giving birth, in the heart of their ancient dominions, to a prince destined to be their ruler. It is related in Yorke's "Royal Tribes," that while Edward and his consort were staying here, this castle, either by accident or design, was set on fire, and its interior entirely consumed. From the circumstance of its being in the possession of Eleanor, it obtained the name of Queen's Hope; and it has sometimes likewise been distinguished by the appellation of East Hope. In Edward's division of North Wales into counties, after its entire subjugation, Hope was included in that of Flint, and annexed to the earldom of Chester; and the

castle, together with the manor of Hope and Hopedale, has always been specified in the charters of the succeeding kings of England, when they respectively created their eldest son, the heir apparent to the crown, Prince of Wales, at the same time investing him with the earldom of Chester. In 1307, this castle and manor were granted to John de Cromwell, on condition that he should repair the former, which was then in a ruinous state; and in 1317, the same Cromwell, who kept possession of the castle till his death, was ordered to raise fifty foot soldiers on his lands in Wales, to aid the king in his war against Scotland. In a survey of the ancient revenue of the earldom of Chester, made in the reign of Edward III., the profits of the manor of Hope and Hopedale are estimated at £63. Edward the Black Prince gave the inhabitants a charter of incorporation, dated at Chester, in 1351, which was confirmed by Richard II., who, in 1388, granted the territory of Hope and Hopedale to John de Holland, Earl of Huntingdon, who, after the deposition of that sovereign by Bolingbroke, was beheaded by the populace at Pleshey, in the county of Essex. In 1401, Henry IV. granted the manor to Sir John Stanley, whose estates were inherited by his descendant, James Lord Stanley, created Earl of Derby by Henry VII. On the arrangements made with regard to the Welsh border counties, in the reign of Henry VIII., Hope was annexed to the county of Denbigh; but shortly afterwards, probably through the influence of the Earl of Derby, who wished to have all his Welsh possessions in the same county, it was restored to the shire within the limits of which it had been originally included by Edward I.

Hope at present forms an insignificant village, agreeably situated on an eminence on the northern side of the river Alyn, which intersects the parish, within the limits of which an abundance of limestone of good quality is found: the Frith lime-works are conducted on a very extensive scale, and afford employment to a considerable number of workmen: great quantities of lime are sent hence to Chester, a distance of twelve miles. By the charter of Edward the Black Prince, it was provided, that the constable of the castle of Caergwrle, or Hope, for the time being, should be mayor of the borough; but, to qualify him for this office, it was necessary that he should solemnly swear, on the Holy Evangelists, that he would preserve inviolate the privileges of the burgesses, as specified in the said charter; and that he would annually, on Michaelmas-day, choose from among their number two bailiffs. By the 27th of Henry VIII. Caergwrle, or Hope, was constituted a contributory borough, to share with Flint, Caerwys, Overton, and Rhuddlan, in the return of a member to serve in parliament. The limits of the borough comprise the whole of the township of Hope, or Estyn, and that of Caergwrle, with part of that of Rhanbervedd, being two miles and a half in extent from east to west, and one and a half from north to south; and the right of voting is vested in all the inhabitants paying scot and lot, who have resided for one year within the borough, of whom the present number is one hundred and twenty. The late act for amending the representation of the people has added the towns of St. Asaph, Holywell, and Mold, to the above-mentioned district of boroughs, but has not altered the boundaries of this



borough, nor the nature of the franchise, except by subjecting each voter to the registry: the bailiffs of Flint are the returning officers. Fairs are held on Shrove-Tuesday, May 10th, August 12th, and October 27th.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, a small edifice dedicated to St. Cynvarch, contains some good monuments, among which is one to the memory of Sir John Trevor, Knt., secretary to the Earl of Nottingham, the vanquisher of the "Invincible Armada." There are some small benefactions to the parish for distribution among the poor, and for the apprenticing of poor children. The present remains of the castle form a picturesque ruin, situated on the summit of a rocky hill of great elevation, isolated from the surrounding high grounds, and composed almost entirely of breccia, which was formerly quarried for millstones. On one side this rock is precipitous, and on every other is inaccessible, except only on the north, where its summit is gained by the remains of a circuitous path. The ruin consists of a decayed circular tower, with a few fragments of walls and circumjacent earthworks. From these it does not appear to have been an extensive fortress; but the strength of its situation was well adapted for the defence of the passage from the marches up the vale of the Alyn, which is here contracted into a romantic dingle, and anciently formed the only pass through the neighbouring hills. By whom it was dismantled, or when it fell into decay, is unknown; but it was in a dilapidated state as early as the reign of Henry VIII. On the opposite elevation, across the vale, is an ancient British post, commonly called *Caer Estyn*, consisting of a wide area enclosed by a single ditch and rampart. The ancient Roman outpost of *Caer gawr lleon* is supposed to have occupied the site on which the castle was subsequently erected. In 1606, a Roman hypocaust, or sudatory, was discovered in digging near this fortress: it was five ells long, four broad, and half an ell high, and was hewn out of the solid rock: the floor was of brick set in mortar; the roof, supported by hollow brick pillars, consisted of polished tiles, which in several places were perforated, and over which were laid brick tubes: some of the tiles were inscribed *LEGIO XX*. Other traces of Roman occupation also formerly existed here: large beds of scoria have been discovered near *Caer Estyn*, supposed to have been the refuse of Roman iron-works; and Roman roads might formerly be traced in several places, leading hence towards Mold and Hawarden, adjacent to the former of which was an artificial mount. In the township of *Uchymynydd-Isa*, in a little valley on the southern side of *Bryn-Yorkyn* mountain, are some remains of *Offa's Dyke*, near the spot where this ancient line of demarcation enters the county of Flint from Denbighshire. In levelling this dyke, in 1828, twenty-two Roman coins of copper were discovered, among which were some of the Emperors Nero, Vespasian, Trajan, Julius Agricola, and Maximilian: here were also found a silver coin of Agrippa, several fibulæ highly ornamented, rings of gold, silver, and copper, pins of ivory and silver, beads of glass and amber, part of a lamp with the word *NINVS* impressed

on it, a votive altar with a mutilated inscription, and several urns containing calcined bones and ashes, all of which are in the possession of the proprietor of the land. *Wat's Dyke* also traverses this parish, in its course along the eastern bank of the Alyn, passing by the church of Hope, and by *Rhyddin*, below *Caer Estyn*, beyond which it soon enters Denbighshire. On the banks of the Alyn at *Rhyddin* are some fine springs, the waters of which are strongly impregnated with muriate of soda, and were formerly in high repute for their efficacy in the cure of cutaneous and other diseases, greatly resembling in quality those of the fountain at *Borrowdale*, near *Keswick*, in *Cumberland*. In dry weather, pigeons flock to them to pick up the crystallized particles; but their medicinal virtues have been greatly deteriorated by an admixture of other waters, or impoverished by drainage. In the loose earth which covers the calcareous strata of this parish are found numerous antediluvian organic remains, called *entrochi* and *astroites*, some of which are of a peculiar species. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £685. 6.

**HOPE**, a township in the parish of **BUTTINGTON**, within the jurisdiction of the borough of **WELSHPOOL**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 2 miles (S.) from *Welshpool*, containing 162 inhabitants. It is one of the incorporated places assessed for the maintenance of their poor in the house of industry at *Forden*, the average annual expenditure for this township being £57. 16.

**HOSELEY**, a joint lordship and township with *Merford*, in the parish of **GRESFORD**, partly in the hundred of **BROMFIELD**, county of **DENBIGH**, and partly in that of **MAELOR**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**, 4 miles (N. E.) from *Wrexham*. The population is returned with *Merford*.

**HUBBERSTON**, a parish in the hundred of **RHÔS**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 1 mile (W. by N.) from *Milford*, on the turnpike road from *Haverfordwest* to *Haking*, or *Old Milford*, containing 1013 inhabitants. This parish is situated on a creek or inlet of *Milford Haven*, at the upper end of which are the remains of a religious establishment, formerly called *Pill priory*, built upon a pill which separates this parish from that of *Steynton*, and which, though it has obtained the name of *Hubberston priory*, is locally within the latter parish. *Botolphs*, the seat of *Anthony Innes Stokes, Esq.*, an elegant modern mansion, erected on the site of some of the conventual buildings of the priory, though not within this parish, closely borders upon it, and is equally remarkable for the style of the building and the beauty of its situation, commanding a pleasing view of the haven, and of the adjacent country. Boat-building is carried on to a considerable extent at *Haking*, or *Old Milford*, and affords employment to a few of the inhabitants of this place, which is now included within the boundaries of the new contributory borough of *Milford*. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of *St. David's*, rated in the king's books at £6. 2. 8½., and in the patronage of the Crown. The church, dedicated to *St. David*, is a small, ancient, and venerable structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a lofty square embattled tower: in the chancel are three elegantly canopied recesses, probably for the officiating priests, or perhaps appro-



priated to the dignitaries of the priory on particular occasions. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists; and a spacious building has been left by its late proprietor for the free use of ministers of every denomination. Mr. George Roch, in 1707, bequeathed a small rent-charge for teaching poor children, and for the relief of distressed housekeepers of the parish; and in 1752, Mr. James Allen bequeathed £50 in money, to be invested in the purchase of land, and the produce to be annually distributed among the poor: these bequests produce about £6 per annum. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £184.6.

HYSSINGTON (called by the Welsh IS-ATTYN), a parish partly in the hundred of CHIRBURY, county of SALOP, but chiefly in the lower division of the hundred of MONTGOMERY, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (E. by S.) from Montgomery, containing 337 inhabitants. The village is situated at the foot of a mountain, rising to the height of upwards of one thousand seven hundred feet above the level of the sea, and forming the forest of Corndon, or Carn Attyrn, which is partly within the parish: this mountain has three summits, formed by three cairns, the supposed sepulchres of some ancient British heroes, which command extensive views, embracing the Welsh mountains, and the Wrekin, Clee, Malvern, and other hills, together with the Black Mountain in Herefordshire. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Salop, and diocese of Hereford, endowed with £600 private benefaction, £600 royal bounty, and £1100 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Incumbent of Churchstoke. The church is a small structure, in the early style of English architecture, and appears to have been built within the precincts of an ancient castle, of which some vestiges may be distinctly traced upon the summit of a small rocky eminence adjoining the churchyard. Upon an old bell in the steeple, now broken, was inscribed, in Saxon characters, "*Sancta Etheldreda, ora pro nobis.*" Upon a farm in this parish, called "the Llan," are the remains of an ancient encampment. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £94.17.

## I.

IDDOLE, a joint hamlet with Moelvre, in the parish of LLANDEVEYLOG, hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  miles (S.) from Carmarthen. The population is returned with Moelvre. It is situated near the eastern bank of the Towy, and commands many beautiful views of that river.

ILSTON, called by the Welsh LLAN-ILLTYD, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. S. W.) from Swansea, containing 296 inhabitants. The village, which is situated in the peninsula of Gower, and between two turnpike roads which lead through that liberty, is extremely rural in its appearance; and the surrounding scenery, which is characterized by features of tranquillity and seclusion, is enlivened by the small rivulet called Penarth Pill, winding through a beautiful dell, in which are the ruins of an ancient chapel. On this stream a cloth-

manufactory was established early in the present century, but it has been discontinued. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9.6.8., and in the patronage of the Crown. The church, dedicated to St. Illtyd, from whom the parish probably derived its name, is not entitled to architectural notice: it had formerly a chapel of ease, which is now in ruins. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. Amidst the rubbish of a limekiln were found, in 1825, about two hundred small silver coins, many of which are in excellent preservation, and are coins of the Roman emperors from Nero to Marcus Aurelius inclusive: the place where they were discovered is called Pengwern, and occupies a commanding situation, plentifully supplied with water, but, though well adapted for the purpose of a military station, there are no vestiges of any encampment, though there are several within the distance of a few miles. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £77.13.

ISCLYDACH (IS-CLYDACH), a hamlet in the parish of LLYWEL, hundred of DEVYNOK, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (E.) from Trêcastle, containing 362 inhabitants. The name signifies below the Clydach, which stream bounds this hamlet on the west, and the river Usk on the south, where it is crossed by a bridge on the road from Brecknock to Trêcastle. The vale through which the former stream flows is pleasingly diversified and well wooded, and, as well as the banks of the Usk, is ornamented with several agreeable residences. The chapel of Rhŷd y briw is situated in this hamlet, on the left bank of the Usk, having been originally erected, as is supposed, for the convenience of the family of Penry of Llwynycyntein, and subsequently supported by the contributions of the inhabitants of the vicinity, who subscribed forty shillings per annum towards the stipend of a clergyman. The living is now a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Llywel. From the circumstance of one of the pieces of ground, purchased in Glamorganshire with the above-mentioned endowment, having valuable beds of coal, discovered subsequent to the purchase, this curacy has become more valuable than the superior benefice of Llywel. The rites of sepulture, marriage, and baptism have for some time been celebrated here, though with what right is questionable. About thirty years ago the curate was licensed on the nomination of the owners and occupiers of land in this hamlet, the vicar not choosing to assert his claim. There is, for distribution among the poor, a small bequest of £1 per annum, made by Roger Jeffreys, in 1714, being a rent-charge on lands near the chapel. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £209.1.

ISCOED (IS-COED), a joint hamlet with Gwilly, in the parish of LLANEDY, hundred of CARNWALLON, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $13\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. N. W.) from Swansea. The population is included in the return for the parish, of which this hamlet forms the northern portion. Gwilly is part of the ancient lordship of Kidwelly, which extended over the same district. The Gwili stream flows on the western boundary of the hamlet, which contains some agreeable residences and well-wooded enclosures on the right bank of the



Loughor river. The road from Pont-ar-ddulas to Llandilo-Vawr passes through it, on elevated ground, embracing pleasing views of a rich and cultivated country on the right and left.

ISCOED (IS-COED), a joint hamlet with Cilmargh, in the parish of LLANDEVEYLOG, hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. by E.) from Carmarthen. The population is returned with Cilmargh. Some respectable residences are observable in this hamlet, which is situated on the eastern bank of the river Towy. Near Cilmargh is an ancient weir on that river, in which large quantities of salmon are taken, and conveyed to the market of Carmarthen. A Roman road from Carmarthen to Kidwelly passed through this hamlet.

ISCOED (IS-COED), a township in that part of the parish of MALPAS which is in the hundred of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. N. W.) from Whitchurch, containing 438 inhabitants. This place, situated on the borders of Cheshire and Shropshire, is the most eastern district of North Wales; and the road from Whitchurch to Wrexham passes through it. The Wich brook, which falls into the river Dee near Worthenbury, bounds the township on the north, the remainder of the parish being in Cheshire. There are brine springs in the neighbourhood. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £206. 18.

ISCOED (IS-COED), a township in the parish of PENEGOES, hundred of MACHYNLLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (E. N. E.) from Machynlleth, containing 380 inhabitants. The road from Machynlleth to Mallwyd, along the left bank of the Dovey, which here receives the Dulas and other tributary streams, passes through this township, and is for a few miles skirted with thriving hedge-rows, and rich meadows and corn-fields, backed by verdant hills. This hamlet contains several neat cottages and respectable villas, amongst which is Dôlgŷog, on the left bank of the Dovey, an ancient retreat of the Welsh poet, Llywarch Hên, where, by the strains of his harp, he soothed the remembrance of his misfortunes: the parochial church is situated within its limits.

ISHMAEL'S (ST.), a parish in the hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (S. by W.) from Carmarthen, containing 944 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the sea-shore, and many of the inhabitants obtain a livelihood by collecting for sale the beautiful shells which are found here in great variety and abundance. It contains the improving village of Ferry-side, which is described under its appropriate head; and the seat called Iscoed, an elegant mansion, erected by Sir William Mansel, Bart., and now the property of the Rev. Edward Picton, having been purchased from the son of Sir William by the late General Sir Thomas Picton, G. C. B., who, after eminently distinguishing himself in the late continental war, fell in the battle of Waterloo; also Pengay, the seat of — Bevan, Esq., which commands a most delightful sea view, comprehending the distant shores of Devonshire and Cornwall: this gentleman is one of the few to whom the country is indebted for the introduction of the Norfolk and other improved systems of agriculture. The village of St. Ishmael's is situated on the banks of the navigable river Towy, and the surround-

ing district is celebrated for the production of barley of very fine quality. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church is built upon a rock near the sea-shore, and at high tides the waves approach within thirty yards of its base. Within the limits of the parish is a chapel of ease, called Llansaint chapel, occupying a very elevated site, its lofty tower forming a conspicuous object and a well-known landmark to mariners approaching the coast. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. On a farm called Pen Allt are some remains of old walls, overspread with ivy; and, according to tradition, a monastery formerly existed here; of which, however, no authentic account has been preserved. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £300. 19.

ISHMAEL'S (ST.), a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. by N.) from Milford, containing 527 inhabitants. It is situated on the northern shore of Milford Haven, and is separated from the parish of Herbrandston by Sandy haven. There are several respectable residences within its limits, though not entitled to notice as seats of importance: the principal is the neat residence of Mr. Roch, which is supposed to have been originally a grange belonging to Hubberston priory. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 12. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ , endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The tithes are divided into three equal portions, of which one is appropriated to the corporation of the borough of Tewkesbury, another to the incumbent of that parish, and the third to the vicar of St. Ishmael's. The church is romantically situated in a deep sequestered valley, watered by a small estuary which falls into Milford Haven, a short distance below it. There are places of worship for Baptists and Independents. Immediately above the church is a tenement called Monks, supposed to have been connected with the priory of Hubberston. In the village is a remarkable tumulus, but nothing is known of its history, nor does it appear to have been opened. St. Ishmael's, it is said, was the final retreat of Caradoc of Llancarvan, the celebrated historian of Wales, who here spent the latter years of his life in retirement and seclusion, and, after his decease, was interred with great pomp in the cathedral church of St. David's. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £304. 8

ISMORLAIS (IS-MORLAIS), a hamlet in the parish of LLANNON, hundred of CARNWALLON, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 14 miles (S. E.) from Carmarthen. The population is returned with the parish. A stream named Morlais rises here, and, after passing Llangennech, falls into the Loughor river. The parochial church and village of Llannon are situated within the limits of this hamlet.

ISSEL'S, ST., (ST. ISSELL'S), a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.) from Tenby, containing 1226 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated at the western extremity of Carmarthen bay, has its surface singularly diversified with abrupt and precipitous eminences and



deep dingles, which, being richly wooded, form a striking contrast to the dingy and sterile appearance occasioned by the coal mines in the immediate vicinity. But the greatest ornament to this part of the country is the richly wooded eminence on which stands Hean Castle, the seat of Thomas Stokes, Esq., which commands extensive and interesting marine views, embracing a great variety of beautiful and romantic scenery along the coast. The estate attached to it formerly belonged to the Wogans of Wiston, from whom it passed to its present proprietor, by marriage with one of the coheirresses of that ancient family. Kilgetty, an ancient mansion in this parish, belonging to the family of Picton, and in which the late Lord Milford was born, is in the occupation of a farmer, and is at present going to decay. The parish abounds with excellent coal and culm, of which great quantities are annually raised by a company, and shipped for various parts of the kingdom at Sander's Foot, where a pier is now being constructed, to which a rail-road is already in progress from these mines and those of Begelly. Other improvements have also been commenced, among which a plan for rendering the quay accessible to larger vessels than could previously approach with safety is in a considerable state of advancement. Iron-ore is also found in connexion with the strata of coal, and was formerly wrought to a considerable extent by the Pembrey Iron Company; but the works have been discontinued for the last five or six years, owing to a want of charcoal for fuel, the coal here produced being of the hard species called "stone coal," and consequently unfit to be employed in the manufacture of metals. The sands on this part of the coast are extremely favourable for sea-bathing, and a few families, who prefer retirement and tranquillity, resort hither during the summer season, preferring the humbler, but more peaceable, accommodations which the inns of this place afford, to the gaieties of Tenby. The beach abounds with most of the species of shells found at Tenby, and numerous fossil remains are discovered in the mines, at a great depth from the surface. The turtle, or "scorpion" stone, as it is here called, is frequently met with, and is susceptible of a beautiful polish. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 17. 6., endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of St. David's. The church is romantically situated in one of the richly wooded dells with which the parish abounds, and is a neat structure in the early style of English architecture, with a square embattled tower, which is seen to great advantage above the wood in which it is embosomed. The free school was founded by John Jones, Esq., who, in 1757, bequeathed £300 in trust for the gratuitous instruction of an equal number of children of both sexes, in reading and writing: the income arising from this bequest, amounting to £16. 12. per annum, is appropriated to the maintenance of the school, the remainder of the funds necessary for which being raised by subscription. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £187. 9.

IS Y COED, a parochial chapelry in the parish of HOLT, hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (E. by S.) from Wrexham, comprising the townships of Cacca-Dutton, Dutton y Brân,

Dutton-Difieth, Ridley, and Sutton, each of which is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, and containing 594 inhabitants. This place is pleasantly situated on the western bank of the river Dee, by which goods and merchandise might be conveyed to Chester; but there is neither any trade, beyond what is necessary for the supply of the inhabitants, nor any manufacture carried on in the village, the inhabitants of which are chiefly employed in agriculture. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Chester, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Winchester. The church, dedicated to St. Paul, is a neat modern structure, erected, in 1829, by subscription, aided by a grant from the Incorporated Society for building and enlarging churches and chapels, and is capable of accommodating three hundred persons. There is a place of worship for Baptists. A Sunday school is supported by subscription; and there are several small charitable bequests for distribution among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor of this chapelry amounts to £274.

IS Y GARREG (IS-GAREG), a township in the parish and hundred of MACHYNLLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (S. W.) from Machynlleth, containing 392 inhabitants. From this township many pleasing views of the river and vale of the Dovey, from Cemmaes to its influx into Cardigan bay, are obtained; but other parts present lofty mountains and barren wastes, especially in that portion bordering on Cardiganshire. There are slate quarries and lead mines, but the latter are not now worked. Several respectable residences are scattered over the lower part of the township, which is bounded on the north by the Dovey, and on the west by the Llynant, rivers. A small detached portion of it is included within the new boundaries of the borough of Machynlleth. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £222. 17.

IS Y GRAIG (IS-GRAIG), a hamlet in the parish of LLANDDWYWAU, hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N. by W.) from Barmouth. The population is returned with the parish. It is bounded on the west by the bay of Cardigan, which here forms an irregular strand, with crags and rude precipices, extending from a chain of the Merionethshire mountains. A remarkable sand-bank, termed the Causeway, or Sarn Badrig, stretches from this coast in a south-western direction, twenty-one miles into the bay, of which about nine miles are dry at low water. In several parts it is covered only to the depth of half a fathom at flood tide, but there are three breaches in it, through which vessels may pass. Some have considered it an artificial construction, and others that it formed a part of the Cantrêv y Gwaelod, or the lowland hundred, which was overwhelmed by the sea at the close of the fifth century. The vulgar notion is, that it was constructed by Saint Patrick, as the name implies, who was born in this neighbourhood, at Gwaredog in Arvon, previously to his mission to Ireland. The general aspect of the hamlet, which contains the parish church, is rugged and mountainous. Agriculture and the manufacture of webs are the chief employment of the inhabitants. A small canal has been recently pro-



jected, which will run parallel with, and at a short distance from, the coast, for the purpose of conveying the waters of two small streams to the creek near Llandanwg church.

## J.

JEFFRESTON, a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (S. by W.) from Narberth, containing 610 inhabitants. The village is pleasantly situated on a well-wooded eminence, and forms a conspicuous and interesting feature in the views from the adjacent parts of the country. Near the turnpike road from Narberth to Pembroke, which passes through the parish, and about half-way between Creswell-Quay and the church, is Cresselly, the seat of I. H. Allen, Esq., surrounded with luxuriant plantations. The substrata of the soil of this parish are stone coal and culm, which have been wrought to a very great extent, and still continue to be procured, though on a smaller scale. The mines are thought to be nearly exhausted, but it is probable that, by carrying the shaft to a greater depth, an abundant supply might still be obtained. The coal is shipped at Creswell Quay, in a branch of Milford Haven extending for more than a mile and a half to the south, and partly in this parish, for the coast of Sussex, in vessels of about eighty tons' burden. The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 17. 6., endowed with £200 private benefaction, £600 royal bounty, and £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Chapter of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Jeffry and St. Oswald, is not distinguished by any remarkable architectural features. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £231. 5.

JOHN'S (ST.) juxta SWANSEA, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, adjoining the sea-port town of Swansea, and containing 690 inhabitants. The name of this place, in Welsh "Eglwys Ieuan Aber Tawe," is derived from the dedication of its church, which originally belonged to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and from its situation adjacent to the town of Swansea, immediately below which the river Tawe discharges its waters into the Bristol channel. The parish, which is small, containing not more than six farms of moderate size, extends nearly a mile in length in a northerly direction from Swansea, within which town it comprises one or two houses. The scenery in the immediate vicinity is not so engaging as that by which the environs of the borough on the south-west side are distinguished; but the distant views comprehend some pleasing features, with a fine prospect, from some parts of the parish, of the Bristol channel and the coast of Devonshire. Within the parish are some coal-works and a manufactory of tobacco pipes: the Hâvod works for smelting copper, and the rolling-mills belonging to F. A. Williams and Co., which are also within its limits, are noticed in the account of Swansea. The whole of the parish is now included within the new boundaries of the contributory borough of Swansea. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £1400

parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Sir John Morris. The church, dedicated to St. John, having fallen into a state of dilapidation, was taken down and rebuilt in 1824, towards defraying the expense of which the Incorporated Society for building and enlarging churches and chapels granted £575: the present structure, which is situated within the town of Swansea, is a plain massive edifice, without tower or spire, and contains one thousand free sittings, in consideration of the grant above mentioned, affording great accommodation to the inhabitants of that part of the town, who cannot find room in their own church. The service is performed both in the English and Welsh languages. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £100. 13.

JOHNSTON, a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 3½ miles (S. S. W.) from Haverfordwest, on the road to Milford, containing 194 inhabitants. The environs are pleasant, and contain some agreeable scenery, and in the vicinity are several respectable seats. Johnston Hall, an ancient mansion of the family of Edwards, and for a long time the residence of the late Lord Kensington, is now the property of the present lord, and is in the occupation of Thomas Bowen, Esq. The lands, which are all freehold, are chiefly enclosed, and in a good state of cultivation. This parish abounds with culm and limestone, the former of which is worked for the supply of the neighbourhood, and the latter also on a limited scale, and chiefly burnt for manure. The living is a discharged rectory, consolidated with the vicarage of Steynton, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £2. 0. 5., endowed with the rectorial tithes, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church is not distinguished by any peculiar architectural features. There is a place of worship for Baptists. A Sunday school, in which about forty children are gratuitously instructed, is supported by subscription. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £35. 9.

JORDANSTON, a parish in the hundred of DEW-ISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S. W.) from Fishguard, containing 157 inhabitants. It appears to have derived its name from an ancient family estate within its limits, and is pleasantly situated in the north-western part of the county, being intersected by a stream which falls into the river Hog. The surrounding scenery is agreeably diversified, and the views of the adjacent country comprehend a pleasing variety of interesting features. In the immediate vicinity are some handsome seats, of which the principal within the parish are, Jordanston, the ancient family mansion of the Vaughans, agreeably situated in a retired part of the country, and comprehending much pleasing scenery; and Llangwaren, an ancient residence, the property of C. Matthias, Esq., now of Lamphey Court, which, with the extensive and well-cultivated farm attached to it, is at present in the occupation of I. M. Phelps, Esq. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 3. 9., endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of G. G. Vaughan, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Cwrda, is a small neat edifice, appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service,



in Glamorganshire. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £96. 10.

KERRY (CERI), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of MONTGOMERY, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (E. by S.) from Newtown, containing 2199 inhabitants. The name is of doubtful etymology. Some deduce it from *Ceri*, the "mountain ash," with which the district is thought formerly to have abounded. Others consider it to be a corruption of *Caerau*, "fortified places," there being remains of several in the parish and its vicinity, which, in consequence of being situated near the English border, were the scene of frequent contests: but this is evidently erroneous, inasmuch as the place is called by the same name so early as the sixth century, long prior to the construction of those numerous defences which border warfare subsequently rendered necessary. The late Rev. Mr. Jenkins, an ingenious antiquary, and vicar of this parish for many years, was of opinion that the place derived its name from some chieftain, or petty prince, of remote antiquity, whose patrimony it was, a practice which prevailed to a considerable extent in the early ages of the Britons; and supposed that it might have been *Ceri Hir Lyngwyn*, grandfather of the celebrated Caractacus. In ancient times Kerry, or *Ceri*, comprehended a district containing the parishes of Kerry and *Môchtrêv*, the church being then called *Llanvihangel yn Ngheri*, "the church of St. Michael in Kerry," and formed a comot in the province of Ferregs, coterminous with what is now the upper division of the hundred. The first event of moment mentioned with relation to it is, that it was the scene of a determined, but bloodless, struggle between the celebrated Giraldus Cambrensis, Archdeacon of Brecknock, and Adam, Bishop of St. Asaph, regarding the right to the church, which, although it had for some time been considered as belonging to the diocese of St. David's, was claimed by that prelate, who forthwith raised a strong body of men from Powys, to assist, if necessary, in enforcing his claim. Giraldus, on being apprized of this, despatched messengers to two chieftains of this country, Eionor Clyd and Cadwallon, requesting military aid in asserting the rights of the church of St. David's, determining to anticipate the bishop's design. Having arrived at Kerry, he entered the church, and, ordering the bells to be rung, in token of possession, celebrated mass. Meanwhile messengers having been sent by the bishop, announcing his approach to dedicate the church, the archdeacon commissioned some of his clergy, attended by the dean of the district, to inform him, that, if he came as a friend, he would be kindly received; but if not, he urged him to advance no further. The latter, however, desisted not from his purpose, and was met by the archdeacon and his clergy at the entrance to the churchyard, where a contention arose, each party asserting his respective right to the church. The bishop, putting on his mitre, and taking his pastoral staff in his hand, approached with his attendants, at which also the opposite party, dressed in their surplices and sacerdotal robes, with lighted tapers and elevated crucifix, came forth in processional order, and each began to excommunicate the other; but the archdeacon ordering the bells to be rung three times, in confirmation of his sentence, the bishop and his party mounted horse, and hastily rode off, amid the

shouts and pelting of the crowd which so unusual an occurrence had caused to assemble. According to Matthew Paris, Henry III., having led an army to the relief of the castle of Montgomery, which the Welsh were then besieging, and compelled them to abandon their enterprise, advanced further into their country, and was opposed by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, at a place corruptly called *Cridia*, in the Vale of Kerry. Having employed much time in cutting down a large wood, which had frequently protected the Welsh from previous aggressions of the English forces, he took and demolished a castellated mansion situated in the centre of it, and thereby deprived them of one of their most important posts: observing the highly favourable position of the place, he, with the advice of his minister, Hubert de Burgh, commenced the erection of a castle upon the site of the former edifice: during the progress of the work, he was so harassed by the Welsh, who intercepted his convoys, and cut off his foraging parties, that, after three months labour and considerable expense, he was obliged to abandon his design, and agree to a truce: the conditions were that he should raze to the ground the works which he had constructed, since called "Hubert's Folly," and that the Welsh prince should pay three thousand marks for the materials, and agree to do homage for the lordship of Kerry. In one of the rencontres which took place at that time, William de Breos, lord of Brecknock, was made prisoner by the Welsh.

The parish, which is situated in the southern part of the shire, adjoining the counties of Radnor and Salop, is about thirteen miles in length, varying in breadth from three to five miles, and is divided into four parts for the separate maintenance of the poor: it is intersected by the small rivers Mule and Miheli, which form a junction at the distance of three-quarters of a mile below the village, and includes about twelve thousand acres of old enclosed land, and about ten thousand acres of mountainous land, lately allotted as sheepwalks to different farms, under an act passed in 1797. The village is situated on the road from Newtown to Bishop's Castle: in that part of the parish lying above it are the two narrow picturesque vales of the Mule and the Miheli, and below are the vale of the Mule, after its junction with the Miheli, and that of Ceibutrach, environed on both sides by lofty ridges of hills, which afford pasturage in summer to from twelve to fifteen thousand head of sheep. In the time of the latter princes of Wales this district was covered with almost impenetrable woods, and in the reign of Henry VIII. Leland describes it as a forest without deer. It has since been completely stripped of its sylvan clothing, though extensive plantations have lately been formed, which, in the course of a few years, will, from the nature of the soil being highly favourable to the growth of trees, conduce greatly to embellish the scenery of the vale: the system of agriculture has also been much improved of late years throughout the district. Petty sessions for the upper division of the hundred are held at the village, on the last Friday in every month. The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £17. 8. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is stated by



Giraldus Cambrensis to have been rebuilt in 1176: it is principally in the Norman style of architecture, and consists of two aisles, separated by eight Norman arches supported on circular and octangular columns, and a massive square tower at the west end, surmounted by a wooden belfry: the font, which is octagonal and very ancient, is adorned in each department with devices emblematical of the Crucifixion. A monumental tablet has been erected to the memory of Giraldus; and on the north side of the window in the south aisle there is a handsome monument, erected at an expense of £525, to the late Richard Jones, Esq., a native of Black Hall, and the benevolent founder of the Black Hall Institution, in this parish: it consists of a white marble bust of the founder, on one side of which is a boy writing, and on the other a girl reading, resting on a pedestal of variegated marble. A neat marble tablet has also lately been put up to the memory of the Rev. Mr. Jenkins, the late vicar. A chapel of ease formerly stood in the township of Gwern-ygo, but no remains of the building can now be traced. There are places of worship for Baptists and Independents. The Black Hall Institution was founded, in 1787, by the above-named Richard Jones, Esq., who had been a purser in the royal navy, to be "free and open to all Christians, Jews, Turks, and Infidels, that will attend for instruction, that they may hear and learn, and fear the Lord, the great Jehovah." At his decease he bequeathed to trustees funded property consisting of £1000 in the three per cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities, £1050 four per cent. ditto, and £1000 five per cent. Bank Annuities (the last of which has been advanced on mortgage to the commissioners of the first district of roads in Montgomeryshire), directing the interest to be applied in feeding, clothing, and educating poor children of this parish, and apprenticing poor boys, and the charity to be called by the above-mentioned name. He also bequeathed £700 three per cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities to the same trustees, for the support of a Sunday school, established also in 1787, to be called the Kerry Charity Sunday School on the Black Hall Institution. The income of the charity, including a former bequest, amounts to £155. 15. per annum: there are seventy-six boys and fifty-nine girls in the day school, of whom four of each are clothed, and two or three annually apprenticed; and the Sunday school is attended by one hundred children, who, if they choose to stay after the performance of divine service in the morning, are provided with bread and cheese, according to the testamentary directions of the beneficent founder. The school-house stands near the church, and has been extensively repaired and improved at different times, partly by subscription, and partly from the funds of the charity. Divers small bequests have been made for the benefit of the poor, the profits of which are distributed agreeably to the intentions of the donors. On the hills, and in other parts of the parish, are numerous intrenchments, fortifications, and barrows, evincing this neighbourhood to have frequently been the arena of military contentions, unrecorded in history: that in the garden of the parsonage-house, in the township of Trêvlan, consisting of a high mound of earth, encompassed by a moat, is supposed, from its unfinished state, to be the one attempted to be erected by Henry III. The

average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £1286. 3.

KEVENLLEECE (CEVN-LLŶS), a parish and contributory borough, in the hundred of KEVENLLEECE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, on the road from Newtown to Builth,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (S.W. by S.) from Pen y bont, containing 367 inhabitants. This place, the name of which signifies the "palace ridge," or "hill," is of considerable antiquity, and consists of the borough and the out-parish. A castle of considerable extent and great strength was erected here, about the year 1242, by Ralph Mortimer, which is sometimes called "Castell Glyn Ithon," from its occupying an elevated and commanding site on the banks of the Ithon, by which it was nearly surrounded: the ruins form an interesting object amid the surrounding scenery. The parish is extremely hilly, and, being for the most part destitute of wood, is in general of dreary aspect: the tops of some of the hills, however, command prospects of striking interest. Lead-ore and coal are supposed to exist within its limits, but all attempts to procure these minerals have proved fruitless. Kevenleece is a borough by prescription, and probably owes that distinction to the existence of its ancient castle: the corporation consists of a bailiff, recorder, and burgesses, chosen at the court-leet of the lord of the manor, none of whom exercise magisterial authority. The borough includes within its limits, which were not altered by the Boundary Act recently passed, about one-fifth of the parish, extending about two miles from east to west, and half a mile from north to south. It contributes with Radnor, Rhaiadr, Cnwclâs, Knighton, and, by the late act for amending the representation of the people, Presteign, in sending a member to parliament: the right of voting was formerly in the burgesses at large, nearly two hundred in number, of whom only fifteen are at present resident within the borough, but is now vested, by the late act, in the resident burgesses only, if duly qualified according to its provisions, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of at least ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act demands: the present number of houses in the borough, of this value, is only three. It has also been made, by the late Reform Act, a polling-place in the election of a knight for the shire.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8. 19. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is romantically situated on a precipitous knoll, embosomed amid higher hills, and is somewhat difficult of access in winter: it consists of a nave and chancel, with a low tower covered with a shelving roof. There is a place of worship for Independents, endowed with a farm in the parish of Llansantfraid, called Craigueuan, bequeathed by a lady named Jones, and now producing £25 per annum. Thomas Palmer, in 1712, and the Rev. Hugh Powell, in 1713, bequeathed portions of land for the relief of poor housekeepers not receiving parochial aid. The Rev. Mr. Lewis, presumed to have been a former rector, left a sum of money, to be invested in land, which, with a subsequent donation, also vested in land, now produces £25



per annum, which sum is distributed among decayed farmers of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £207.



Seal and Arms.

**KIDWELLY**, or **CYDWELLI**, an incorporated market town, and a parish, having separate jurisdiction, locally in the hundred of Kidwelly, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 9 miles (S. by E.) from Carmarthen, and 225 (W.) from London, containing 1681 inhabitants, of which number, 1435 are in the borough, and the remainder in the

suburbs. This is a place of great antiquity, and by some historians is supposed to have been the scene of the battle between Ambrosius and Vortigern, which Bede states to have been fought in the year 458. This part of the principality, according to Camden, was for many years occupied by the Scots under the sons of Keianus, who were finally expelled by the illustrious British prince, Cunedda. In the reign of William Rufus, William de Londres, one of the twelve knights who attended Fitz-Hamon in his successful attempt upon Glamorgan, and to whom the lordship of Ogmores, in that country, was afterwards assigned, subsequently made a conquest of this district, where he is said to have erected the castle, to which the town was indebted for the importance which it attained. The erection of this fortress, however, is attributed, with greater probability, to one of his descendants, Maurice de Londres, who, according to Camden, after a troublesome war made himself master of Kidwelly, and fortified the old town with walls and a castle. It afterwards became the scene of many important military events. In the year 1114, the town and fortress were surprised and taken by Gruffydd ab Rhys, who retained possession only for a short time; and after its recapture, Gwenllian, wife of Gruffydd, a woman of masculine intrepidity, with a view to recover her husband's territories, placed herself at the head of a body of forces, and, attended by her two sons, attacked Maurice de Londres at a place in the vicinity of the castle, where she was defeated, made prisoner, and put to death by her adversary, one of her sons being also slain, and the other made captive: the place where this battle was fought is still called Maes Gwenllian, or "Gwenllian's Field." In 1148, Cadell, one of the sons of Gruffydd ab Rhys, issuing from Carmarthen with a powerful body of forces, ravaged and laid waste the country around this town. The castle was repaired and strengthened, in 1190, by Rhys ab Gruffydd, but was subsequently demolished in 1233, by Gruffydd, son of Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, who had come into this part of the country to oppose the invasions of the Earl of Pembroke, and, hearing that a plot had been concerted by the inhabitants of Kidwelly, to betray him into the power of the English, fired the town, and marched to Carmarthen.

By the marriage of the granddaughter of Maurice de Londres with Henry Earl of Lancaster, the castle and lordship of Kidwelly became the property of this nobleman, and the exclusive jurisdiction at present

exercised in the town and lordship owe their origin to the erection of the estates of this earldom into a county palatine in the reign of Edward III. These estates, by descent, became vested in the crown in the reign of Henry VII., who granted the castle and lordship to the celebrated Rhys ab Thomas, to whose assistance that monarch had been materially indebted for the success of his efforts to obtain the crown of England. On the attainder of Gruffydd, grandson of Rhys, they again reverted to the crown, and were sold in the reign of Charles I., to the Vaughans of Golden Grove, in this county; and after the death of John Vaughan, Esq., early in the present century, they became the property of his devisee, Lord Cawdor, whose son and successor, Earl Cawdor, is the present proprietor. The lordship, honour, and liberty of Kidwelly comprises the comots, or hundreds of Carnwallon, Iscennen, and Kidwelly, and contains sixteen parishes and nineteen manors. By virtue of a grant from Charles I., the successive lords have claimed and exercised exclusive jurisdiction within the lordship, independently of the rest of the county of Carmarthen, and also various high, extensive, and important privileges and powers. The lord's officer holds the offices of bailiff itinerant, and bailiff of the liberties of the castles and lordships within the said liberty; and he is also coroner, escheator, and steward of the courts baron, which are held separately for each hundred. He has the return of all writs which run into the liberty, excepting only *non omittas* writs; and, as bailiff of the liberty, summons, for the assizes and quarter sessions, the grand and petit jurors of that part of the county which lies within its peculiar jurisdiction.

The town occupies a low and uninteresting situation on the banks of the Gwendraeth Vâch, or Lesser Gwendraeth river, which divides it into two portions, called respectively the Old and the New Town, the former of which, situated on the western side, is connected with the latter by a handsome stone bridge. The prosperity of this once important place seems to have been completely annihilated by destructive fires and other misfortunes, prior to the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when its inhabitants were at the lowest ebb of poverty, as appears by a memorial drawn up on their behalf by a native of the place, and presented to Sir George Carew, Knight Marshall. The Old Town, which was formerly surrounded with walls, having three gates, over one of which, in Leland's time, were the remains of a town-hall, with a prison underneath it, and in which are situated the ruins of the castle, now consists, with few exceptions, merely of hovels; and the New Town contains very few respectable dwelling-houses, the majority being thatched cottages of very inferior appearance. The air is salubrious, and the place is considered very healthy; but the importance which it formerly derived from its situation on a fine navigable river, within half a mile of its influx into the great bay of Carmarthen, has ceased from the obstruction of this navigation by the accumulation of sand, which has formed a dangerous bar across the mouth of the river. Its commerce, once flourishing, has in consequence declined; and the opening of collieries, and the establishment of copper-works at Llanelly, to which port this is a creek, have transferred the trade of Kidwelly to that place, and the town has almost entirely sunk into decay. Many fruitless attempts have been made to improve the navi-



gation of the river, and various sums expended in unavailing efforts to remove the obstructions which impeded it. Some docks, and a short canal, were constructed here about the year 1766, by Mr. Keymer, a private individual: the former are situated about half a mile from the town, and the latter was intended to convey coal from the mouth of the neighbouring pits to the vessels in the harbour. Some years ago, this navigation was transferred to a company, known as the "Kidwelly Canal Company," by whom it was extended a distance of two miles up the vale of Gwendraeth; and a branch, three miles and a half in length, was constructed to communicate with Pembrey harbour. Here were formerly both iron and tin works, the former of which have been entirely abandoned, and the latter are now conducted only on a very limited scale. The only exports are coal, to the opposite side of the Bristol channel, and corn, cheese, and other agricultural produce to Bristol. Markets were formerly held by charter, on Tuesday and Friday; but the former has been discontinued, and the latter, from the proximity of Carmarthen and Llanelly, has become merely a market for butchers' meat and vegetables. Fairs are held on May 24th, August 1st, and October 29th. This town received its first charter of incorporation from Henry VI.: James II., in the sixteenth year of his reign, granted to its inhabitants their present charter, by which the government is vested in a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, and a common council of twelve aldermen and twelve principal burgesses, assisted by a town-clerk, chamberlain, two serjeants at mace, and other officers. The mayor is annually chosen from the aldermen, and the bailiffs, who act as sheriffs, from the principal burgesses. The mayor, and one of the aldermen elected for that purpose, are justices of the peace within the borough. The corporation, by their charter, are empowered to hold courts of quarter session for the borough; are entitled to the goods of felons and all escheats whatsoever, and to take custom of all goods and merchandise entered inwards or cleared outwards from the port; and possess other important privileges. A court of record for pleas of debt and trespass, to the amount of £200, arising within the borough, is held every alternate Monday, before the mayor, assisted by the town-clerk, who claims the power of issuing process to hold to bail in actions of debt; and a court for the recovery of debts under forty shillings is held every third week, the jurisdiction of which extends over the entire hundred. The town-hall is a tenement, possessing no architectural features worthy of notice, which has been fitted up for this purpose, and attached to which is a small place of confinement, serving occasionally as a lock-up house for the borough.

The parish of Kidwelly is divided into St. Mary's within, and St. Mary's without the borough, each division separately maintaining its own poor. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 10., and in the patronage of the Crown. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, and situated in the New Town, is an ancient cruciform structure, of which the transepts are now in ruins, with a square embattled tower at the western end, surmounted by a very lofty spire: over the entrance is a figure of the Virgin, and in the interior is a monumental effigy of a priest, with an inscription, now illegible. There

are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school, conducted on the National system, is supported by subscription, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children. At Penallt, near this place, was anciently a small priory of Benedictine monks, founded about the year 1130, by Roger, Bishop of Sarum, who dedicated it to St. Mary, and made it a cell to the abbey of Sherborne in Dorsetshire: it continued to flourish till the dissolution, at which time its revenue was £38: the present remains are very inconsiderable. Leland, speaking of the castle, in the reign of Henry VIII., states that it was then "meately wel kept up," and "veri fair and doble waullid;" having been repaired by Alice de Londres, wife of one of the Dukes of Lancaster, and again in the reign of Henry VII. The present remains of this edifice occupy a bold rocky eminence on the western side of the Gwendraeth Vâch, and are in a more perfect state of preservation than any other of a similar character in the principality: their appearance is grand and imposing, the ruins comprising a quadrangular area, enclosed by strong walls defended with massive circular towers at the angles, and also by bastions in the intervals: the principal entrance, which is on the west side, is under a magnificent gateway, flanked by two round towers, and is still in good preservation. Many of the state apartments are almost entire, and the groined ceilings of some of them, together with other portions of the edifice, display interesting features of the early style of English architecture. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the town amounts to £388. 4., and for those of the remainder of the parish to £152. 11.

KIFIG (CYFFIG), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (W. by S.) from St. Clear's, containing 544 inhabitants. This parish is intersected by the old road from St. Clear's to Narberth. The living is a perpetual curacy, consolidated with that of Marros, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's: it was formerly dependent on the mother church of Laugharne, but having been lately endowed with £8 per annum by the vicar of that parish, and with £600 royal bounty, it was united with Marros, and the consolidated incumbency is in the gift of the Vicar of Laugharne. There is a place of worship for Baptists. Sir John Crow, Bart., bequeathed £50, the interest of which is annually distributed among the poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £136.

KILAY (CILE), a joint hamlet with Trêgorn, in the parish of LLANDAROG, hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (E. S. E.) from Carmarthen. The population is included in the return for the parish. The Gwendraeth Vechan river flows through this hamlet, and on its right bank are the remains of an ancient chapel, called Capel Ivan.

KILCARW (CÎL-CARW), a joint hamlet with Gorycoed, in the parish of LLANGENDEIRN, hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 5½ miles (S. E. by E.) from Carmarthen. The population is included in the return for the parish, of which it forms the south-eastern portion. It occupies a part of the district between the Gwendraeth Vawr and Gwendraeth



Vechan rivers; and the road from Llannon to Llangendeirn passes through it. The mountain of Mynydd Llangendeirn, running parallel with the latter river, is situated here, and, from its deep indentations, gives name to the hamlet, which implies the retreat of the stag.

KÎLGERRAN (CÎL-GARON), a parish (formerly an incorporated market town) in the hundred of KÎLGERRAN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  miles (S. S. E.) from Cardigan, containing 879 inhabitants. This place owes its origin to the erection of a castle, of great strength and extent, of which the original foundation is involved in much obscurity: some writers attribute it to Roger de Montgomery, and others to Gilbert Earl of Clare. In the year 1164, this important fortress was taken from the English by Rhŷs ab Gruffydd, Prince of South Wales, by whom it was considerably strengthened; and in the following year the Normans and Flemings made an unsuccessful attack upon it. During the civil war between his two sons, Gruffydd and Rhŷs, the former of whom had succeeded to his father's dominions, it was captured by Gruffydd, in 1199, from whom, however, it was wrested by William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, about the year 1204. Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, in 1215, included the capture of this castle among his other numerous conquests in this part of the principality, but ceded it, in the following year, to a native chieftain named Maelgwyn, from whom it was retaken, in 1222, by the Earl of Pembroke, who immediately commenced the erection of a new fortress, which was finished by the garrison, during the earl's absence in London, whither he had been summoned to attend the king. The castle thenceforward continued annexed to the earldom of Pembroke, until the decease of the youngest son of Earl William, when these vast estates descended to coheirresses, and the castle and lordship of Kîlgerran were separated from it. The importance of the castle imparted a proportionate degree of consequence to the town, which was endowed with corporate privileges, and continued to flourish until the decay of the former, on which it underwent a like decline.

It is now only a small village, consisting of one street, about half a mile in length, the houses in which are mean, straggling, and irregularly built, with the church at the western extremity. The river Teivy, which runs on the east and north to its æstuary below Cardigan, here winds in beautiful and majestic reaches through the vale to which it gives name, and which at every bend presents some fresh features of novel and picturesque beauty. In sailing up the stream, in one part of its course, the hanging woods which clothe the sides of the environing hills recede from the margin of the stream, and leave room for a narrow strip of meadow land, whilst the beautifully varied scenery on the opposite bank is terminated by the august ruins of the castle, which crown the summit of a projecting rock rising precipitously from the brink of the river: on the opposite side, the noble woods which give name to the valuable estate and mansion of Coedmore, the seat of Thomas Lloyd, Esq., cover the sides and summit of the rock, partially disclosing at intervals impending masses, which contrast finely with the sylvan beauties of the scene. Pursuing the course of the river, rich groves, alternating with the naked rock, continue to excite the admiration of the traveller, till he arrives within a short

distance of Llêchrhŷd bridge, where the vale expands on either side, margined by luxuriant meadows, from which the hills recede, beautifully varied with churches, seats, and cottages, embosomed in the foliage of successive plantations. On this river is the Kîlgerran royal weir, which was purchased from the crown by Thomas Lloyd, Esq., of Coedmore. There are three mansions in the parish, namely, Glandovan, the seat of Abel Anthony Gower, Esq., of which family was the late Admiral Sir Erasmus Gower, who accompanied Earl Macartney in his embassy to China, and greatly distinguished himself in the naval service of his country; Castell Maelgwyn, also the property of Mr. Gower, but now in the occupation of — Davies, Esq.; and Rhôs y Gilwen, the elegant modern mansion of John Humphreys, Esq., who obtained this estate by marriage with Catherine, daughter of the late Thomas Colby, Esq., of Fynnonau, and erected the present house. There are extensive slate-quarries in the parish, which are actively worked, and enjoy a facility of communication with the sea by means of the Teivy, which is navigable as high as Llêchrhŷd bridge, about three miles above Cardigan. The market, formerly held on Wednesday, has fallen into disuse; but fairs are held annually on August 21st and November 12th, for the sale of cattle, horses, pigs, &c. This place has long since lost its municipal privileges, but retains the semblance of a corporation, in the election annually of a portreeve, who is chosen by a jury of burgesses at the court leet, which is held twice a year: the tolls of the fairs are paid to him, but his other duties are little more than nominal.

The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Llawddog, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, and in tolerably good repair, with a square tower at the western end: in the churchyard there is a rude stone, bearing an inscription now illegible, but evidently a Roman monumental stone. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic Methodists. A school, in which about forty children are instructed, is supported by contributions from the gentry resident in the vicinity. The ruins of the castle rank among the most striking, extensive, and picturesque remains of the ancient fortresses in South Wales: they stand on the edge of a rock which rises perpendicularly from the southern bank of the Teivy, and consist of several bastions of different forms, with portions of the curtain wall: the castle formerly had two wards, the plan of which, with the position of the integral parts, may be clearly traced. It is at present, together with that of Pembroke, held by grant from the crown, made in the reign of James II., by Pryse Pryse, Esq., of Gogerddan, in the county of Cardigan. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £203. 7.

KÎLGIL (CÎLGIL), a township in the parish of LLANYRE, hundred of RHAIADR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. E.) from Rhaiadr. The population is included in the return for the parish, of which it forms the northern portion, and is bounded on the east by the river Ithon. The parochial church is situated in this township, which contains some marshy ground on the banks of the river.



**KILGWYN** (CÎL-GWYN), a chapelry in the parish of NEVERN, hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. S. E.) from Newport. The population is returned with the parish. The chapel is dedicated to St. Mary. It is situated at the foot and near the south-eastern declivity of Carn Ingli mountain and common, on the former of which are some ancient carneddau.

**KILIEUCHA** (CÎLIAU UCHÂV) a township, consisting of the lower division of the parish of LLANDYSILIO-GOGO, in the lower division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. N. W.) from Lampeter. The population is returned with the parish. The parochial church is situated in this township, which lies on the shore of Cardigan bay. There are several respectable residences scattered over the neighbourhood; and here is an ancient mansion, called Cwm Cynin, the property of the family of Parry, now converted into a farm-house. On an eminence in this district the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., after being joined by Rhys ab Thomas, is stated to have encamped with his army previously to proceeding against Richard III., where he was hospitably entertained by Davydd ab Evan, of Llwyn Davydd, to whom he presented a golden goblet, which is now said to be in the possession of the Vaughans of Golden Grove. Capel Cynin, a chapel dedicated to St. Cynin, is situated in this township: having been suffered to fall into decay, it was rebuilt in 1820 by the parishioners. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £2000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Major Parry, the proprietor of the Cwm Cynin estate. The Cynin and another stream here fall into the bay of Cardigan, the shore of which is bold and precipitous, with eleven fathoms at low water a short distance from the coast. Garn Wen, or "the white heap," is a circular formation of loose stones, about sixty-eight yards in diameter, divided into three compartments, with a low stone rampart surrounding it; within a short distance to the south-west is an appendage, composed of three acres of ground, formerly encompassed with a mound of earth; the whole is situated above the farm of Cilieu, near the coast. On the hill of Llwyn Davydd are vestiges of what is supposed to have been a castle, comprising two circumvallations, two hundred feet in diameter, with high mounds and deep ditches, and containing in the centre what has the appearance of a tumulus: it is conjectured to be the site of Castell Meib Wynion, or "the castle of the sons of Wynion," captured in 1164, by Rhys ab Gruffydd, and by others supposed to be the castellated mansion of the Tewdws. The mouth of the river at Cwm Tewdwr forms a small haven, from which a few craft are engaged in the culm and limestone trade, the latter being occasionally burnt also for manure.

**KILKEN** (CÎL-CAIN), a parish in the Northop division of the hundred of COLESHILL, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (W. by N.) from Mold, containing 1189 inhabitants. This parish is supposed by some to have derived its name from *Cil*, a retreat, and *Cain*, fair, or pleasant; but others deduce it from Eurgain, niece to St. Asaph, second bishop of the see, which, after his canonization, obtained its name from him. Eurgain was brought up and educated by her uncle, and, during

the general persecutions which at that time assailed the establishment of the Christian religion, retired to the district included in the present parish of Kilken, in a vale under Moel Vamma, the loftiest of the Clwydian mountains, where she built a cell, and lived in solitude and devotion. From her pious and exemplary life she acquired the appellation of *Eurgain*, signifying "the fairness of gold;" and shortly afterwards a church was erected near the site of her hermitage, and consecrated to her memory: the vale in which she dwelt is still called Nant Cain, and the brook which runs from the mountain that shelters it also retains the name of Cain. The village is pleasantly situated on the river Alyn, and the vicinity is enlivened by pleasing and finely varied scenery. The parish comprises five thousand five hundred and fifty acres of land, which are chiefly gravelly, with some wet stiff soil: it is partly hilly and partly flat: two thousand four hundred acres of waste land were enclosed pursuant to an act obtained in 1793. On the mountain of Moel Vamma, near its confines, is the Jubilee Column, erected to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of George the Third's accession to the throne. The neighbourhood abounds with mineral wealth, and considerable mines of lead were formerly wrought to great advantage; but, owing to the low price of the ore, some of them are at present discontinued. Fairs are held on March 14th, July 7th, and October 12th. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £6. 6., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph: there is also a sinecure rectory, rated at £16. 14. 7., and in the gift of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small but interesting structure, and is distinguished for the beauty of its roof of finely carved oak, which was brought from Basingwerk abbey, at the dissolution of that establishment: it is an elegant piece of workmanship, and is supported by arches springing from corbels decorated with angels bearing shields, on which the cross and other emblems of the Crucifixion are displayed. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. A parochial school has recently been erected by subscription, but the endowment is very inconsiderable, and only a few children receive instruction. There are various charitable bequests to a considerable amount for distribution among the poor. In the mountainous districts of the parish are several small camps and numerous tumuli. Near Kilken Hall, in the vale of Nannerch, is the celebrated *Fynnon Leinw*, or "flowing well," which Camden describes as flowing and ebbing with the tide; but this peculiarity has long since ceased to distinguish it: it is a copious and limpid spring, and is much resorted to for bathing, for which purpose it has been enclosed, and is said to possess properties fully equal, if not superior, to those of the far-famed spring at Holywell. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £626. 13.

**KILKENNIN** (CÎL-CENIN), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of ILAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $9\frac{1}{4}$  miles (N. W. by N.) from Lampeter, comprising the Upper and Lower hamlets, each of which maintains its own poor, and containing 695 inhabitants. This place is remarkable in history as the scene of a slaughter committed, in 1210, by Rhys and Owain ab



Gruffydd, at the head of a chosen band of three hundred men, on a superior body of English and Welsh troops, under the command of their uncle Maelgwyn, whom John King of England had reinforced with a body of auxiliaries, to aid him in recovering possession of the estates wrested from him by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, the reigning prince of North Wales, and by him given to Maelgwyn's nephews, who, unable to meet in open combat the force under their uncle's command, here approached his camp secretly by night, and, furiously rushing upon his unarmed soldiers, slew many of them, and compelled the rest, among whom was Maelgwyn himself, to seek safety by flight. The parish is computed to contain about one thousand acres, mostly arable, in some parts rocky and hilly, and in others flat, of which about forty are subject to inundation: the only river is the Ayron, which skirts a part of it. The living is vicarial, being consolidated with the vicarage of Llanbadarn-Trêveglwys, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Cannen, has recently been rebuilt, in the later style of English architecture, the expense of which was defrayed by public contributions. There is a place of worship for Independents. On the summit of an eminence, in this parish, are the remains of an ancient castle, called Bwlch y Castell, of the foundation and history of which no particulars have been recorded. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £126. 18.

**KILLEY (CÎL-LE)**, a joint parcel with Prysg, in the parish of LLANGATTOCK, hundred of CRICKHOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (W.) from Crickhowel. The population is included in the return for the parish. It is situated in a pleasing vale, through which a stream flows into the river Usk, and abounds with limestone, the quarrying and burning of which give employment to a great portion of the inhabitants: a railway proceeds from the quarries to the Brecknock canal, which crosses the hamlet. The ancient and extensive park of Cîl-le Lan was formerly an appendage of the castle of Crickhowel, at the other side of the river Usk, with which there was a connexion by a private bridge, which has long since been demolished, but its abutments were discovered about fifty years ago, when a high flood carried away a part of the soil of the river. Within the limestone rock, in a recess of the mountain, termed Darren y Cîl-le, is a cave of considerable dimensions, called Eglwys Vaen, or "the Stone Church." There are two large carneddau on the Carno mountain, where a sanguinary battle was fought between Ethelbald King of Mercia and Roderic Molwynog, a prince of North Wales, in which the latter is said to have been victorious.

**KILLYMAENLLWYD (CÎL Y MAENLLWYD)**, a parish partly in the lower division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, and partly in the hundred of DUNGLEDY, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N. by E.) from Narberth, containing 609 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the banks of the river Tâf, which here separates the counties of Carmarthen and Pembroke, and, with a very small exception, is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery, though not characterized by any peculiarity of feature, is generally pleasing, and is agreeably diversified with wood and water. Coedllŷs,

the seat of the family of Philipps, the heiress of which house was married to the late Lord Milford, and which is now the property of John P. A. Lloyd Philipps, of Dale Castle, in the county of Pembroke, Esq., is beautifully situated in a richly-wooded vale on the banks of the river Tâf, of which simplicity and retirement are the leading features. That part of the parish which is within the county of Pembroke maintains its own poor separately from that which is within the county of Carmarthen. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 10., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church is dedicated to St. Philip and St. James. At Castel-Dauyran there is a chapel of ease; and, according to tradition, there was formerly at the same place an ancient mansion called the Castle, the property of two sisters, who jointly possessed the chapelry and the castle, of the latter of which there are no vestiges. Camden notices a quantity of Roman coins, which had been recently found in this parish: they were of impure silver, and the series reached from the time of Commodus, who first debased the coin of the empire, to the fifth tribuneship of Gordian III., A. D. 243: among them were some of Helvius Pertinax, M. Opellius, Antoninus Diadumenianus, Julius Verus Maximus, Cælius Balbinus, Clodius Pupienus, Aquilia Severa, wife of Heliogabalus, and Sallustia Barbia Orbiana. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £159. 2.

**KILRHEDYN (CÎL-RHEDYN)**, a parish partly in the hundred of ELVET, county of CARMARTHEN, and partly in that of KÎLGERRAN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. W.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, containing 1078 inhabitants. It is intersected by the small river Cuch, which here forms the line of boundary between the two counties, and comprises nearly eight thousand acres. Within its limits are two neat residences, namely, Glâs-Bant, that of Mr. Howel, and Dyfryn, that of the Rev. Mr. Lewis. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8. 12. 8½., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Teilo, is not distinguished by any architectural features of importance. There are places of worship for Baptists and Presbyterians, also for a congregation simply styling themselves "Dissenters." The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £154. 17.

**KILWYCH (CÎL-WYCH)**, a parcel in the parish of LLANVIHANGEL CWM DŴ, hundred of CRICKHOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (N. by W.) from Crickhowel, containing 334 inhabitants. The name of this place, signifying "the cheerful retreat," is applicable to its situation in the pleasing vale of Cwm dŵ. A certain portion of the tithes of this parcel was anciently granted to the prior and monks of St. John the Evangelist in Brecknock, by Pycard, a Norman knight, to whom Bernard de Newmarch gave the lordship of Ystradiw; but on the dissolution of the priory they passed into lay occupation, in which they still remain. Penarth, a beautiful seat on the banks of the Usk, originally belonging to the Vaughans, afterwards sold to William Augustus Gott, Esq., who built the present mansion, and now the



property of Joseph Bailey, Esq., commands rich and pleasing views of the Vale of Crickhowel.

**KILYBEBILL** (CÎL BEBYLL), a parish, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, in the hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.) from Neath, and containing 398 inhabitants, of which number, 122 are in the Upper, and 276 in the Lower, division. This parish, the name of which signifies "the retreat of the tents," is situated in a pleasant glen, opening at its southern extremity into the Vale of Neath, and is separated from the parish of Llan-guicke by the river Tawy, over which is a handsome stone bridge of one arch, called Pont ar Dawe, constructed by the self-taught architect of Pont y Prydd: the span of the arch is about eighty feet, and the whole structure, though inferior in its dimensions to Pont y Prydd, is superior to it in the beauty of its architecture. Kilybebill Place, the ancient seat of the family of Herbert, now the property of H. Leach, Esq., has been so completely modernized and greatly improved by its present proprietor, as scarcely to retain any vestige of its ancient character: the grounds are well disposed, and the house commands a good view of the sea and of the abrupt knolls and eminences near Briton-Ferry. One of the ladies of the family of Herbert was maid of honour to Catherine of Braganza, consort of Charles II., and was afterwards appointed mistress of the robes to that queen, who presented her with one of the only two portraits of her majesty, painted by Sir Peter Lely, which is still preserved in the house. The parish is comprised in the vast mineral basin of South Wales, and great quantities of coal are shipped from the port of Swansea to different parts of the kingdom, by means of the Swansea canal, to which are railways from the various works in this district. This coal is raised by level, and, by an ingenious contrivance of Mr. Branton of London, the machinery possesses a material advantage over that in common use: this is effected by a small wheel circumscribing the drum, round which the cord is coiled in a contrary direction to the smaller; and, by attaching the full trams to one end of the lower cord, and those at the pit's mouth to the end of the upper cord, the former are drawn over a level of four hundred yards, while the others descend an inclined plane double that length, the diameters of the wheels being respectively in proportion. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £4. 6. 8., endowed with £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, is a small plain building, with a massive square embattled tower. There are places of worship for Baptists and Methodists. The late Mrs. Herbert bequeathed £5 per annum, which is regularly paid by Mr. Leach to the poor of this and the adjoining parish of Llanguicke. On the hill called March Hywel are several tumuli, on opening one of which a platform of stone was found, exhibiting strong appearances of the action of fire; and on one side of it was an urn of unbaked clay, containing ashes, remnants of bones, and charcoal, as fresh apparently as when first deposited. Celts, and a weapon of yellow metal, supposed to be a Roman sword, have also been found here. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £100. 10.

**KILYCWM** (CÎL Y CWM), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N.N.W.) from Llandovery, comprising the Upper and Lower hamlets, and containing 1637 inhabitants, of which number, 924 are in the Upper, and 713 in the Lower, hamlet. This parish, which is intersected by the river Towey, extends for nearly ten miles in length, and is in some parts five miles in breadth, being for the most part enclosed. Copper and lead ores abound within its limits, and mines of both were formerly worked to a considerable extent, but they are not now in operation. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Thynne Howe Gwynne, Esq. There is also a vicarage noticed in the king's books, which is rated at £5. The church is dedicated to St. Michael. There are three places of worship for Baptists, and one for Calvinistic Methodists. The late Rowland Pryse, Esq., bequeathed £5 per annum for the support of a charity school, which sum is regularly paid by his representative, John Pryse Lloyd, of Glanseven, Esq., and £1 per annum, of which one-half is appropriated to the purchase of books for the children, and the remainder distributed in bread to the poor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £507. 15., of which sum, £236 is raised for the Upper, and £271. 15. for the Lower, division.

**KINNERTON (HIGHER)**, a township in that part of the parish of DODDLESTON which is in the hundred of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{4}$  miles (S.E. by S.) from Hawarden, containing 450 inhabitants. The remainder of the parish is in the hundred of Broxton, county of Chester. This township supports its own poor by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure being £78. 16.

**KITPLOITH** (CYD-PLWYV), a joint hamlet with Portscyborvawr, in the parish of LLANDEVEYLOG, hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (S.) from Carmarthen, containing, with Portscyborvawr, 247 inhabitants. It forms the northern portion of the parish, where the ground is rather undulating than hilly or mountainous, and contains many pleasing and agreeable residences.

**KNELSTON**, or **KNOLLSTON**, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (W. by S.) from Swansea, containing 125 inhabitants. This is a very small parish, and the church, which was dedicated to St. Maurice, is now in ruins. Marriages, baptisms, and burials, are solemnized at the church of the adjoining parish of Llanddewi, for which additional duty a certain stipend is paid to the vicar of that parish by the Dean and Chapter of St. David's, to whom the rectorial tithes of Knelston are appropriated. The living is a vicarage, not in charge, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, and in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter. A school for the gratuitous instruction of children of this parish, and of the parishes of Llanddewi and Llangennith, is principally supported by the incumbent. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £41. 16.

**KNIGHTON**, a borough, market town, and parish, in the hundred of KNIGHTON, county of RADNOR,



**SOUTH WALES**,  $9\frac{3}{4}$  miles (N. E. by N.) from New Radnor, and 158 (W. N. W.) from London, containing 1259 inhabitants. The Welsh name of this place is Trêv y Clawdd, signifying "the town upon the dyke," and is derived from its situation on that stupendous rampart of earth which Offa King of the Mercians raised as a line of separation between the territories of the Cambrian princes and his own widely extended dominions. The town is beautifully situated on an eminence rising boldly from the southern bank of the river Teme, and at the head of a deep vale sheltered on all sides by surrounding hills of lofty elevation, crowned with timber of luxuriant growth, and commanding extensive and finely varied prospects over the surrounding country. The two principal streets, which intersect each other at right angles, are regularly formed, and contain some well-built houses of respectable appearance; and, owing to the declivity of their situation, they are constantly clean, adding much to the neat appearance of the place, which is inhabited by many families of respectability. The parish has almost every where an undulating surface; but the lands, notwithstanding the loftiness of their elevation in some parts, are mostly enclosed and cultivated.

There are neither manufactures nor trade carried on in the town, with the exception only of what arises from its situation on a public thoroughfare, and for the supply of its inhabitants. The turnpike roads from Builth, in the county of Brecknock, and from Kington, in that of Hereford, through Presteign, after uniting within two miles and a half to the south of this town, form the high road from those places, through Knighton, to Shrewsbury. An establishment for dressing and dyeing the wool which the peasants spun in their own houses was formerly carried on, but, together with the spinning, has been discontinued, it having been found cheaper to get the wool from Yorkshire. Flannels and whittles (a Flemish term for shawls) are brought hither from Newtown in Montgomeryshire. A large wool-stapling establishment formerly existed, which failed in 1811; there is still a little business done in this branch of trade, but several large warehouses, which were formerly used for it, have either been converted into dwelling-houses, or are altogether unemployed. The market, which is on Thursday, is plentifully supplied with provisions, and is attended by dealers even from Birmingham and its vicinity, who come hither to purchase meat, poultry, eggs, butter, cheese, &c. Fairs are held annually on the Thursday before Easter, May 17th, October 2nd, the last Thursday in October, and the Thursday before November 12th.

The parish is divided into three parts, namely, the borough, the lordship of Farrington, and the township of Cwmgilla: the poor rates are collected separately for the borough, and jointly for Farrington and Cwmgilla; and the poor of the whole parish are maintained gene-

rally out of the common fund. The borough is co-extensive with the manor, its common title being "The Manor and Borough of Knighton." It is under the superintendence of a bailiff, burgesses, and constables: the bailiff is appointed annually at the court leet held for the manor, which belongs to the crown; his duty extends to little more than collecting the chief-rents of the manor, and receiving in trust, as chief municipal officer, the tolls of the market: the burgesses, are made by a presentation of a jury of burgesses, selected by the steward of the manor. Knighton, together with Cnwelâs, Kevenllece, Rhaiadr, and (by the late act for amending the representation of the people) Presteign, contributes, with the borough of Radnor, to send one representative to parliament: the right of election was formerly in the burgesses at large, in number about thirty, nearly all of whom are resident, though some doubt exists as to the title of all but three or four: it is now, by the late act, vested in the resident burgesses, if duly qualified according to its provisions, and in every male person of full age, occupying either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of ten pounds and upwards, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the number of tenements of this value is eighty-six. A court for the recovery of small debts was anciently held here, once in three weeks, which, having been discontinued for several years, was revived eight or nine years ago, but was again discontinued in 1830, in consequence of the death of the presiding officer. The petty sessions for the hundred are held here; and Knighton has been made, by the late Reform Act, one of the polling-places in the election of a knight for the shire.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Salop, and diocese of Hereford, endowed with £600 private benefaction, £600 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Warden of the Hospital of Clun. The church, which is dedicated to St. Edward, and pleasantly situated on the bank of the river Teme, is a comparatively modern edifice. A small school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, to which Mrs. Barnsley bequeathed £50, and Mr. Thomas Meyrick and Lieutenant-Colonel Winwood each gave a portion of land, is supported partly by the income arising from these benefactions, and partly by subscription. There are six small almshouses for the poor, the founder of which is unknown, and several charitable donations and bequests for distribution. Of an ancient castle, which is said to have commanded the town, there are not the slightest vestiges, neither can the exact site be accurately pointed out. There are two tumuli in the parish; and on the summit of a steep hill, about three miles from the town, are the remains of a very extensive British camp. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £320. 6.



A

# TOPOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY

OF

## W A L E S,

COMPRISING THE

SEVERAL COUNTIES, CITIES, BOROUGHES, CORPORATE AND MARKET TOWNS;  
PARISHES, CHAPELRIES, AND TOWNSHIPS,

WITH

### HISTORICAL AND STATISTICAL DESCRIPTIONS;

ILLUSTRATED BY

MAPS OF THE DIFFERENT COUNTIES;

AND

### *A Map of Wales,*

SHEWING

THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS, ROADS, RAILWAYS, NAVIGABLE RIVERS, AND CANALS;

AND EMBELLISHED WITH

ENGRAVINGS OF THE ARMS OF THE CITIES, BISHOPRICKS, CORPORATE TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES;  
AND OF THE SEALS OF THE SEVERAL MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.

WITH AN

### A P P E N D I X,

DESCRIBING THE ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES OF THE SEVERAL BOROUGHES, AS DEFINED BY THE LATE ACT.

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BY SAMUEL LEWIS.

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IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

L O N D O N :

PUBLISHED BY S. LEWIS AND CO., 87, ALDERSGATE-STREET.

M. DCCC. XXXIII.



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A Plan of 55 plates

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## TOPOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY

OF

## WALES.

## L A M

**LALESTON**, a parish in the hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (W.) from Bridgend, comprising the Upper and Lower hamlets, each of which maintains its own poor, and containing 442 inhabitants, of which number, 204 are in the Upper, and 238 in the Lower, hamlet. This parish derives its name from Lalys, a native of Palestine, and an eminent architect, whom Richard de Granville brought over with him on his return from the Holy Land, and employed to build the abbey of Neath in this county. As a reward for the ability which he displayed in the erection of that magnificent structure, Richard bestowed on him this manor, to which he gave his name, and on which he resided, until, after erecting several churches and castles in the principality, he was appointed architect to Henry I., and removed to London. The village bears every appearance of antiquity; the windows of the houses are square, and the doorways arched with stone. Near the church is a handsome house, the property and residence of John Bennet, Esq. In the upper division of the parish are extensive collieries, belonging to Messrs. Jenkins and Lewis, which are in full operation. Iron-ore also abounds, but, from the present depressed state of the trade in that metal, it is not worked to any great extent. A fair for cattle is annually held in the village on the second Monday in March. The living is consolidated with the vicarage of Newcastle, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf. The church, dedicated to St. Illtyd, is a spacious and venerable structure, the tower of which was built by Lalys, the celebrated architect above-named. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. Thomas Bennet, of Laleston House, Esq., in 1762, bequeathed the sum of £52. 10., the interest of which is distributed annually among the poor not receiving parochial relief; and £600, to be appropriated in equal portions to the repairing and beautifying of the churches of Laleston, Newton, and Pyle, which was carried into effect by his executors. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £181. 15.

**LAMBSTON**, a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (W. N. W.)

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## L A M

from Haverfordwest, containing 286 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the western part of the county, and at no great distance from St. Bride's bay, comprises a considerable tract of enclosed and cultivated land, with an extensive common, and is intersected by a small rivulet, which falls into the western Cleddau. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Master and Fellows of Pembroke College, Oxford. There is a place of worship open to dissenters of every denomination. A parochial school, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, is supported at the expense of the incumbent. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £66. 15.

**LAMPETER (LLAN-BEDR) PONT-STEPHEN**, a borough, market-town, and parish, partly in the upper division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, but chiefly in that of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 27 miles (E.) from Cardigan, and 203 (W. by N.) from London, containing, with the hamlet of Trêvycod, 1317 inhabitants. The name signifies the church of St. Peter, the distinguishing appellation having been added from the erection of a bridge over the river Teivy, at the distance of about half a mile, as has been vaguely conjectured, by King Stephen, in one of his inroads into Wales: that monarch is also said to have encamped in a meadow near the river, thence called "The King's Meadow;" and in an adjoining field was formerly a subterraneous apartment, called "The King's Cellar," to which led a curious flight of stone steps, removed a few years ago by a farmer, for the sake of the materials. But the bridge appears, from ancient Welsh pedigrees, to have been the work of an inferior manorial proprietor in this neighbourhood, called Stephen, whose name was used to designate this useful erection, and thus became conjoined with that of the adjacent town and parish. This was formerly a place of greater extent and importance than at present, "the men of Llan-Bedr" being repeatedly mentioned in terms of distinction in the Welsh Chronicle; and this opinion is corroborated by a plot

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of ground, to the south-west of the town, being still called Mynwent Twmas, "St. Thomas' Churchyard," where fragments of leaden coffins have been frequently dug up: the street leading towards it is also called St. Thomas'-street, and tradition reports the ruins of the edifice to have been visible about two hundred years ago. The ancient lords of this place are represented to have been men of great wealth: their mansion was delightfully situated on the declivity of an eminence to the west of the town; and there are still some remains of a causeway, which, according to tradition, led from it to the western door of the church. The castle of Lampeter is stated to have been demolished, towards the middle of the twelfth century, by Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, in an expedition against the Normans and Flemings in Cardiganshire and the parts adjacent: it is supposed to have stood in a meadow on the right of the road leading to Aberystwith, the site being marked by a lofty artificial mound, surrounded by an intrenchment. In 1188, Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Giraldus Cambrensis, John, abbot of Whitland, and Sisillus, abbot of the neighbouring monastery of Strata Florida, here successively exerted their eloquence in preaching the crusades.

The town, which is small and straggling, consisting for the most part of low houses indifferently built, is pleasantly situated in the beautiful Vale of Teivy, on the northern bank of that river, which here forms the boundary between the counties of Cardigan and Carmarthen, and in a cultivated tract of small extent, surrounded on every side by mountains of considerable elevation, over which, and adjacent to it, a new bridge is now in progress of erection: it is amply supplied with water from the river and from springs in the neighbourhood. Its principal architectural ornament, the establishment of which has been the means of promoting the prosperity of the town, is the College of St. David, a handsome and commodious edifice, begun August 12th, 1822 (when the first stone was laid with great ceremony), and opened for the reception of students on March 1st, 1827, having been built from a design by Mr. C. R. Cockrell. It was founded by George IV., at the suggestion of Dr. Burgess, then Bishop of St. David's, incorporated by royal charter, and endowed by act of parliament with six livings, the establishment to consist of a principal, vice-principal, and three professors, but only one professor yet resides: accommodation is afforded for seventy students, who are admitted from all parts, with a preference to natives of the principality, for whose benefit especially this useful institution was established: the total annual amount of the necessary expenses of the students, of whom there are at present forty-five, does not exceed from £50 to £54 per annum. Francis Burton, Esq., late one of the justices of great sessions for the counties of Chester, Denbigh, Flint, and Montgomery, gave £100 to this college, to be invested in the public funds, as the commencement of a foundation for annual prizes for competition among the students; and prizes presented by different individuals have been annually awarded. An act of parliament has been obtained for the construction of a new line of road from this town to Llandovery, but the work has not yet been commenced. The inhabitants procure grocery and various other articles of domestic consumption from Bristol, which are brought by sea to

Aberaeron, and thence by land carriage a distance of thirteen miles: coal, of a bituminous quality, from Newport and Llanelly, which is brought to the same port; and stone, coal, and culm by land from Llandebie and Llandyvan, a distance of about thirty miles: there is neither trade nor manufacture carried on here. The market is on Saturday: three principal fairs, in addition to others of inferior note, are held annually on the Wednesday in Whitsun-week, July 10th, and October 19th.

The earliest charter of incorporation, of which there is a copy extant, is that of Henry VI., which, however, recites others as far back as the reign of Edward II.: that under which the borough is now governed is a confirmatory charter of George III., dated in 1814. The principal officer is a portreeve, appointed annually at the court leet held for the manor, whose authority is undefined, and, as at present exercised, limited in extent: there are also a town-clerk, constable, and beadle. Lampeter is contributory with Cardigan, Aberystwith, and Atpar, in the return of a member to parliament: the right of election was formerly in the burgesses at large, the number of whom, in 1816, was six hundred, but cannot at present be exactly ascertained: it is now, by the late act for amending the representation of the people, vested in the resident burgesses only, if duly qualified according to the provisions of the act, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of ten pounds and upwards, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the number of burgesses at present resident within the borough is thirty, and about two hundred more reside within seven miles; and the number of tenements of the annual value of not less than ten pounds is, within the ancient limits of the borough, fifty-eight exclusively of twelve sets of apartments in the college, occupied by students paying each not less than ten pounds per annum, and, within the new limits of the borough, which are correctly defined in the Appendix to this work, sixty-one. The freedom is bestowed by a jury of burgesses appointed at the manorial court leet. The Easter quarter sessions for the county are held at Lampeter; and it has also been recently made one of the polling-places in the election of a knight for the shire. The town-hall is a commodious edifice, erected in 1818, at the expense of Richard Hart Davis, Esq., lord of the manor: the lower part is appropriated to the use of the market.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Peter the Apostle, is a plain unadorned building of considerable antiquity, situated on a pleasing eminence a little to the north of the town; and its external appearance is rendered still more venerable by an abundance of yew trees in the cemetery. It consists of a nave, south aisle, and chancel, with a square tower; the two former are separated from each other by pointed arches, and from the chancel by an ornamented screen. It contains the remains of a rood-loft, a very ancient font decorated with sculpture in a singular manner, and some ancient monuments, principally of the family of Lloyd of Millfield. The churchyard commands a fine



view of the Vale of Teivy. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school affords the means of instruction to from sixty to one hundred children; and there is an unendowed grammar school. In the town and its vicinity are numerous remains of military intrenchments, and other works of early date, monuments of the fortitude and persevering opposition which the Welsh displayed in defending their territory from the inroads of invading armies. A little northward of the church is an artificial mound of earth, supposed to be either a sepulchral tumulus, or the site of a fortress; and near Olwen is another artificial elevation, the site of a Roman encampment, where part of a Roman mill was discovered a few years ago. Eastward of this, on the summit of a hill called Allt-gôch, are the prostrate stones of a Druidical temple, on one side of which is a Roman camp of considerable extent, and on the other a British, or Flemish, encampment, of an oval form, and much larger. There are also traces of other fortifications, and of a Roman road which led from *Loventium*, at Llanio, to *Menevia*, at or near St. David's. A house in the town, called the Priory, is supposed to occupy the site of a conventual establishment, of which no record has been preserved: there are some low ruined walls in the garden belonging to it. In the vicinity are some mineral springs, but they are not much resorted to. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £436. 4.

**LAMPETER-VELVREY (LLAN-BEDR-VELVRE)**, a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (E.) from Narberth, containing 984 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the rich and fertile vale of Lampeter, and on the south side of the river Marlais, extends for nearly six miles from east to west, and about three miles from north to south. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied; and the parish, which is of considerable antiquity, contains several objects of interest to the antiquary. Limestone is found here in abundance, and is quarried for building purposes, and also burnt into lime as a manure for the supply of the surrounding country. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £10, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a very ancient structure, consisting of two aisles separated by plain pointed arches. In the north aisle is an altar-tomb to a member of the family of Philipps, of Lampeter House, which seat is now the property and residence of Captain Twyning. There are places of worship for Baptists and Independents. A parochial school, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, is supported by subscription. John Jones, M.D., in 1698, bequeathed certain lands and tenements for the relief of poor families, and for apprenticing poor children of the parishes of Lawrenny, Cosheston, St. David's, and Lampeter-Velvrey, now producing a considerable sum annually, which is distributed in proportion to the number of deserving objects in the different parishes. A posting inn at the entrance of the county from Carmarthen, distinguished by the name Taverner's, occupies the site of the ancient "*Taverne y spitty*," an *hospitium* formerly belonging to Whitland abbey, upon the bank of the river Tâf; and Blaengwyddnoe, now a farm-house, was the grange of that religious establishment. To the

south-west of the latter place are some very extensive earthworks, called Castel Meherin, on the summit of a high ridge commanding a full view of the sea, and forming one of a chain of forts continued in a north-westerly direction along this part of the coast; and in a field adjoining the turnpike road, a little to the north-east, are two semicircular embankments, commanding the passage of three several valleys. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £331. 3.

**LAMPHEY**, called by the Welsh LLANFYDD, a parish in the hundred of CASTLEMARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (E.) from Pembroke, on the road to Tenby, containing 436 inhabitants. This place, which takes its name from the dedication of its church to St. Faith, was among the first of those in South Wales in which the early Normans obtained a settlement. According to Buck, as quoted by Grose, it was the head of a lordship marcher; and it anciently contained one of the princely residences of the bishops of St. David's, of which there are considerable remains. At what period it first became the property of the archiepiscopal and subsequently episcopal church of St. David's is not precisely known; but a deed dated at Lamphey, in the middle of the thirteenth century, by Bishop Carew, is still extant; and, according to Giraldus Cambrensis, it appears to have been an episcopal residence in the time of Arnulph de Montgomery, who possessed himself of this part of the principality in the reign of Henry I. At least a great part of the episcopal palace (even the whole of it according to some writers) was built by Bishop Gower, in 1335: the various styles of architecture which characterize its ruins shew plainly that it was the work of successive periods, and that it did not attain the splendour for which it was remarkable, but by the accumulated additions and improvements of its successive proprietors, of whom Bishop Gower probably built the great hall and the square tower, distinguished for their beautiful open parapets. This portion of the possessions of the see of St. David's was alienated to the crown by Bishop Barlow, in the reign of Henry VIII., by whom Lamphey was granted to Devereux, Viscount Hereford, father of the unfortunate Earl of Essex, who passed the greater part of his youth in this palace. After the attainder of the earl, in the reign of Elizabeth, this estate was purchased by Sir Hugh Owen, of Orielton, by whose descendant, Sir John Owen, Bart., it was sold to its present proprietor, Charles Matthias, Esq., who has erected an elegant modern mansion, called Lamphey Court, with a noble portico of four Ionic columns, near the ruins of the ancient palace. Besides this seat, the parish contains several genteel residences, occupied by opulent families: Portclew, a modern mansion, the residence of Thomas Parry, Esq., is beautifully situated on an eminence commanding a fine view of the sea, and having at its base some fine smooth and firm sands, well adapted for sea-bathing, and affording a delightful walk. Lamphey Park, the property of Mrs. Thomas, also occupies a pleasant situation: the grounds contain some pleasing scenery, and are tastefully disposed. North Down, the property of Colonel Kemm, is a genteel residence, now in the occupation of the Rev. B. Byers. Indications of coal have been observed in this parish, from which it is concluded that strata of this fossil



here extend in a direction from north-east to south-west, but no attempt has hitherto been made to work it: limestone is found in great abundance and of excellent quality, and a considerable quantity is quarried for building purposes, and also burnt into lime.

All the land in that part of the parish which was alienated from the see in the reign of Henry VIII., and which constitutes a large portion of it, including the park, which alone contains many hundred acres of fine land, is tithe-free, and the great tithes of the other part, which are leased by the bishop to the lord of the manor, scarcely produce £50 per annum. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 8. 11½., endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Faith, was thoroughly repaired in 1826, partly by subscription, and partly by an additional church rate, aided by a grant of £100 from the Incorporated Society for promoting the erection and enlargement of churches and chapels, by which two hundred additional sittings have been obtained, of which, in consideration of the grant from the Society, one hundred and thirty-five are to be for ever free and unappropriated. A National school has been established, for which a commodious school-room, with a neat cottage for the residence of the master and mistress, was erected in 1828, by subscription, aided by a grant of £70 from the parent society, with which this school has been incorporated. The ground for the school-house and garden was granted rent-free, on lease for sixty years, by Charles Matthias, Esq., lord of the manor, who contributed £50 towards defraying the expense of the building, and subscribes £10 per annum for the support of the institution. About one hundred children of both sexes are gratuitously instructed in this establishment, which is well conducted, and liberally supported by subscription. The remains of the ancient palace, which amply display its former splendour, consist of the great hall, seventy-six feet in length and twenty in width, the walls of which are surmounted by an elegant open parapet of delicate tracery; another apartment, sixty feet long and twenty-six wide; the chancel of the chapel, of which the east window, still entire, is a beautiful composition, enriched with elegant tracery; the grand entrance on the south, and the square tower above-noticed, now enclosed within the gardens of the newly erected mansion, in which it forms an interesting object. The greatest attention is paid to the preservation of these elegant remains, and every precaution has been taken by the proprietor of Lamphey Court to arrest the decay to which this venerable pile was rapidly falling from previous neglect. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £120. 13.

LAMVA (LLAMPHY), a hamlet in the parish of ST. BRIDE'S MAJOR, hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (S. E. by S.) from Bridgend, containing 163 inhabitants.

LANTWIT-MAJOR, otherwise LLAN-ILLTYD-VAWR, a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. by W.) from Cowbridge, containing 1076 inhabitants. This place, originally called by the Welsh *Caer Wrgorn*, derived

its subsequent name of Llan-Illyd, of which its more general appellation Lantwit is only a modification, from the dedication of its church to St. Illyd, or Iltutus, and its distinguishing adjunct Vawr, or Major, from its pre-eminence among other places of the same name in different parts of the principality. The parish, which is of considerable extent, comprises one of the most interesting districts in South Wales, and appears to have been inhabited from a very remote period; but whether originally by the ancient Britons or the Romans cannot be satisfactorily ascertained. Modern writers are of opinion that the small village of Boverton, in this parish, was the site of the Roman station *Bovium*, placed in the Itineraries on the line of the *Julia Via Maritima*, between the stations of *Isca Silurum* (Caerlleon) and *Nidum* (Neath). This opinion derives weight, not only from the affinity between the names, and the coincidence of its situation between those two stations; but also from the course of a Roman road, which has been distinctly traced, leading to some camps of Roman construction near that village, where also other relics of Roman antiquity have been discovered. In the fifth century, a college was established here, or rather revived on the ruins of a more ancient institution, said to have been founded by the Roman Emperor Theodosius, which, after his name, was called by the Welsh "*Bangor Tewdws*," and in which the heresiarch Pelagius is said to have been educated. This institution was afterwards destroyed by a band of Irish pirates, who, landing on this part of the coast, carried away by violence its principal, Maenwyn, better known as St. Patrick, the apostle and tutelary saint of Ireland. Soon after this event, St. Germanus, who was sent into Britain by the Gallican bishops, to suppress the Pelagian heresy, and is supposed to have been hospitably entertained at Boverton, where the native *reguli* continued to reside occasionally, till the overthrow of their power by Robert Fitz-Hamon, associating the old college of Theodosius with the name of Pelagius, selected the site of that institution at Lantwit, then called *Caer Wrgorn*, for the foundation of one of those seminaries for the education of the British clergy, which he deemed it expedient to erect, as a powerful means of eradicating this heresy. In the establishment of this institution he was greatly assisted by the king of the country; and, on its completion, he placed it under the superintendence of Illyd, or Iltutus, who had accompanied him into Britain, and under whose management it flourished exceedingly, and was amply endowed by Meuric, Arthur, and Morgan, successive *reguli* of this part of the country. Scholars flocked to this seminary from all parts of Christendom, among whom were the sons of the British nobles and foreign princes, besides numerous others, amounting at one time to more than two thousand pupils. For the accommodation of this large number there were not less than four hundred lodging apartments and seven large halls, or colleges. The course of instruction adopted by Iltutus embraced not only such sacred and profane literature as was requisite for clerical education, but also included husbandry and other useful arts; and the common plough now in use in some parts of Wales is still called St. Illyd's plough, in honour of Iltutus, who was regarded as the inventor of it. For many generations this seminary continued to be the university of Britain, and to be frequented by the most



illustrious persons of all countries, till its revenue was transferred to the abbey of Tewkesbury by Robert Fitz-Hamon, when the universities of England acquired the ascendancy, and that of Illtut sank into comparative obscurity. That holy and learned man is said to have presided over this institution for the protracted term of ninety years; and among the eminent persons who were his pupils may be enumerated Gildas, the historian; David, who removed the episcopal see from Caerlleon to St. David's, and who ultimately became the patron saint of Wales; Paulinus, Bishop of Leon in Spain; Samson, successor to David in the see, and afterwards Bishop of Dôl in Brittany; Talhaiarn, a celebrated bard and a distinguished saint; Taliesin, an eminent bard; and many others. According to Sir Henry Spelman, a large assembly was convened in the church of this establishment, in 560, to negotiate a treaty of peace between Morgan, regulus of this part of the country, and his uncle Trioc, whom the former most treacherously slew, and afterwards made his peace with the church by remitting to this establishment the annual tribute of a pot of honey and an iron kettle. This school lingered for a long period in comparative insignificance, and was not finally closed till the reign of Henry VIII., when the remaining portion of its tithes, and an annual payment called the abbot's rent, being all that remained to it of its ancient endowments, were seized by that monarch, and, together with the revenue of the dissolved monastery of Tewkesbury, conferred on the Dean and Chapter of St. Peter's, in the city of Gloucester, which that sovereign had recently erected into a bishoprick.

The parish is situated on the coast of the Bristol channel, in a fine open country, and comprises a large tract of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a high state of cultivation. The soil, of which the substratum is a blue limestone, is, for richness and fertility, almost unequalled in any part of South Wales; and the surrounding scenery, though not in general distinguished by any striking peculiarity of character, is occasionally diversified by features of picturesque beauty and romantic grandeur. A long range of hills, running through the county in a direction from east to west, separates the mountainous from the level districts of the spacious and fertile Vale of Glamorgan, the latter of which are occasionally enlivened with numerous churches and villages, and enriched with thriving plantations and groves embowering the seats and villas of the resident gentry. The village, which is situated in the centre of this pleasing vale, displays obvious indications of its original extent and importance, and has in every respect the appearance of a large dilapidated town: it occupies a large extent of ground, but presents several chasms in its streets, some of which are nearly choked up with the ruins of decayed houses, and others are scarcely distinguishable, except by their situation within the limits of the town, from the numerous roads that appear to converge towards this place, as a common centre. The town-hall is still remaining, and in a state of good repair: it resembles, in its appearance, those ancient buildings which in some places are called court-houses and church-houses, though of much larger dimensions; the ascent to it is by a double flight of steps at one end: over it is a bell on which the clock strikes, said to have been presented to St. Illtut by the pope, and by Holinshed to have been taken, among

other spoils, by an army which King Edgar, towards the latter end of his reign, brought into Glamorgan-shire, to chastise the Welsh, who had rebelled against him; on removing this bell, in the year 1815, it was found to bear the inscription "*Ora pro nobis, Sancte Illtute.*" The ancient gaol has been demolished only within the last fifty years; the name of *Gallows way* is still retained in the road where executions usually took place, and where human skeletons have been found at various times. Whatever municipal privileges Lantwit may appear, from these circumstances, to have formerly possessed, have long been lost, even, according to some authorities, since the time of Henry VII. That it formerly carried on a considerable trade with the coasts of Somersetshire appears evident; and the dialect of that county is said to have been prevalent here within the memory of men living at the commencement of the present century: in the vicinity is the ancient port of Colhow, now Colhugh, where, during the reign of Henry VIII., vessels frequently sheltered; though now, by the changes which have taken place on this part of the coast, it is avoided by mariners as dangerous. The remains of the ancient harbour may still be traced, and, notwithstanding the great encroachment made by the sea, the foundation of the pier, and the piles of wood by which it was defended on the western side, are still visible at low water. Though the village of Boverton is far inferior in extent and population to Lantwit-Major, yet, as the seat of the ancient reguli of this portion of the principality, and also as the principal place prior to the establishment of the schools of Illtut, it has in all ancient documents held the precedence, and given title to the manor, which is to this day in the court rolls styled the "Lordship of Boviarton and Lantwit." After the conquest of this part of the principality by the Normans, the manor was granted to Robert Fitz-Hamon, from whom it passed to the lords paramount of Glamorgan, as part of the great lordship. It became vested in the crown in the reign of Henry VII., who granted it to his uncle, Jasper Duke of Bedford, by whom it was given to Gruffydd Voss, whose daughter and heiress conveyed it by marriage to Roger Seys, Esq., from which family it passed by marriage to Robert Jones, Esq., of Fonmon castle, who sold it to the late Elias Vanderhorst of Bristol, from whom it passed into the possession of John Tunno, Esq., its present proprietor. A fair is held here annually on June 22nd.

The living is a discharged vicarage, with that of Llysworney annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £14. 13. 9., and in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Gloucester, who are impropiators of the tithes. In 1080, the tithes and advowson of the parish belonged to Iestyn ab Gwrgan, and, together with the rest of his property, were seized by Robert Fitz-Hamon, and conveyed by marriage of his only daughter to Robert Fitz-Henry, Earl of Gloucester, by whom they were afterwards conferred on his newly-founded abbey of Tewkesbury, upon the dissolution of which they were granted by Henry VIII. to the Dean and Chapter of Gloucester. The present church, dedicated to St. Illtyd, is a spacious and venerable pile of building, erected, according to an old manuscript, by R. Neville, Earl of Warwick and Lord of Glamorgan, in the reign of Henry VI., and comprising, in addition to that portion of it in which



divine service is performed, a more ancient structure, separated only from the former by the tower, to the west of which it is situated. From this latter a door opened into a dilapidated building, in a line with it, called the Lady Chapel, the walls of which were ornamented with busts and figures of saints, now destroyed: this chapel, which is almost a ruin, was forty feet and a half in length. The old church, which was sixty-four feet and a half long, is said to have been deserted on account of the dampness of its situation; but this would have equally operated against the erection of a contiguous structure of larger dimensions. Nearly in the centre of it are two monumental stones, brought, as it is said, in 1730, by Mr. Thomas Morgan, schoolmaster and parish clerk, from a place called the "Great House," where it is said there was formerly a church, and which are minutely described in the sixth volume of the *Archæologia Londinensis*, accompanied with plates; and in a room behind the altar, probably that used for the vestry, is a gigantic figure of a man in the costume of the time of Henry VIII., elaborately sculptured in freestone, of the kind found near the river side at Bridgend, in this county, with an English inscription, simply stating it to be the statue of "Prince Richard Hopkins," also described in the same publication. Near this statue is the bust of a child, sculptured in alto relievo; and in a niche near the altar is the figure of a person kneeling, rudely sculptured, and habited in a costume similar to that of Hopkins. The more modern church, which is ninety-eight feet in length and fifty-three in breadth, consists of a nave, with a north and south aisle, and a chancel, and has a very handsome altar-piece. In the churchyard, near the south entrance, is a stone placed flat in the ground, which appears to have been part of an ancient cross, carved with knots and other devices: it is about six feet in length, and is said to have been placed there by Morgan, who removed it also from the "Great House." On the north side of the church also in the churchyard, is a curious stone called St. Illtyd's Cross, noticed by Gough, in his *Additions to Camden*, which was erected in the sixth century, in honour of that saint, by Archbishop Samson: on the western side of it is inscribed, in the several compartments, "*Crux Illuti*," "*Samson redis*," and "*Samuel egisar*," for *excisor*, Samuel being the name of the sculptor; and on the eastern side is "*Samson posuit hanc crucem pro annia* (instead of *anima*) *ejus*:" this stone is elaborately carved, and was once the pedestal of a cross; its height above the ground is six feet three inches, and its breadth is two feet six inches at the bottom, and one foot ten inches at the top. A very curious monumental stone, forming originally the shaft of a cross, which anciently stood near the porch of the church, and which, on the interment of a corpse of extraordinary size, having been undermined in digging the grave, fell down upon the coffin, and was covered with earth in filling up the grave, was, in 1789, discovered by Mr. Edward Williams, who was led to search for it by a traditional story relating to it, at that time current in the neighbourhood. This stone, which is nine feet in height, two feet four inches broad at the base, and one foot seven inches at the upper end, and about one foot three inches in thickness, bears the following inscription: "*In nomine Dñi Summi incipit crux Salvatoris, quæ præ-*

*paravit Samsoni Apati pro anima sua et pro anima Juth ahelo rex et Artmali Togat crux me*:" it appears, from the old register of Llandaf, that Juthahel, King of Glamorgan, and Artmael, King of Gwent, bestowed lands and conferred great privileges on the churches of St. Illtyd. This ancient stone must have been buried before the continuator of Camden copied the inscriptions on St. Illtyd's monument, as he makes no mention of it, which he doubtless would have done had it been then visible. After it had been raised out of the grave, in 1789, it lay on the ground till 1793, when Mr. Williams obtained assistance and placed it in an erect position against the east side of the church porch. Close to the wall of the lower or old church is another stone worthy of notice, of a pyramidal form, about seven feet high, and curiously carved, having a deep groove on the inside, next the wall: it has been supposed to have formed part of a heathen altar, but how or for what purpose it was placed there has not been satisfactorily explained.

About the year 1705, a daughter of Evan Seys, Esq., bequeathed £600 to be invested in land, and the rents to be paid to a minister for preaching a sermon every Sunday evening in the parish church; or, in the event of his not being permitted to do so in this parish, the bequest to be transferred to the parish of Eglwys-Brewis, in this county. Mrs. Margaret Seys bequeathed also £200, directing the interest to be applied to teaching ten poor children, and apprenticing one poor boy. Robert Powel, in 1726, bequeathed some land; and there are some other small donations and bequests to the poor of this parish. About a mile and a half from the village of Boverton, on the lofty cliffs overhanging the Bristol channel, are the remains of two Roman camps: that on the eastern cliff, which defends one side of the valley of Colhugh, is called the "Castle Ditches;" it is a very strong post, accessible on one side only: the other, which is also upon the sea-coast, is about two miles distant from Castle Ditches, and about the same distance from Boverton. In many of the gardens and small enclosures at this place, and in its vicinity, human skeletons have been discovered, and Roman coins dug up: of the latter, several were found in November 1798, which were sold to the Rev. Robert Nicholl and others; those in the possession of that gentleman are chiefly coins of Nero, Vespasian, Domitian, Nerva, Trajan, Adrian, Antoninus Pius, and other Roman emperors: they were found by some labourers employed in filling up an old quarry not far from Eglwys-Brewis, near Boverton, and are of silver. There are still several remains of the ancient collegiate buildings in different parts of the parish: the house in connexion with the rectorial tithes, which were severed from the monastery of Illtutus by Robert Fitz-Hamon, is still a respectable edifice, with hanging gardens descending towards the church, and having several spacious rooms, which have been generally occupied by the parish schoolmaster, and are capable of containing some hundreds of persons. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £653. 12.

LANTWIT juxta NEATH, or LANTWIT LOWER (LLAN-ILLTYD), a parish, comprising the townships of Clyne, Lantwit, and Resolvend, which separately maintain their own poor, in the hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, adjoining the



borough of Neath, and containing 1117 inhabitants, of which number, 727 are in the hamlet of Lantwit. This parish is pleasantly situated on the river Neath, and comprises a considerable extent of country, which is richly wooded and enlivened with much beautiful and pleasingly diversified scenery. The surface is finely varied, and from the higher grounds are obtained some pleasing and extensive views. The soil is various: coal and iron-ore are found in different parts of the parish; and there are some extensive quarries of paving-stone of good quality. The principal coal-works are those of Messrs. Riddle, Yong, and Co., in which about forty men are constantly employed; and the quarries, which are not now worked to their full extent, afford employment to about fifteen men. The living is consolidated with the rectory of Neath, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf. The church is dedicated to St. Illtyd, from which circumstance the parish derives its name, properly "Llan-Illtyd," but contracted into "Lantwit." There was formerly a chapel in this parish, called Ynys Vâch, but it was never consecrated, and was suffered many years ago to fall into decay. Morgan Jenkins, in 1692, bequeathed a small portion of land to the poor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £323. 1., of which sum, £205. 16. is raised on the hamlet of Lantwit.

**LANTWIT-VAIRDRE (LLAN-ILLTYD-VAERDRE)**, a parish in the hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (E. N. E.) from Llantrissant, comprising the Higher and Lower divisions, and containing 811 inhabitants. The river Tâf runs along the eastern confines of this parish, which abounds with coal: this fuel is worked for exportation at the Maes-Mawr collieries, where about forty persons are employed: from these works a tram-road communicates with the Glamorganshire canal: there are also several smaller collieries, worked by shaft, only for home consumption. In the north-eastern part of the parish, on the banks of the Tâf, a populous and increasing village has been brought into existence by the erection of very extensive works belonging to Messrs. Biddulph and Co., of Ledbury, for the manufacture of patent wrought-iron railway plates. Many cottages have also been built here by Mr. Crawshay, for the workmen to be employed in tin-mills, which he purposes to establish at this place. The river Tâf is here crossed by two bridges, over one of which is a tram-road, connecting the new works with the canal, which passes within a few yards on the other side of the river. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Llantrissant, (to which the vicarial tithes are appropriated), in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and £1400 parliamentary grant. The church, dedicated to St. Illtyd, is situated in a sequestered spot, and surrounded only by a few cottages: having become exceedingly dilapidated, it is about speedily to undergo a thorough repair. Morgan Griffith, in 1644, gave by will a rent-charge of £2, for the benefit of four poor families of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £286. 13.

**LAUGHARNE**, otherwise **TALYCHARN**, an incorporated sea-port and market town, and a parish, in the higher division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. W.) from Carmarthen, and 228 (W.) from London, containing

2020 inhabitants, of which number, 1423 are in the township of Laugharne, and the remainder in the rest of the parish. The ancient British name of this place, *Tâlcharn*, or *Tâlycoran*, from which was derived its subsequent appellation of *Llacharn*, since modernized into *Laugharne*, is supposed to have originated in its situation above the mouth of the river Coran, which here falls into the Tâf, near the influx of the latter river into Carmarthen bay, from which circumstance also it is not unfrequently called in the Welsh histories *Abercoran*. It appears to have attained a considerable degree of importance at a very early period, and to have been distinguished as a fortified place prior to the Norman invasion. Of the original foundation of the castle nothing satisfactory has been recorded: it is, however, supposed that the princes of Dynevor had either a palace or a fortress at this place, which subsequently fell into the hands of the Norman invaders, who, for the greater security of the territories which they usurped in this part of the principality, replaced it with a castle of greater strength. Frequent mention of this castle occurs in the Welsh annals; and during the continued struggles between the Normans and the Welsh, who were ever upon the alert to recover the territories of which they had been dispossessed, and also in the numerous contests which arose between the native chieftains for the extension of their dominions, it was, from its strength and importance, an object of frequent contention, and alternately in the possession of the belligerent parties. Henry II., on his return from a fruitless expedition into Ireland, in 1172, passed through this place, where he was met by Rhys ab Gruffydd, the last sovereign prince of South Wales, who entertained him in the castle, paid him homage as his vassal, and received from him his son Howel, whom that monarch had long held as a hostage. In the year 1215, this castle, together with several other fortresses, at that time in the hands of the Normans, was taken and destroyed by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, but was rebuilt in the following reign, by Sir Guido de Brian, who, having espoused one of the daughters of Prince Rhys, obtained the lordship of Talycharn, and procured for the town a charter of incorporation, with many valuable privileges, conferring on the burgesses an extensive grant of land, of which they still retain possession. On the death of Sir Guido, the lordship of Talycharn descended to one of his two daughters and coheiresses, who married Owen Laugharne, of St. Bride's, in the county of Pembroke. The castle is said to have been again destroyed by the forces under Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, in 1256, from which time few particulars of its history are recorded till the reign of Henry VII., though it was probably rebuilt within that period, as that monarch, among other grants, in compensation for his great services, gave this castle and its dependencies to Sir Rhys ab Thomas, who attended him to Bosworth Field, and by his valour and influence contributed materially to the success of the enterprise which placed him on the throne. On the attainder of the grandson of Rhys, the castle reverted to the crown. During the civil war in the reign of Charles I., it was first garrisoned for the king, but was taken, in 1644, by the parliamentarian forces, under General William Laugharne. Afterwards, when this commander had embraced the royal cause, it was besieged by Cromwell in person, against whom it held out



for three weeks ; but several breaches having been made in the walls, the garrison surrendered upon honourable terms, and the castle was soon afterwards dismantled.

The town is beautifully situated on a level plot of ground, enclosed on every side, except towards the sea, by lofty eminences richly clothed with timber, and consists principally of one long and spacious street, intersected at right angles by a shorter thoroughfare, leading to that part of it called the *Cors*, in which are some new buildings. The houses are in general well built, and of respectable appearance ; the streets are partially paved, and the inhabitants are amply supplied with water. The sheltered situation of the town protects it from the keenness of the winds, and renders it peculiarly desirable as a residence for persons of delicate health ; and on the eminences by which it is immediately encircled are several neat cottage residences, adapted to those whose constitutions may require the influence of the sea breeze and a bracing atmosphere. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and from the higher grounds are obtained extensive prospects over the bay of Carmarthen, and the adjacent country, which abounds with picturesque beauty. The appearance of the town, which is considered one of the cleanest and best built in South Wales, embosomed in an amphitheatre of verdant hills, and ornamented with the venerable remains of its ancient castle, is truly romantic ; and the advantages of good society and retirement which it affords, with the abundance and moderate price of provisions, are among the attractions which it offers to families who may be desirous of combining economy with comfort. A reading-room has been established, and it is also in contemplation to open a billiard-room. The port is a creek to that of Llanelly, and its trade is very inconsiderable, being principally confined to the exportation of butter and corn, which it shares with St. Clear's. The haven, formed by the river Tâf, at a short distance from the town, is accessible to vessels of considerable burden. The parish, which is divided into two portions, called respectively the Town hamlet and the Parish, each separately maintaining its own poor, comprises a large tract of arable and pasture land, nearly all of which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The soil, though varying with the surface, is in general fertile and productive ; and the labouring inhabitants, with the exception only of such few as are connected with the small extent of trade carried on at the port, are principally employed in agriculture. The market, which is abundantly supplied with corn and with provisions of all kinds, is on Friday ; and fairs are held annually on May 6th and September 28th. The borough was first incorporated by Sir Guido de Brian, whose charter was confirmed by Henry III., and subsequently ratified and enlarged by Edward VI., who vested the government in a portreeve, recorder, aldermen, and an indefinite number of burgesses, assisted by two common attorneys, four constables, and other officers. The portreeve, who is elected annually, and the recorder, are chosen from the burgesses by a grand jury of that body, appointed for the purpose, which is changed every year, and of which the foreman must have served the office of portreeve and become an alderman : the common attorneys and constables are appointed from the jurymen ; and the burgesses are made by a presentation of the grand jury.

The corporation possess lands, granted by Sir Guido, now of the value of £20,000 : seventy-six of the senior poor burgesses enjoy for life portions of land, the least of which entitles to vote for the county member. The town-hall is a neat building of ordinary dimensions, with a small square tower, situated at the point of intersection of the principal street with the smaller one, where there is a commodious market-place.

This place constitutes a prebend in the cathedral church of Winchester, rated in the king's books at £45. The living is a vicarage, with the rectory of Llsansadwrnen annexed, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6, and in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Winchester. The church, dedicated to St. Martin, is a spacious and venerable cruciform structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a square embattled tower, supported on pointed arches : it occupies a picturesque situation on an eminence under a richly wooded bank, by which it is partly concealed from view. The walls of the building are strengthened with projecting buttresses, and within are covered by numerous tablets. At the west end is a handsome organ, presented to the church by the late Vice-Admiral Laugharne, whose sister, during her lifetime, contributed £10. 10., and whose nephew, Capt. William Laugharne, R. N., who is still living, £5. 5., towards the stipend of an organist. Among the monuments contained in the church is a large mural tablet, bearing a long inscription, to the memory of Sir John Powell, one of the judges who presided at the trial of the seven bishops, in the reign of James II. : he resided at Broadway House, a little to the west of the town, and, dying at the age of sixty-three, was interred here in 1696. The richly embroidered mantle of Sir Guido de Brian is still preserved in it. The chapels of Kifig and Marrôs, formerly dependent on this church, have been endowed with £8 per annum each by the Vicar of Laugharne, and subsequently by the Governors of Queen Anne's bounty, the former with £600 and the latter with £800, and are now united into one benefice, in the patronage of the Vicar of Laugharne. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Elizabeth Foster bequeathed £150 four per cent. Bank annuities, for instructing poor children of this parish in reading and in the principles of the Christian religion ; and Mary Griffiths and Jane Morgan gave each £52 towards the support of a charity school. Miss Theodosia Laugharne, sister of Vice-Admiral Laugharne, bequeathed at her death £1800 in the three per cents., to be appropriated to the annual payment of a salary of £30 to an organist ; and of an annuity of £20 to her servant for life, which is afterwards to be assigned to the maintenance of a school in the parish of Llangunock, and the remainder to the poor of this parish. Zacharias Thomas bequeathed a rent-charge of £4, payable out of his freehold of Norwaddin, in this parish ; and Mrs. Letitia Cornwallis gave £100, which, with the accumulated interest, now produces £10. 13. 8. per annum, for the relief of the poor. The remains of the ancient castle, which crowns the summit of a cliff at the mouth of the Tâf, near the southern extremity of the town, are extensive and in an excellent state of preservation, forming an interesting and prominent feature in the sce-



nery of the place: near the gateway is a handsome modern edifice, the residence of the family of the late Col. Starke, by whom the interior of the castle and the adjoining ground have been tastefully laid out. About a mile from the town are some remains of an ancient building, called Roche's castle, which, according to local tradition, are said to be the vestiges of an ancient monastery, though by whom founded, or for what order of brethren, is not known. The family of the Laugharnes have been settled at this place ever since the marriage of their ancestor, Owen Laugharne, with the daughter of Sir Guido de Brian, Lord High Admiral of England, and anciently lord of Talycharn. Descended from this family, and probably a native of this town, was Lieutenant-General William Laugharne, who first distinguished himself as an officer in the parliamentary army, but who, afterwards joining the royalist party, garrisoned Laugharne, Tenby, and Pembroke, for the king, and at the last-named place was taken prisoner: he was tried for his life, together with Colonels Powell and Poyer, who had also been made prisoners by Cromwell, and found guilty of high treason. After sentence of death had been passed upon these three officers, Cromwell was induced to consent that it should be carried into execution only upon one of them, and gave orders to determine by lot which should be the victim. Three papers were folded up for this purpose, on two of which was written "Life given by God," and the third was left blank. According to an arrangement agreed upon by the prisoners, the lots were drawn by a child, and the fatal blank was assigned to Colonel Poyer, who was shot in Covent Garden, on the 25th of April, 1649. Dr. Josiah Tucker, Dean of Gloucester, an eminent divine and a celebrated literary and political writer, was born in this parish, in the year 1712, and died at the advanced age of eighty-seven, in the year 1799: his writings were chiefly on subjects connected with the times in which he lived, and, though masterpieces of the kind, possess little interest at present: he was the liberal patron of that premature and extraordinary genius, John Henderson, who, under his auspices, prosecuted his studies at Oxford, where he took his degree of B. A., and died at the age of thirty-one, in 1788. Reynal Pecoek, of whom little more is stated than that he was a very learned man, was also a native of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £905. 7., of which sum, £528. 16. is applied for those of the Town hamlet, and £376. 11. for those of the remainder of the parish.

LAVAR (ABOVE), a division in the parish of LLANSANTRAID GLYNN CERIOG, hundred of CHIRK, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S. S. W.) from Llangollen. The population is included in the return for the parish. It takes the adjunct from its situation on the river Ceiriog, which passes through this division.

LAVAR (BELOW), a division in the parish of LLANSANTRAID GLYNN CERIOG, hundred of CHIRK, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.) from Llangollen. The population is returned with the parish. The adjunct is derived from its being situated in the lower part of the Vale of the Ceiriog. Several of the inhabitants are employed in the manufacture of flannel.

LAVERNOCK, otherwise LARNOCK, a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN,

SOUTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. by W.) from Cardiff, containing 77 inhabitants. The living is a rectory not in charge, consolidated with the vicarage of Penarth, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf. The church, dedicated to St. Lawrence, is situated close to the edge of the water, the parish lying on the shore of the Bristol channel. Lead-ore has been obtained here, but the works are now discontinued: the principal substratum is lias limestone, in which the usual fossils abound: in the cliffs under this limestone are found *tripoli*, and *lapis cariosus*, or rotten stone, intermingled with a red marly earth, in which are imbedded blocks of gypseous alabaster. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £27. 10.

LAWHADEN, or LLEWHADEN (LLAN-HAUADEN), a parish in the hundred of DUNGLEDY, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. N. W.) from Narberth, containing 657 inhabitants. This place, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne, who died in the year 651, was for many years distinguished as the principal episcopal residence of the bishops of St. David's, who had a magnificent castle and palace here, with a very extensive park, and forest of red deer, noticed by Leland. This truly splendid structure, which was built entirely of hewn stone, was the favourite residence of Bishop Beck, who contributed greatly to its embellishment: it was adapted in every respect to the purposes of domestic convenience, and had every appendage of luxury and state. The exact time of its original foundation is not known; but from a deed of feoffment, bearing date 1383, it appears that John Fowley was at that time constable of the castle and master of the board of works to Bishop Hoton, who conveyed to him and to Ellen his wife certain lands in the vicinity, which are now the property of his descendants. In the reign of Henry VIII., Lawhaden castle, together with the other episcopal palaces of this diocese, was stripped of its leaden roof by Bishop Barlow, who subsequently availed himself of the dilapidation which he had caused, as a plea for carrying into effect his purpose of transferring the see to Carmarthen. From this period the palace was suffered to fall into decay; but the ruins, which are still venerable and majestic in their appearance, afford imposing evidence of its pristine grandeur. The parish comprises a large tract of rich arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The village is situated on the summit of a lofty ridge overhanging the river Cleddy, and commanding a fine view of the adjacent country, which abounds with richly varied scenery; and within the parish are some highly interesting and pleasingly romantic features, among which are, the church, beautifully situated on the margin of the river, under a richly wooded eminence, and the majestic and venerable ruins of the ancient castle immediately above it; Ridge-way, an elegant modern mansion, erected by the late I. H. Foley, Esq., and now the residence of his widow, occupying a portion of the lands granted to the ancestor of that gentleman by Bishop Hoton, in the year 1383; and, in the village, is also a good family house belonging to the Skyrmes, whose ancestor accompanied Oliver Cromwell into the principality during the parliamentary war, and obtained a settlement at this place.



This parish constitutes a prebend in the cathedral church of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £17.17.1., and annexed to the Chancellorship of the cathedral by Bishop Beck, in 1287. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Blettherston annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8.18.6½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Aidan, is an ancient and venerable edifice, with a handsome tower, and in its retired and beautiful situation forms an interesting and romantic feature in the scenery around the village. There is a place of worship for Presbyterians. It is in contemplation to establish a National school for the gratuitous instruction of children, in connexion with the parent society in London. The remains of the ancient castle form a majestic and venerable ruin, crowning the summit of a precipitous eminence, commanding a magnificent and extensive prospect. The site was originally surrounded by a moat, over which was a drawbridge leading to the principal entrance, through a noble gateway defended by two circular towers: this portion of the building is still in a state of tolerable preservation: there are also the remains of two octagonal towers (which appear to have contained the state apartments and rooms of residence), of part of a small but very elegant chapel, and some portions of the outer walls. Some fragments of the park walls are yet remaining, and the land which they now serve to enclose is some of the very richest in the county. The prevailing character of the architecture is that of the early English style, and the ruins have a most beautiful and picturesque appearance from every point of view. On the road side there are the remains of an ancient building, covered with ivy, which is said to have been founded by Bishop Beck, as an *hospitium* for pilgrims visiting St. David's shrine. Lawhaden castle was the head of the barony in right of which the Bishops of St. David's claim their seat in the house of peers. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £155.17.

LAWRENCE (ST.), a parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 8½ miles (N. by W.) from Haverfordwest, containing 211 inhabitants. This parish is situated in the north-western part of the county, and comprehends a moderate extent of arable and pasture land, of which the greater portion is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surface is boldly undulated; the surrounding scenery, though not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature, is generally pleasing; and from the higher grounds some good views are obtained of the adjoining country, which is much diversified. The soil, though varying in different parts of the parish, is in general fertile: the parochial rates are assessed by the ploughland. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3.18.9., endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Lawrence, from which circumstance the parish derives its name, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £52.6.

LAWRENNY (LAWRENNEY), a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N.N.E.) from Pembroke, containing 422 inhabitants. This parish is situated on a branch of Milford Haven, over which it has a ferry, and comprises a large portion of enclosed and well-cultivated land. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and in some parts enriched with noble plantations. Lawrenny Hall, the ancient seat of the late Hugh Barlow, Esq., who represented Pembroke and its contributory boroughs in eight successive parliaments, and now a ruin, is beautifully situated on a point of land between Milford Haven, on the west, and a wide creek branching from it to the north-east, towards Creswell bay: the demesne, which is co-extensive with the parish, is embellished with a rich variety of scenery, presenting an agreeable contrast of wood and water; and the luxuriant groves which shaded the ancient mansion are still seen in every point of view, embosoming the venerable church, which formed an interesting and highly picturesque object in the views from the hall. This fine estate is entailed on the family of — Lort Philipps, of Haverfordwest, Esq. Limestone, both for building and to be burned for manure, abounds in this parish; and the quarrying and burning of it affords employment to a portion of the inhabitants, a great number of whom are also engaged, during the winter season, in dredging for oysters, which are found here in great abundance, and conveyed principally to the London market, in boats from Chatham and Rochester, for the loading of which the coast affords every facility. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £13, and in the patronage of Mrs. Barlow. The church, dedicated to St. Caradoc, is a venerable cruciform structure, in the early style of English architecture, with an elegant square embattled tower, which is seen to great advantage from almost every side, rising above the rich foliage by which the body is concealed. In a sepulchral chapel belonging to the family of Barlow is a splendid monument to the memory of the late Hugh Barlow, Esq., consisting of an altar-tomb of variegated marble, on which is placed an elegant sarcophagus of white marble, bearing the family arms of Barlow and Crespigny: this monument was erected by his widow, who was of the latter family, and who also placed in the chapel two superb vases of alabaster, four feet in height, supported on pedestals of white marble. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. This is one of the four parishes to which Dr. Jones bequeathed, in 1698, considerable property for the relief of decayed housekeepers and the apprenticing of children, with a discretionary power to his executor and brother, the Rev. William Jones, to whose memory a handsome mural tablet has been erected in the church of this place, to add other parishes: the portion assigned to Lawrenny, from the produce of this charity, is about £30 per ann., appropriated pursuant to the directions of the testator. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure of £171.2.

LEADBROOK (LEAD-BROOK) MAJOR, a township in the parish of NORTHOP, Northop division of the hundred of COLESHILL, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 1½ mile (N.) of Northop, containing 83 inhabitants. It is situated on the æstuary of the Dee, and comprises a



considerable portion of its sands, which are dry at low water, and may therefore be brought into cultivation at a small expense. It is supposed to derive its name from the quantity of lead formerly washed out of the brook here.

**LEADBROOK (LEAD-BROOK) MINOR**, a township in the parish of **NORTHOP**, Northop division of the hundred of **COLESHILL**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**, 2 miles (N. N. W.) from Northop, containing 24 inhabitants.

**LECKWITH (LLËCHWEDD, or LLËCH-WYDD)**, a parish in the hundred of **DINAS-POWIS**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. S. W.) from Cardiff, containing 112 inhabitants. This parish, of which the name signifies "the slope of the cliff," is situated on the river Ely, over which is a bridge of two arches. Limestone of good quality is found here in great abundance, and large quantities are quarried for building purposes, and also burnt as an article of manure for the supply of the surrounding neighbourhood. The village is situated on an eminence overlooking the marshes which intervene between it and Cardiff, and from Leckwith hill are some interesting and extensive views. The inhabitants are, from the exhalations rising from the lower grounds, subject to ague. The living, with Llandough and Cogan, forms a consolidated discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £8. 8. 4., and in the patronage of the Marquis of Bute. The church, which is remarkable for the simplicity of its style, is dedicated to St. James, and stands upon a high bank above the marshes. The poor children of the parish are gratuitously instructed in the National school at Llandough. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £146. 1.

**LEIGHTON**, a township in that part of the parish of **WORTHEN** which is in the lower division of the hundred of **CAWRSE**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 2 miles (S. E. by S.) from Welshpool, containing 213 inhabitants. The river Severn is crossed here by a wooden bridge, on the road from Churchstoke to Welshpool; and Offa's Dyke passes nearly in a parallel line with that river through the township. This is one of several parishes and townships incorporated for the support of their poor in the house of industry at Forden: the average annual assessment for this township is £81. 8.

**LETTERSON, LETTARDSTON, or LETTERSTON**, a parish in the hundred of **DEWISLAND**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 10 miles (N.) from Haverfordwest, containing 493 inhabitants. This place derived its name from the ancient family of the Lettards, to whom the parish anciently belonged, and who gave the advowson of the living, together with the chapel of Llanvair, to the preceptory of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, which had been founded at Slebech, in this county. The parish is pleasantly situated in the north-western part of the county, and is intersected by the turnpike road from Haverfordwest to Fishguard. The surrounding scenery is pleasing, and in certain places somewhat picturesque: the distant views embrace an extensive tract of finely diversified and richly cultivated country. In the vicinity are some handsome seats and pleasing villas; and within the parish is Heathfield Lodge, the property of John Hill Harris, Esq., of Priskilly Forest,

and now the residence of that gentleman's brother-in-law, William Jones, Esq. The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacy of Llanvair-Nant-y-Gove annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £12. 11. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Giles, is not remarkable for any striking architectural features. The rectory-house has been recently rebuilt, under the provisions of Gilbert's act of parliament, by the present incumbent, and is a handsome edifice. In this parish, on a common near the road, are several tumuli, supposed to be sepulchral. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £65. 12.

**LISVANE (LLÛS-VAEN)**, a parish in the hundred of **KIBBOR**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5 miles (N. by E.) from Cardiff, containing 253 inhabitants. It is situated on the western bank of the Romeney, which here separates the counties of Glamorgan and Monmouth. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Earl of Plymouth, and C. K. Kemeys Tynte, Esq., alternately. The church, dedicated to St. Denis, is a small structure. Mary Lewis, by deed in 1728, gave a rent-charge of £23 for teaching and apprenticing poor children of the parishes of Lisvane and Llanishen: there is also a small endowment of £1. 15. per annum for distribution among the poor not receiving parochial relief. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £131.

**LLAN**, a joint hamlet with Blaenau, in the parish of **LLANGENDEIRN**, hundred of **KIDWELLY**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. E.) from Carmarthen. The population is returned with the parish. The hamlet takes its name from the parochial church being situated within its limits, near the right bank of the Gwendraeth Vechan river, which flows through it. The Mynydd Llangendeirn, an abrupt and irregular mountain, on which are two ancient circular earthworks, bounds it on the east.

**LLAN**, a hamlet in the parish of **PEMBREY**, hundred of **KIDWELLY**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 4 miles (S. S. E.) from Kidwelly. The population is included in the return for the parish. This hamlet takes its name from the parochial church being situated here: it occupies the south-eastern declivity of a lofty hill, at the mouth of the Burry river, which commands extensive prospects of Carmarthen bay, the Bristol channel, and the opposite coasts of Devonshire. In the south is a large tract of marsh land, on which numerous flocks of sheep are depastured, and through which the canal from Llanelly to Kidwelly proceeds, being connected with two capacious harbours, and a pier four hundred yards long, projecting into the Burry river.

**LLAN**, a joint township with Llêch and Llwyn, in the parish of **LLANRHAIADR** in **KINMERCH**, hundred of **ISALED**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 5 miles (N. W.) from Ruthin. The population is included in the return for the parish. Courts leet and baron, with view of frankpledge, are held at Llanrhaiadr, before the steward of the Bishop of Bangor, to whom the manors of Llan and Llêch belong.

**LLANABER (LLAN-ABER)**, a parish in the hundred of **ARDUDWY**, county of **MERIONETH**, **NORTH**



WALES, comprising the sea-port and market-town of Barmouth, and containing 1448 inhabitants. This parish extends for more than nine miles in length and four in breadth: the upper parts are rocky and mountainous, but about one-half of its surface is under cultivation. In 1810, an act of parliament was obtained for enclosing the common and waste lands in this and the adjoining parishes, under the provisions of which six thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight acres were allotted to Llanaber, and are now nearly all enclosed. From the hills and other elevated grounds fine views are obtained over Cardigan bay, the river Mawddach, and the surrounding country, which is characterized by varied features of bold and pleasing scenery. The village extends along the coast; and on the sands may be seen, at low water, an ancient stone which formerly served as a foot-bridge, inscribed with the legend "*Hic jacet Calixtus Monedo Regi.*" Copper and lead ores were formerly found at Buddugre, in this parish; and on its southern side the river Mawddach is navigable for barges of less than twenty tons' burden from Barmouth to within two miles of Dôlgelley. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £11. 18. 9., and in the patronage of the Crown. The church, dedicated to St. Bôdvan, is a spacious structure, in the early style of English architecture: the interior consists of a nave, with north and south aisles, and a chancel; the aisles are each separated from the nave by five finely pointed arches, with massive round piers: the south entrance is under an arch richly ornamented with mouldings. There is an ancient font of elegant design; and among the monuments is one to the memory of the Rev. Robert Morgan. A chapel of ease was erected at Barmouth, in the year 1830. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Richard Roberts bequeathed £20 to the poor; and the Rev. Mr. Morgan, in 1739, gave £40 in trust, for the payment of twenty shillings annually to twenty of the poorest inhabitants who can repeat the Catechism in Welsh, and the other moiety of the interest to be distributed among such poor children as can read Welsh and repeat the Welsh Catechism: there are also some smaller charitable donations for distribution among the poor. On the borders of this parish and that of Llanddwywau, near the coast, stands an old family mansion, called Egryn. It was anciently the residence of a cymmro of some rank, and was occupied by friars in the fifteenth century, but has been converted into a farm-house. The interior is divided into three compartments, formed by pointed arches of Irish oak, which extend from the basement and support the roof, and the whole is of a curious construction. Hêndrêv-Vechan, in this parish, was the residence of four celebrated Welsh bards, namely, William, Richard, John, and Thomas Phillips, who flourished successively in the reigns of Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I. Within its limits is an ancient encampment. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £510. 14.

LLANALLGO (LLAN-ALLGOV), a parish in the hundred of TWRCELYN, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (E. by N.) from Llanerchymedd, containing 417 inhabitants. This parish, which is of considerable antiquity, derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Alltgo, son of Caw o Vrydain, by

whom it was originally founded, about the commencement of the seventh century. It is situated on the coast of the Irish sea, by which it is bounded on the east, and, though of small extent, is rich in mineral treasures, and contains a large proportion of fertile land, which is for the most part enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The great range of limestone strata, which stretches from Flintshire through the county of Denbigh, by Great Orme's Head, and is continued under the bay of Beaumaris and along the northern shore of Anglesey, terminates at Moelvre, in this parish, where are extensive quarries of clouded, or variegated, marble, in considerable estimation for the variety and brilliancy of its colours, and the high polish of which it is susceptible. Great quantities of this marble, which is well adapted for mantel-pieces and ornamental statuary, are obtained from these mines, and shipped off to various parts of Great Britain. In this parish are also some quarries of black and grey marble, of good quality, which afforded materials for the construction of the pier and the erection of the lighthouse at Holyhead. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llaneluadr, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Gallgov, is a small but handsome cruciform structure, containing in the east window of the chancel, which is of elegant design, some fragments of ancient stained glass: it was thoroughly repaired in 1831. Near it is Fynnon Gallgov, or "St. Gallgov's Well:" its waters, which are strongly impregnated with sulphate of lime, were formerly held in high veneration for the miraculous cures ascribed to them, and are still regarded as highly beneficial in some chronic diseases. Adjoining the west front of the church is Capel Fynnon, or "the chapel of the Well," a small neat edifice, formerly appropriated to the use of the votaries of the patron of the spring, to whose influence the miraculous efficacy of its waters was attributed. In the adjoining parish of Llaneluadr are the ruins of an ancient chapel, formerly belonging to the church of this parish, and still called Capel Lligwy, from the name of the farm on which it is situated. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £91. 17.

LLANANO (LLAN-ANNO), a parish partly in the hundred of KNIGHTON, and partly in that of RHAIADR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 12½ miles (W.) from Knighton, containing 343 inhabitants. The surface of this parish is uneven, and in some parts even precipitously hilly: the lands are partly enclosed and cultivated, and the soil in these portions is generally fertile and productive. The scenery is for the most part of a soft and pleasing character; and from the higher grounds may be obtained some extensive views over the adjacent country. The turnpike road from Builth, in Brecknockshire, to Newtown, in the county of Montgomery, passes through the parish a little to the east of the church. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Prebendary of Llanbister in the collegiate church of Brecknock, although Lord Kensington, who is lessee of the tithes, has of late exercised this privilege. The church, dedi-



cated to St. Wonno or Ano, is a small edifice, undistinguished by any remarkable architectural features, but beautifully situated on the bank of the river Ithon. There is a place of worship for Anabaptists. On the summit of a rocky eminence rising abruptly from the river Ithon, and commanding the entrance of a narrow defile, are the remains of an ancient castle, called "Tŷ yn y Bwlch," probably one of the residences of the ancient chieftains of Maenllydd. Within the limits of the parish is a mineral spring, called Fynnon Newydd, or "the New Well," the water of which is sulphureous, and efficacious in the cure of scorbutic and scrophulous diseases. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £138. 15.

LLANARMON (LLAN-ARMON), a parish in the hundred of EIVIONYDD, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N. E.) from Pwllheli, on the road to Carnarvon, containing 613 inhabitants. The village is pleasantly situated in a fertile plain, and the neighbourhood partakes of the pleasing scenery which prevails in this part of the country. The living is a rectory not in charge, annexed to that of Llangybi, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Garmon, is an ancient and spacious structure in good repair: some additional windows have lately been inserted, previously to which alteration the interior was very dark. There is neither a parsonage-house nor glebe land attached to the living. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. The Rev. Mr. Griffith, in 1729, bequeathed, in trust to the minister and churchwardens, lands producing £2. 10. per annum, for the benefit of the poor of the parish; and Mrs. Jones left £20, of which the interest is given to poor widows. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £220. 18.

LLANARMON (LLAN-ARMON), a parish, a small portion of which is in the hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, and the rest in the hundred of YALE, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 4½ miles (E. by S.) from Ruthin, containing 1475 inhabitants. The village is pleasantly situated on the river Alyn. In the township of Eryrys are mines of lead-ore, which have been very productive, but are now nearly exhausted. In 1828, a very powerful steam-engine was erected for pumping the water from the mines, but, from the low price of lead-ore, the proprietors have materially lessened the extent of their operations: there is abundance of ore in the neighbourhood, and when it will fetch a price sufficient to indemnify the adventurers, there is little doubt of its being raised in large quantities. Fairs are held on July 30th and October 19th. The living comprises both a rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph: the former is a sinecure, rated in the king's books at £31. 15., and the latter, which is discharged, at £12. 5. 10.; both are in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Germanus, or Garmon, is a large plain edifice: the interior is appropriately fitted up for divine service, and contains numerous ancient and interesting monuments. Under an arch in the south wall is the recumbent figure of a knight, completely armed, bearing in his right hand a short sword, and on his left arm a shield, with the inscription "*Hic jacet Gryfyd ap Llewelyn ap*

*Ynyr.*" Within a niche in the outer wall of the church is the figure of a bishop, six feet four inches in height, which is said to be that of St. Germanus, Bishop of Auxerre, who, with St. Lupus, gained over the Picts and Saxons, at Maes Garmon near Mold, in the year 420, the celebrated victory called by historians *Victoria Alleluatica*: there are also several handsome monuments to the family of Lloyd. Mrs. Margaret Vaughan, of Bôdidris, bequeathed an estate in the parish of Llanellidan, producing about £30 per annum, for educating and apprenticing five poor boys in each of the parishes of Llanarmon and Llandegla. There are also some trifling bequests and charitable donations, the produce of which is annually distributed among the poor on St. Thomas' day. Throughout the vale in which the village is situated, and on every neighbouring eminence, are numerous tumuli, of which several have been opened at various times, and found to contain sepulchral urns filled with ashes, with human bones, which had resisted the action of the fire, scattered about them in profusion. In 1810, one of the largest was opened in the township of Gelliguanan, and found to contain the skeleton of a horse and his rider, in a position in which they might have fallen; near the ribs of the horse was found a brass spur, weighing seventeen ounces. In 1827, another was opened, near the village of Llanarmon, in which was discovered an urn of baked clay, with three skulls and various other bones lying within a circular enclosure of stones near it. Within a short distance of the same spot, another of these tumuli was opened in 1831, and near its centre were discovered three urns of coarse clay, the largest of which, containing about three quarts, was filled with fine grey ashes: near them were several bones, a copper coin of the Emperor Nero, a fibula of copper, gilt and enamelled, and a plain ring of the same metal. About a mile and a half from the village are two artificial mounds of large dimensions, on the summit of the loftier of which formerly stood the castle of Iâl, built by Owain Gwynedd, in 1148, of which not a fragment now remains, except some traces of the rampart and fosse by which it was surrounded. On the summit of a rocky knoll, near Tommen y Rhodwydd, is a spring dedicated to St. Garmon, the water of which is said neither to increase nor diminish at any time, nor has it any visible inlet or outlet, and superstition attributes to it miraculous properties. Some plantations of considerable extent have been formed, within the last thirty years, in the township of Gelliguanan, by W. M. Thackeray, Esq., M. D., which are now in a flourishing condition. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £630. 19.

LLANARMON-DYFRYN-CERIOG (LLAN-ARMON-DYFRYN-CERIÖG), a parish in the Cynlleth and Môchnant division of the hundred of CHIRK, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 10 miles (W. N. W.) from Oswestry, containing 307 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the river Ceiriog, is supposed to have been the burial-place of St. Germanus, the celebrated bishop of Auxerre. Fairs are held on the first Monday after April 11th, August 13th, and October 19th. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £8. 11. 10½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St.



Germanus, is an ancient and spacious building, but entirely destitute of architectural character, and in a very dilapidated condition. About forty yards to the west of it, and within the cemetery, is a large oblong tumulus, which is said to be the sepulchre of St. Germanus. Mr. Thomas Humphreys, in 1731, bequeathed £48, the interest arising from which sum is annually distributed among the poor of the parish, according to the will of the testator. On the summit of a hill within a mile of the village, towards the north-west, is a very extensive circular encampment, defended by a double fosse, with an entrance on the west, near which are some large and detached masses of stone. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £153. 15.

**LLANARMON-MYNYDD-MAWR** (**LLAN-ARMON-MYNYDD-MAWR**), a parish in the Cynlleth and Môchnant division of the hundred of CHIRK, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 10 miles (W.) from Oswestry, containing 164 inhabitants. This parish comprises an uneven but chiefly elevated tract near the southernmost extremity of the county. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Llanrhaidr. The church, dedicated to St. Garmon, was formerly a chapel of ease to the mother church of Llanrhaidr, only a mile and a half distant, the vicar of which place still receives the tithes of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £52. 2.

**LLANARTH** (**LLAN-ARTH**), a parish in the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 13 miles (N. W. by W.) from Lampeter, consisting of two divisions, North and South, and containing 2449 inhabitants. This parish, which is of considerable extent, is pleasantly situated on the turnpike road leading from Cardigan to Aberystwith, and is intersected by the river Llethy, which falls into Cardigan bay at Llanina. The Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., on the second night after his landing at Milford Haven, encamped his forces at Wern Newydd, in this neighbourhood, where he was hospitably entertained by Einon ab Davydd Llwyd, on his route through this county to Bosworth Field. The surface of the parish is boldly undulated, and in some parts mountainous: the lands are partially enclosed, and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is strikingly varied by picturesque dingles and sterile mountains; and from the higher grounds some pleasing and extensive views are obtained over St. George's channel. Noyad Llanarth, anciently the seat of the family of Griffiths, is now a spacious modern mansion, the residence of Lord Kensington. Fairs are annually held in the village on January 12th, March 12th, June 17th, September 22nd, and October 27th, for horses, cattle, and merchandise. The living is a vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Llanina annexed, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 18. 1½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Vylltyg, is a venerable structure, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a lofty and substantial tower, and is situated on the declivity of a high hill: in the churchyard, a little to the north of the church, is a stone four feet and a half in height, and two feet ten inches in breadth, bearing a rude cross, and having an inscription, which, however, is so much ob-

literated as to be illegible. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. In this parish are the remains of an extensive encampment, called Castell Moeddyn, and on the farm of Pen Voel is another, called Pen y Gaer. Of Castell Mabwynion, also in this parish, which was allotted by Prince Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, in his partition of the reconquered territories in South Wales, in 1216, to Rhys ab Gruffydd, there are not any remains, neither is the exact site of it known. There is a tumulus of earth, called Crûg Côch, on an extensive common here. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor of both divisions of the parish amounts to £694. 2.

**LLANARTHNEY** (**LLAN-ARTHNEU**), a parish in the hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 7½ miles (E.) from Carmarthen, containing 1839 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the south bank of the river Towey, and comprehends a considerable portion of the mountain of Mynydd-Mawr, and a large tract of arable and pasture land, of which nearly the whole is enclosed, and in a high state of cultivation. The village, through which passes the turnpike road from Carmarthen to Llandilovawr, is surrounded by a profusion of the richest and most picturesque scenery: situated on the south bank of the Towey, on one of the finest reaches of that beautiful river, it appears to be entirely enclosed by lofty eminences of singularly diversified aspect. To the south rise some of the richly-wooded heights on the Myddelton estate: the distant hills which form one side of the vale of Cothy, receding to the north, open a passage for that stream to its confluence with the Towey. Other objects possessing interest no less from their historical association than from their venerable antiquity, form striking features in the landscape. The shattered walls of Dryslwyn castle crown the summit of an isolated rocky eminence, which rises abruptly out of the vale; and a little further westward is a larger eminence, called Grongar hill, rising in like manner from the vale, and distinguished as the subject of one of Dyer's most popular poems: but pre-eminent above the rest, in historical interest and romantic grandeur of appearance, are the ancient towers of Dynevor castle, seen in the distance, rising above a forest of aged oaks, which clothe the sides of a considerable declivity. Myddelton Hall, originally the property of David, brother of Sir Hugh Myddelton, and subsequently that of the late Sir William Paxton, who built the present mansion, is now the seat of — Adams, Esq.: it occupies an eminence at a short distance from the vale, commanding an extensive and magnificent prospect over the surrounding country. The mansion is an elegant and spacious structure of Grecian architecture, with a noble portico. The grounds are very extensive, and are laid out with great taste; and among the numerous improvements made by the late proprietor is an elegant tower, raised to the memory of the late Admiral Lord Nelson, and situated on the highest summit of the long ridge of mountains which extends from below Llandilovawr to the sea, forming the southern boundary of the vale. This building, the ground plan of which is triangular in form, consists of three circular towers connected by walls terminating with an embattled parapet, above which the towers at the angles rise to the height of several feet: from the centre



of this pile rises a hexagonal turret of considerable elevation, forming an observatory, from which an almost unbounded and beautiful prospect is obtained over the surrounding country. On the second story of the structure is a sumptuous banqueting-room, and in the several fronts of the basement story are spacious arched entrances, above which are tablets with appropriate inscriptions in English, Welsh, and Latin, in honour of the hero to whose memory the building was erected. Within the park are some strongly impregnated chalybeate springs, the waters of which were, by direction of the late Sir William Paxton, submitted to an analysis by Drs. Saunders and Babington, and found to contain, in one gallon, 16 cubic inches of carbonic acid gas, 4 inches of atmospheric air, 4 grains of carbonate of lime, 5 grains of carbonate of iron, 6 grains of muriate of soda,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  grains of muriate of lime, and 2 grains of sulphate of lime: hot and cold baths have been erected near them. Fairs are held here on June 5th and 6th, and the first Monday after July 12th; and at Voel Gastell, in the neighbourhood, on the northern declivity of the mountain of Mynydd-Mawr, another is held on June 24th.

This parish constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, rated in the king's books at £15, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. David, is a neat plain edifice, with a low square tower, but presents no architectural details of importance: in the churchyard are the remains of an ancient Saxon cross, now forming part of a stile at the entrance. The original church of this parish is traditionally stated to have stood about four hundred yards to the north of the present edifice, on the bank of the Towey, by an extraordinary overflow of which river it is said to have been destroyed: the site is still called Hên Llan, or "the Old Church." There were formerly two chapels of ease to the mother church, of which one is now in ruins, and the other occupied by a congregation of dissenters. There is a place of worship for Baptists, and the Calvinistic Methodists assemble in the chapel of ease above noticed, in which also divine service according to the rites of the church of England is occasionally performed, in order to retain possession. A few years since, a ring of pure gold, with a medallion of the Virgin Mary with a lamb in her arms, was discovered in a field in this parish, and is now in the possession of Capt. Edwardes Gwynne, of Rhŷdygors, near Carmarthen. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £586. 11.

LLANASAPH, or LLANASA (LLAN-ASAPH), a parish in the Llanasaph division of the hundred of PRESTATYN, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. W. by W.) from Holywell, containing 2373 inhabitants. It comprises about seven thousand acres of land: the highest point within its limits, which is called Gorseddau, has an elevation of seven hundred feet. The village is situated in a pleasant valley, at the northern extremity of the county, on the south-western shore of the æstuary of the Dee, near its influx into the Irish sea. The vicinity is picturesquely adorned with

numerous genteel residences, among the most remarkable of which is Gyrn, the seat of John Douglas, Esq., a handsome building of modern erection, in the castellated style of English architecture, and having four lofty and elegant towers: it occupies an elevated situation, commanding a beautiful and varied prospect of the æstuaries of the Dee and Mersey, with their respective shores, the Hillbre islands, and the Irish sea; immediately below it is the Point of Air lighthouse, and that of the Black Rock forms a striking object in the distance: its gallery of paintings contains many of the finest productions of the Italian and Flemish masters, and ranks among the most splendid and valuable of modern collections. Talacre, the property and residence of Sir Edward Mostyn, Bart., is pleasantly situated in the township of Gwespyr, nearly adjacent to the shore, and commands fine views of the bay of Llandulas and the Irish sea: a former mansion, which was built in the reign of James I., and considerably enlarged in 1710, was taken down in 1825, and a new one erected on its site, which was destroyed by fire in 1827, before it was entirely completed: it is now being rebuilt, in the decorated style of English architecture, upon a plan that will render it one of the most distinguished mansions in the principality, both as regards its extent and the beauty of its style, and the rich and diversified prospects it commands: the whole of the materials are obtained upon the estate, the ornamental mouldings, chimney-pieces, and window-frames, being composed of the fine freestone for which the neighbouring quarries are celebrated, whilst the floors, doors, and furniture are made of oak grown in the neighbouring woods. Golden Grove, the seat of Edward Morgan, Esq., is an elegant mansion, in the Elizabethan style: it occupies a sheltered situation among the hills, adorned with woods and plantations, and embracing prospects of great extent, variety, and magnificence, including the whole of the Snowdonian range of mountains. In 1812, an extensive tract of rich land was recovered from the sea, by means of an embankment nearly two miles in length, at an expense of £4000, which was defrayed by the freeholders; and twelve hundred acres, adjoining the Point of Air lighthouse, are now under cultivation, producing plentiful crops of grain of every description, particularly wheat: the land thus enclosed constitutes the new township of Trewaelod. The soil on the higher lands is light; and on the lower, rich and well adapted for the cultivation of corn. An agricultural experiment of a singular kind was made here in 1814, in the cultivation of hollyhocks, with which one hundred and forty-seven acres were planted; and extensive buildings were erected for manufacturing the produce: the object of this undertaking was never publicly known, and, after some years of spirited but unavailing efforts, the adventurers were reduced to bankruptcy, and obliged to abandon their scheme. This parish is noted for the abundance and value of its mineral productions: at Trelogan are extensive lead mines belonging to the crown, which have been worked for many years with great profit; and throughout the southern part of the parish there are other mines of lead and calamine, whilst the northern and eastern parts abound with valuable strata of coal and extensive quarries of freestone of the finest quality, all lying near the beach, and in full operation, their produce being shipped to various parts of the



kingdom. Here commences the extensive coal tract of Flintshire, which extends south-eastward, parallel with the shores of the Dee. A new road has lately been formed along the sea-shore, at a considerable expense, by the principal landed proprietors of the neighbourhood, from Greenfield, in the parish of Holywell, to Talacre, in this parish. The lighthouse at the Point of Air belongs to the corporation of the Trinity House, and was erected for the accommodation of vessels navigating the æstuary of the Dee, to and from Chester.

The living is a vicarage, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £9. 11. 5½, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph: it is endowed with the rectorial tithes of the townships of Axton and Trelogan, and with seven-fifteenths of the small tithes of the whole parish. The church, dedicated to St. Kentigern and St. Asaph, is a spacious and exceedingly neat structure, rebuilt, except the east end, in 1737, and consisting of a nave, chancel, and north aisle: the chancel is ornamented with a handsome window of stained glass, brought from Basingwerk abbey, and presented by Harry ab Harry, a native of this parish, who purchased the site of that house, after the dissolution. This church was granted as an impropriation, in 1385, to Lawrence Child, Bishop of St. Asaph, to supply the cathedral with lights, and for repairing the injury which it sustained during the wars. There are places of worship for Calvinistic, and Wesleyan Methodists, also a Roman Catholic chapel in the house at Talacre. Thomas ab Hugh, by will dated in 1671, bequeathed £30 for the erection of a school-house, which, however, had no endowment until the year 1801, when £10 per annum was assigned from the parochial funds, for the instruction of twelve boys, in addition to whom five are gratuitously taught from funds provided by Sir Edward Mostyn, Bart. Thomas ab Hugh, at the same time, gave £50 to buy bread for the poor, for which purpose also £20 was given by Edward Owens, in 1672; £6 by John Conway, in 1697; £22 by Edward Roberts, in 1702; and £50 by Roger Mostyn, in 1731: the greater part of these sums has been judiciously vested in the purchase of a tenement in the parish of Llandrillo yn Rhôs, now producing £15 per annum, which is expended in bread, given every Sunday to the poor. In the township of Gwespyr are the ruins of a chapel, dedicated to St. Beuno, which was used as a chapel of ease prior to the Reformation, but since that period divine service has not been performed in it. Numerous tumuli are dispersed among the higher grounds of this parish, in one part of which are eighteen in an unbroken line, with several others lying at a short distance from them. Offa's Dyke forms for some distance a boundary line between this parish and those of Whitford, Newmarket, and Gwaenyscor, after which it enters the former, and separates the townships of Golden Grove and Kelston, whence it is continued to the sea-shore near Talacre: its course in this parish is upwards of four miles, in which it is nearly perfect in many places, though in others it can only be traced with great difficulty: it is most distinctly seen at the lodge leading to Golden Grove. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £777. 14.

LLANAVAN (LLAN-AVAN), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of ILAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S. E.) from Aberystwith, con-

taining 384 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Avan, is pleasantly situated on the river Ystwith, which at this place forms a fine bold curve, and is enriched on both its banks with pleasingly varied and highly picturesque scenery: a neat modern stone bridge has been erected over this river. Within the parish is Cross Wood, the seat of the Earl of Lisburne, a neat mansion, pleasantly situated in grounds which are tastefully laid out. Lead-ore was formerly procured here at the Grogwynion mines, but these are now exhausted, and no new mines have been opened. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Chichester family, to whom the tithes are impropriated. The church is an ancient structure, consisting of a nave, chancel, and south transept: part of the ancient screen which separated the chancel from the nave is still remaining, and exhibits an elegant specimen of carved work: the ancient font, octangular in form, is also preserved. Among the communion plate is a curious ancient dish of silver, gilt, and embossed with twelve figures, of which ten represent warriors, and the other two dragons: all are arranged in couples, and engaged in combat. The church is situated within half a mile of the river, and in the churchyard is a fine avenue of trees, leading from the entrance of the cemetery to the south transept. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £46. 19.

LLANAVAN-VAWR (LLAN-AVAN-VAWR), a parish in the hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (N. W. by W.) from Builth, comprising the hamlet of Llŷsdinam, which is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, and containing 936 inhabitants, of which number, 252 are in the first, 249 in the second, and 222 in the third, division of the parish; the remainder being included in the above-mentioned hamlet. The surface of this parish is abruptly broken into precipitous eminences and deep glens, and the soil varies in richness in proportion to the degree of elevation. On the higher lands it is dry and light, having little or no depth: in the lower parts the common lands consist chiefly of turf, and peat composed of decayed vegetables, about four or five inches in depth, resting on a bed of blue or greyish clay; and in the deep glens the soil is in general a stiff clay, which increases in depth as it approaches to the banks of streams, and is better adapted for tillage than for pasture. The parish is bounded on the north by a small stream called the Whevri, and the scenery of the neighbourhood is strikingly varied, and in many places highly picturesque. The living is a vicarage, with the perpetual curacies of Alltmawr and Llanavan-Vechan annexed, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 8. 9., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's: the impropriate tithes of the parish belong to the Dean and Chapter of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Avan, consists only of a nave of considerable length, with a low massive tower at the western end, containing five bells, which appears from a tablet on the south side of it to have been built at the expense of the parishioners, in 1765: the body of the edifice, which is very neat, was rebuilt at the cost of the parish, in 1814. There



are within the walls neither ancient monuments nor inscriptions, though it is said that several of the vicars are interred beneath the altar-piece. In the churchyard is an altar-tomb, with the inscription *Hic jacet Sanctus Avanus Episcopus*: the stone is of a very hard and durable kind, and the letters, which are deeply cut, are in a very perfect state. The vicarage-house, called Persant, is pleasantly situated on the bank of the Whevri, about a quarter of a mile below the church, and has about fifty acres of glebe land attached to it. There is a place of worship for Baptists, called Troed-rhiw-dalar. Brÿniogar, formerly the residence of a branch of the Gwynne family of Garth, was anciently a distinguished mansion. At a small distance from the church is a Maen Hir, or upright stone, supposed to be of Druidical erection. A poet named Mâb y Cloch-yddyn, "the sexton's son," who flourished in the latter part of the fourteenth century, and was author of a poem in praise of Gwenhwyvar, wife of Hywel ab Tydyr ab Griffith, and who, by some writers, is identified with Macclav ab Lywarch, was born in this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the whole of the parish, including the hamlet of Llÿsdinam, amounts to £467.3., of which sum, £144.13. is raised on the first division, £109.14. on the second, £110.11. on the third, and the remainder on the hamlet of Llÿsdinam.

LLANAVAN-VECHAN, or LLANVECHAN (LLAN-AVAN-VECHAN), a parish in the hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (W. by S.) from Builth, including a portion of the hamlet of Gwrvog, which is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, and the rest of which is included in the parish of Llanlleonvel, and containing 189 inhabitants. This parish, comprising about three thousand acres, is situated on the banks of the river Irvon, which, in its course from west to east, divides the parish into two nearly equal portions; and the high road from Builth to Llandovery, through Llangammarch, passes through the village. That part of the hamlet of Gwrvog which is within its limits consists of a narrow slip of land lying on the south side of the river Irvon, and is united in the assessment to the king's taxes, as well as for the support of the poor, with the rest of the hamlet in the adjoining parish of Llanlleonvel. The northern part of the parish has a gently undulating surface, while the southern is hilly, comprising part of the northern declivities of the Eppynt hills. On the north side of the Irvon, and near the bank of that river, are some fertile meadows and luxuriant groves of picturesque appearance; but the general aspect of the neighbourhood is neither pleasing nor interesting. At the extremity of a narrow glen, on the south side of the river, is a frightful precipice, called Graig ddô, from which the dell receives the name of Cwm Graig ddô, or "the vale of the black rock." This rock, which is but scantily clothed with wood, appears, when viewed from the higher grounds, to afford a comfortable shelter to the inhabitants of the vale beneath, while, as viewed from below, its appearance is altogether terrific. The parish is separated from that of Llanganten by the Havrena stream: the soil of the upper lands is light, but that of the lower, especially as they approach the river, is clayey: the whole is for the most part cold.

The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Llanavan-Vawr, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Avan, and situated on the north side of the high road, is a small edifice, covered with slate, which is procured from the mountains, in laminæ varying from one inch to three inches in thickness. Gwrvog, in this parish, was formerly a family mansion, but, like many others in this part of the country, has been deserted by its proprietor, and is now a farm-house. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £43.12.

LLANBABO (LLAN-BABO), a parish in the hundred of TÂL Y BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (N. W. by W.) from Llanerchymedd, containing 174 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to its original founder, Pabo, one of the ancient native princes of Wales, who, for his valour in defending his country from the aggressions of the Scots and Picts, was styled Pabo Post Prydain, or "the support of Britain," and after his canonization became one of the most venerated saints of the principality. The parish, which is of small extent, is situated near the north bank of the river Alaw, and is separated from the chapelry of Llanerchymedd by the extensive marsh called Morva Alaw, which is impassable except during a dry summer. The lands, though principally marshy, are well cultivated, and the soil is productive. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llandeusan, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, founded by St. Pabo in the year 460, is a small plain edifice, remarkable only as containing the ancient monument of its founder, which was discovered about the middle of the seventeenth century, buried nearly six feet below the surface of the ground, and afterwards placed in an upright position in the church. This monument, which is of stone, appears to have formed the lid of a sarcophagus, and has the effigy of the saint in a recumbent posture, habited in a long loose robe, fastened in front with button loops: the head is crowned, and the right hand grasps a sceptre: along the edge of the stone, on the left side of the figure, is a commemorative inscription in Latin. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £47.19.

LLANBADARN ISÂ YN Y CROYTHEN (LLAN-BADARN-Y-CREUDDYN), a township in that part of the parish of LLANBADARN-VAWR which is in the upper division of the hundred of LLAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (E. S. E.) from Aberystwith, containing 891 inhabitants. This large township, which forms a portion of the district of this extensive parish lying south of the river Rheidol, extends from that river to the northern bank of the Ystwith, and contains some pleasing residences, the principal of which is Nant Eos, the seat of Col. William Powel. The township is in general well wooded, and the roads from Aberystwith to Rhaiadr and Llanidloes and to Cardigan pass through it. A separate assessment is made for the maintenance of the poor: the average annual expenditure amounts to £346.8.

LLANBADARN-ODWYNNE (LLAN-BADARN-ODYN), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 9



miles (N.N.E.) from Lampeter, containing 558 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Paternus, and its distinguishing adjunct from its conspicuous position on the summit of a lofty eminence, is situated near the river Aëron, and from the higher grounds is obtained a fine view of the Vale of Aëron, which abounds with pleasing and richly varied scenery. It formerly constituted a prebend in the collegiate church of Llandewy-Brevi, founded by Thomas Beck, Bishop of St. David's, in 1187, and was rated in the king's books at £6. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Rev. Samuel Evans, the present incumbent. The church is a small edifice, consisting only of a nave and chancel, situated on a lofty eminence; and from the churchyard is an interesting view of the vale beneath, and an extensive prospect over the surrounding country. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, which is the largest dissenting place of worship in South Wales. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £89. 10.

**LLANBADARN-TRÊVEGLWYS (LLAN-BADARN-TRÊV-EGLWYS)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of LLAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (S. by W.) from Aberystwith, containing 982 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the river Arth, formerly constituted one of the prebends in the collegiate church of Llandewy-Brevi, and was rated in the king's books at £12. The living is a discharged vicarage, with that of Kilkennin annexed, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6, endowed with one-third of the tithes, and with £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church is dedicated to St. Padarn, or Paternus. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £170. 2.

**LLANBADARN UCHÂ YN Y CROYTHEN (LLAN-BADARN Y CREUDDYN)**, a township in that part of the parish of LLANBADARN-VAWR which is in the upper division of the hundred of LLAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E.) from Aberystwith, containing 743 inhabitants. It is situated in the upper part of the parish, which is here wild and mountainous, and on the eastern bank of the river Rheidol, which rushes in foaming torrents along a rocky bottom, in a deep precipitous gulph, with its sides covered with thick brushwood, until it is joined by the Mynach at a short distance. The small chapel of Yspitty Cynvyn, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is situated in this township. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the majority of the landholders in that part of the parish which is above Nant Lymystaw, who pay sixpence in the pound, on an old survey, towards the minister's stipend. In the burial-ground are four large stones, the largest eleven feet high and six broad, standing upright, and forming the periphery of the quadrant of a circle, having the chapel in the centre, which were probably a Druidical enclosure. Through the burial-

ground of the chapel a footpath leads to a rude wooden bridge, composed of one plank, thrown over a vast chasm, between two precipitous rocks, beneath which the Rheidol rushes with great force: it is called the Parson's bridge. The tithes of this township belong to the Chichester family. The celebrated Devil's bridge, with its romantic and picturesque scenery, is situated in this township, but is described in the article on the parish. A separate assessment is made for the support of the poor, the average annual expenditure being £153. 16.

**LLANBADARN-VAWR (LLAN-BADARN-VAWR)**, a parish comprising the sea-port, borough, and market and post town of Aberystwith, from which the church is one mile distant, to the south-east, and the hamlets of Broncastellan and Clarach, in the upper division, and those of Cwmrheidol, Elerch, Isâ yn Dre', Uchâ yn Dre', Isâ yn Vainor, Uchâ yn Vainor, Melindwr, Parcel-Canol, and Trêvirig, in the lower division, of the hundred of GENEU'R GLYN; and the hamlets of Llanbadarn Isâ yn y Croythen and Llanbadarn Uchâ yn y Croythen, each of all these hamlets maintaining its own poor, in the upper division of the hundred of LLAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES; and containing 9824 inhabitants. The name of this extensive parish, which is of very remote antiquity, is derived from the dedication of its church, and its distinguishing adjunct from the pre-eminence which it enjoyed with respect to other parishes of that name, and also to distinguish it from the adjoining town of Aberystwith, which was anciently called Llanbadarn Gaerog, or the "Walled Llanbadarn." St. Padarn, or Paternus, to whom the church is dedicated, was a divine of considerable celebrity: he is said to have studied under Iltutus at Lantwit Major, or in Glamorganshire, and is associated with Teilo and David in the Welsh Triads, as one of the three blessed visitors. He is supposed to have founded a religious establishment here, which afterwards was erected into an episcopal see, of which he became the first bishop, and a suffragan to the Archbishop of St. David's. Paternus continued to preside over this see for twenty-one years, during which period he erected several churches, and founded divers monasteries in various parts of the province of Caredigion, now comprised chiefly in the county of Cardigan, in which he placed colonies of monks from the principal establishment at Llanbadarn, and at the end of that period, being recalled into Brittany, where he was made Bishop of Vannes, was succeeded in this diocese, which was afterwards called, after its first diocesan, "Paternensis," by Cynoc. The see appears to have flourished for nearly a century, and notice of a bishop of Llanbadarn occurs in the minutes of a synod held in the county of Worcester, in the year 601. About this time Llanbadarn is said to have lost its episcopal privileges, in consequence of the violent conduct of the inhabitants, who killed their bishop, and the church is said to have been annexed, after the dissolution of the see, to that of St. David's. The name of the bishop who thus became the victim of their fury is not mentioned in existing annals, neither is there any particular record of the event; but Humphrey Lloyd supposes it to have been Bishop Idnerth, to whose memory there is a monumental inscription in the parish church of Llandewy-Brevi. The suffragan bishop of Llanba-



darn was one of the deputation appointed to meet St. Augustine, on his landing in Britain, with a view to resist the encroachments which were apprehended from the church of Rome, by opposing every attempt on the part of that missionary to establish the supremacy of the pope over the British church. The church was destroyed in 987, by the Danes, whose ravages in this part of the principality were carried to so great an extent, that Meredydd Prince of South Wales compounded with these ferocious invaders for the security of his territories, by the payment of one penny for every man within his dominions; this payment was called "the tribute of the black army." In 1038, this place was reduced to ashes by Gruffydd ab Llewelyn ab Sitsylt, who wrested it by violence from the hands of Howel ab Edwin; but in the year 1106, when Ithel and Madoc, who were in alliance with Henry I., ravaged all the county of Cardigan, with the exception of this place and Llandewy-Brevi, it suffered only an attack upon its sanctuary, from which several of Owain ab Madoc's men, who had taken refuge there, were dragged by force and put to death. Gilbert Strongbow, Earl of Strgyll, who, in 1109, erected the castle of Aberystwith, in this parish, gave the emoluments of this church to the monastery of St. Peter at Gloucester, in the year 1111; but the ancient establishment does not appear at that time to have been dissolved, for mention occurs of John, arch-priest of Llanbadarn, in the Welsh annals, in the year 1136, wherein he is stated to have been canonized for his great piety; and in the same annals, in the year 1143, the death of Sulien ab Rhythmarch, a man of great knowledge, and one of the College of Llanbadarn, is noticed. In the year 1116, Gruffydd ab Rhys, who had been invited into this part of the principality to assist in recovering from the Norman settlers the territories which they had usurped in the province of Cardigan, encamped his forces at Glâs Grûg, in this parish, previously to his unsuccessful attempt on Aberystwith castle: his failure in this enterprise was by some superstitiously attributed to an act of impiety, of which he was guilty, in taking some cattle to refresh his forces from within the limits of the extensive sanctuary attached to the church of Llanbadarn. Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, attended by Giraldus Cambrensis, visited this place, in 1188, on his tour to preach the crusades throughout the principality. Upon this occasion it is especially noticed by Giraldus, in his Itinerary, that the revenue of the monastery was chiefly enjoyed by laymen of one family, and that the affairs of the establishment were in a very bad state. The church was subsequently appropriated to the abbey of Vale Royal, in the county of Chester, founded by Edward I. During the insurrection headed by a native chieftain named Rhys ab Meredydd, in 1287, Llanbadarn-Vawr was the principal place of rendezvous for the English forces in South Wales.

The parish, which extends on an average about fifteen miles in length and six in breadth, is intersected by the rivers Ystwith and Rheidol, and comprehends a district distinguished for the abundance of its mineral wealth. The surface is generally hilly, in some parts even mountainous, and is also agreeably diversified with picturesque valleys; and the lands, with the exception of some large

tracts of common and extensive elevated wastes, which, however, bear but a small proportion to the extent of the parish, are enclosed and cultivated; but the system of tillage, though it has considerably improved of late years, has not yet attained any great degree of excellence. The village is pleasantly situated under a high ridge on the banks of the river Rheidol, and consists of one straggling street of considerable length. The surrounding scenery is boldly and richly varied, combining many features of picturesque and romantic beauty; and from the higher grounds are obtained extensive and interesting views of the bay of Cardigan and the adjacent country. In the neighbourhood, and within the parish, are several noble mansions and elegant seats, of which the principal are, Nant Eos, the seat of Colonel William Powel, a spacious and well built mansion, beautifully situated in a richly wooded vale, comprising much pleasing scenery; Gogerddan, the seat of Pryse Pryse, Esq.; and Glân rheidol, the residence of James Hughes, Esq. The soil is various, in some parts affording only scanty pasturage for sheep, and in general being rather poor than fertile and productive. The principal mineral produce is lead-ore: from the mines, which were formerly worked upon a very extensive scale, Sir Hugh Myddelton chiefly derived the princely revenue which he patriotically expended, in the reign of James I., in supplying the metropolis with water by means of the New River. After this period the mines were continued in successful operation by Mr. Bushel, who, in the reign of Charles I., obtained from that monarch the privilege of establishing a mint in the castle of Aberystwith, as noticed in the article on that town. At present they are not worked to any great extent; indeed, owing to the great reduction in the price of the ore, and the deterioration of its quality, very few of them are in operation. The Cwm Symlog and Darrenvâch mines, which are situated on the estate of Pryse Pryse, Esq., are now in the occupation of Messrs. John Williams, Junr., and Brothers, of Scorrier House, near Truro, in the county of Cornwall: the quantity of ore raised from them, in the year 1831, was eighty tons, producing about sixty tons of fine lead, containing in every ton thirty-four ounces of pure silver. The Cwmrheidol mine, in the hamlet of that name, in the same year produced sixty tons of ore, from which forty-five tons of fine lead were extracted; but the proportion of silver intermixed with the ore of this mine was too inconsiderable to compensate for the trouble of separating it. The situation of the parish, on the coast of Cardigan bay, is highly favourable for the exportation of the produce of its mines; and the turnpike roads from Aberystwith to Llanidloes, Machynlleth, and Radnor, afford great facilities of intercourse with the neighbouring districts.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the arch-deaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £20, endowed with £450 private benefaction, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Padarn, and situated near the centre of the village, is an ancient and venerable cruciform structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a large square tower rising from the centre, supported on four massive columns, and surmounted by a low spire. The chancel contains several mural monuments to the principal families of



the neighbourhood, among which may be more particularly noticed those to the families of Nant Eos and Gogerddan: of these, one of the most interesting is of white marble, sculptured by Flaxman, to the memory of Harriet, daughter of Viscount Ashbrook, and late wife of Pryse Pryse, Esq.: above this monument is a canopy exquisitely carved, in the most elaborate style of later English architecture. In the churchyard are two ancient British crosses without any inscription. At Yspitty, in the hamlet of Croythen Uchâ, is a chapel of ease, the living of which is a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of the landholders in that part of the parish which is above Nant Lymystaw, who pay sixpence in the pound, according to an old survey, towards the stipend of the minister. From the greatly increased population of the parish it has been found advisable, in addition to the newly-erected chapel in the town of Aberystwith, to build a chapel also at Tyn Llidiart, in the hamlet of Parcel-Canol, for the erection of which a plan is now under consideration, and subscriptions have been opened, several hundred pounds having been already contributed. The number of places of worship for dissenters, including those in the town of Aberystwith, is no fewer than seventeen or eighteen, namely, for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Roderick Richards, of Pen Bont, in 1752, bequeathed £104; Jacob Evans, late of Penlanolew, in 1760, bequeathed £40; and John Jones, in 1783, left £50, for the instruction of poor children of this parish. Lewis Jones, late of Caeaeabâch, bequeathed £200 for teaching poor children of four hamlets; and Richard Lewis, late of Abercumdole, left £150 towards instructing those in the hamlet of Parcel-Canol: there are also some smaller charitable donations and bequests for distribution among the poor. The Roman *Via Occidentalis*, now called the Sarn Helen, passed through the parish; and about a mile eastward from the church are the remains of Glâs Grûg, the fortified post occupied by Gruffydd ab Rhys prior to his attack on Aberystwith castle. Davydd ab Gwilym, an eminent Welsh poet, was born at Broginin, in this parish, in 1340: he became Bard of Glamorgan, and is said to have written one hundred and fifty poems: he died in 1400, and was buried at Ystrad Flûr, or Strata Florida. Lewis Morris, an antiquary of some eminence, and surveyor of the mines royal, was interred in the church of this place: he had for some time preceding his death resided at Penbrÿn, in this county. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the whole of this extensive parish amounts to £2172. 1.

**LLANBADARN-VAWR (LLAN-BADARN-VAWR)**, a parish in the hundred of KEVENLEECE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, comprising the village of Pen y Bont, where there is a receiving-house for letters, and containing 491 inhabitants. It is situated on the river Ithon: the high road from Builth to Newtown runs through it, passing close by the church, within a few hundred yards of which it is crossed by that from Kington to Rhaiadr and Aberystwith, which also traverses it. The surface is for the most part irregular, and the soil in the low lands consists chiefly of clay: the only mansion is Pen y Bont Hall, the residence of I. C. Severn, Esq.; and Pen y Bont Court is a genteel residence, forming from its elevated situation a pleasing

object. The village of Pen y Bont, the post-office at which is dependent on those at Kington and Rhaiadr, consists only of about a dozen houses, one of them an excellent inn, at which the petty sessions for the hundred of Kevenleece are occasionally held. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 12. 6., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Paternus, is situated about a mile and a half from Pen y Bont, and consists of a nave and chancel, the latter ceiled, with an entrance porch: the churchyard contains some fine yew trees. There are places of worship for Anabaptists and Calvinistic Methodists, the former of which is endowed with a portion of land. There are two small bequests of ten shillings per annum each for the poor, one paid out of the tenement of Cwm Trallong, in this parish, and the other out of a farm called Lluest, in that of Llandewi Ystradenny. Near Pen y Bont there is a chalybeate spring, which is not in high repute, being but little known. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £185. 9.

**LLANBADARN-VYNYDD (LLAN-BADARN-VYNYDD)**, a parish in the hundred of KNIGHTON, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 10 miles (S.) from Newtown, containing 518 inhabitants. The aspect of this parish, which is situated on the banks of the Ithon, in a mountainous district, is dreary and wild; and the scenery, though bold and striking, is not diversified with features either of beauty or of interest. The mountains, notwithstanding their appearance of barrenness, afford pasturage to numerous flocks of sheep. An excellent and commodious inn has been recently erected in the village, which is enlivened by the traffic it derives from its situation on the turnpike road from Builth, in Brecknockshire, to Newtown in the county of Montgomery. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Prebendary of Llanbister in the Collegiate Church of Brecknock, although Lord Kensington, who is lessee of the tithes, has recently presented to it. The church, dedicated to St. Padarn, or Paternus, is a small edifice, consisting only of a nave and chancel, and possessing no architectural claims to particular description. The produce of some inconsiderable charitable benefactions is annually distributed among the poor of the parish. There is a well called Fynnon Ddewi, or "David's Well," the water of which is slightly impregnated with sulphur, and is considered efficacious in the cure of scorbutic complaints. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £244. 12.

**LLANBADARN-Y-GARREG (LLAN-BADARN-Y-GAREG)**, a parish in the hundred of COLWYN, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (E. S. E.) from Builth, containing 98 inhabitants. This parish comprises only about three hundred acres of enclosed land, and is situated on the small river Edwy, by which it is intersected, and of which the stream is here very narrow. The living is annexed to the rectory of Caregrina, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Padarn, is an ancient structure, consisting of a nave and chancel, which are appropriately fitted up for divine service: it has no tower or steeple, but a



single bell is suspended under a small shed. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. A rent-charge of £12, on a farm called Llanola, in this parish, was bequeathed by a Mrs. Gwynne of that place, to be annually distributed among the poor of the parishes of Aberedwy, Llanvareth, and Llanbadarn y Garreg; and an unknown benefactor also gave £10 in money, producing ten shillings per annum, for the relief of decayed housekeepers of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £59. 6.

**LLANBADRIG (LLAN-BADRIG)**, a parish in the hundred of **TAL Y BOLION**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**, 7 miles (W. N. W.) from Amlwch, containing 1364 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Patrick, who, being commissioned by Pope Celestine to preach the doctrines of Christianity to the Irish, is said to have been on his way thither detained for some time in Mona, the present Anglesey, and to have founded at this place, in the year 440, the first Christian church which was built in the island. The parish, which is situated on the shore of the Irish sea, is about seven miles in length: it is divided into two unequal parts, called Llanbadrig-Clegyrog and Llanbadrig-Cemmes, which, though distinct for other purposes, are united for the maintenance of their poor. The lands are generally enclosed and in a good state of cultivation, and the soil is productive. The substratum is limestone, and the great limestone formation which stretches from Flintshire through the county of Denbigh, and is continued under the bay of Beaumaris, terminates at the Middle Mouse, a small island about a mile from the main land of this parish, called also "Ynys Badrig," from the circumstance of its having been the place from which St. Patrick, on his departure from the island, embarked for Dublin. In this parish is a strong vein of ochre of various colours, and an extraordinarily fine white clay of the Cimolia kind: copper-ore has also been found here, but not in sufficient quantity to encourage adventurers to establish any works. At Cemmes is found blue-veined and white-veined grey marble, and also the hard primitive rock called serpentine. The small creek of Cemmes affords facility for landing coal and other commodities, and is highly advantageous for the shipping of marble and the other mineral produce of the adjoining parish of Llanvechell. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £7. 8. 1½, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Crown. The church, dedicated to St. Patrick, is inconveniently situated on the shore, and so near to the sea that, during the prevalence of northerly or north-westerly winds, the waves break over it with such violence as to interrupt, and frequently to prevent, the performance of divine service; and even the funeral service has been unavoidably deferred for several days during the continuance of those winds, at which time the church is altogether inaccessible. The poor children of Llanbadrig are eligible to the school founded at Llanvechell by Mr. Wynne. Mr. Richard Gwyn, in 1723, bequeathed certain lands for the gratuitous instruction of poor children; and William Davies, in 1751, bequeathed £60 to the poor of this parish, the interest of which, together with some other small charitable donations and bequests, is annually distributed

among them. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £364. 17.

**LLANBEBLIG (LLAN-BEBLIG)**, a parish in the hundred of **ISGORVAI**, county of **CARNARVON**, **NORTH WALES**, containing, with the borough of Carnarvon, which is situated within its limits, 7642 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Peblie, or Publicus, who, according to the Welsh annalists, was the son of Maximus and his wife Helen, daughter of Eudaf, Duke of Cornwall, and who, assuming a religious habit, retired from the world and lived in seclusion at this place. The history of the parish is so connected with that of the borough of Carnarvon, that it has been necessarily anticipated in the account of that town. Richard II. bestowed the church of Llanbeblig, together with the chapel of Carnarvon, on the convent of St. Mary in Chester, in order to augment the endowment of that establishment. This parish is situated on the river Seiont, and is traversed by a rail-road leading from the slate quarries in the Vale of Nantlle to the quay at Carnarvon. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Carnarvon annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £12. 5. 5., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Chester: the vicarage is endowed with one-third of the great tithes, and the remaining two-thirds are appropriated to the see of Chester. The church, dedicated to St. Peblie, is a spacious and venerable cruciform structure, in the later style of English architecture, but considerably modernized by successive repairs, and contains some ancient and interesting monuments, among which is the tomb of Sir William Gruffydd of Penrhyn, who died in 1587, and Margaret, daughter of John Wynn ab Meredydd, whose figures are represented lying on a mat, exquisitely sculptured in marble, the former in complete armour. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A very thin plate of gold, about four inches in length and one in breadth, supposed to be a Basilidian talisman of the second century, was discovered here within the last few years: it bears two inscriptions, the first of which is in Greek, and the second in astral, or magic, characters. The remains of the Roman station Segontium, and other important relics of antiquity contained in this parish, are described in the article on **CARNARVON**. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor, including those of the town of Carnarvon, amounts to £1582. 18.

**LLANBEDR (LLAN-BEDR)**, a parish in the hundred of **CRICKHOWEL**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**, 2 miles (N. E. by E.) from Crickhowel, containing 359 inhabitants. This parish, both in ancient writings and modern usage, is generally distinguished by the adjunct **Ystradwy**, or **Ystrad-Iw**, by which appellation the entire district now forming the hundred of Crickhowel was designated till the 27th of Henry VIII., when, upon the consolidation of the lordships marcher established in the ancient Brecheiniog into the present county of Brecknock, and the subsequent subdivision of that county into hundreds, the lordship of Crickhowel obtaining the pre-eminence, gave name to the hundred, and that of **Ystradwy** is retained only as an addition to the name of this single parish. The parish is watered by the two streams called respectively Greater and



Lesser Grwny, which, descending from the mountains, after uniting within its limits, and flowing through the adjoining parish of Llangeney, fall into the river Usk a little below the small village of Glangrwny, where it is crossed by a bridge on the road from Crickhowel to Abergavenny. An act of parliament was obtained, many years ago, for making a turnpike road from Crickhowel to Hereford, through the parish of Llanbedr; but it was so imperfectly drawn up, and its provisions were found so burdensome, that, upon a subsequent application to parliament for its renewal, it was thrown out, and the road is now only parochial. The village is situated in a vale, or glen, abounding with picturesque scenery, of which the leading feature is an exceeding softness and simplicity of character. Embosomed by surrounding mountains, of which Cadair Arthur, or "Great Arthur's Chair," and the Sugar Loaf hill, are the principal, it is seldom visited by tourists. The steepest banks of the Lesser Grwny are richly clothed with wood from the very margin of the stream to the horizon; and the hills, though of considerable elevation, are smooth and grassy, affording excellent pasturage for sheep and young cattle, which in numerous flocks and herds are seen grazing along their sides and summits. The only family residence of any importance in this parish is Moor Park, the seat of John Powell, Esq., whose father built the mansion, which is quite unique in its style of architecture.

The living is a rectory, with Partrishew annexed, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £16. 17. 6., and in the patronage of the Duke of Beaufort. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a very ancient structure, consisting of two aisles and a chancel, with a square embattled tower at the western end. The consecration of a church at "Llanbedr in Ystradwy" by Herewald, Bishop of Llandaf, who governed that see from 1056 to 1103, is recorded in the old register of Llandaf; and the tower, which is of grey stone, and evidently much older than any other part of the church, may probably be a part of that ancient structure: the aisles are separated from each other by a range of pointed arches; the north aisle, which appears to be the more ancient, has the remains of the old timber frame roof; and the south aisle, which appears to have been added at a later period, having been built probably about the reign of Edward IV., or perhaps so late as that of Henry VII., has a vaulted roof of timber: they have both been ceiled, and the church was newly paved and pewed in 1831. It occupies a pleasant site on the brow of an acclivity rising abruptly from the margin of the Grwny Vechan, or Lesser Grwny river; and the churchyard is ornamented with some fine old yew trees, which are perhaps coeval with the tower of the church. There is no parsonage-house. Mrs. Mary Herbert, widow of the late Rev. John Herbert, rector of this parish, in 1728, bequeathed a tenement called Hên-bant-Vâch, partly for the education of poor girls, and partly for the relief of poor persons not receiving parochial assistance, two-thirds of the produce of which she appropriated to this parish, and the remainder to that of Partrishew: the estate is now let at the yearly rent of £26; the girls are instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and are taught plain needlework, but there is no school-house in connexion with the

charity. Mr. Howell Harry, in 1727, bequeathed a sum of money, of which the interest, amounting to £2. 10. per annum, is annually distributed among the poor not receiving parochial relief, according to the will of the testator. Dr. Francis Godwin, son of Thomas Godwin, Bishop of Bath and Wells, was rector of this parish for several years: in 1660 he published his well-known work called "*De Præsulibus Angliæ Commentarius*," which so much recommended him to the notice of Queen Elizabeth that she promoted him to the see of Llandaf, with which he held this rectory in commendam, but resigned it upon his translation to the see of Hereford, in 1617: he was author of several other works, and died in 1633. The late Rev. Henry Thomas Payne, A.M., archdeacon of Carmarthen, a native of the neighbouring parish of Llangattock, was also rector of this parish for upwards of thirty years: he died on Easter-Sunday of the present year (1832), and was interred in a vault in the churchyard of this parish, where the remains of his lamented wife had previously been deposited, in April 1828: under a neat pointed arch, supported by a triple clustered column, is an inscription with a few poetical lines to the memory of this lady, by the deceased divine, who simply directed his own name, age, and day of decease to be added. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £57.

LLANBEDR (LLAN-BEDR-Y-CENNIN), a parish in the hundred of LLÊCHWEDD ISÂV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N. N. W.) from Llanrwst, on the road to Aberconway, comprising the township of Arddr, which maintains its own poor under a recent arrangement, and containing 476½ inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the river Conway, which forms its eastern boundary, and in a mountainous district overlooking the fertile Vale of Llanrwst, and abounding with richly varied, and in some parts with picturesque, scenery. Copper-ore, pyrites, and blende, have been found in small quantities, and mines of these are now being worked, but upon a very limited scale. The river Conway affords every facility of conveyance for the produce of the mines, and every opportunity of intercourse with the neighbouring districts. A fair is held on October 3rd and 4th. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £6. 19. 4½., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, from which circumstance the parish derives its name, is a small but neat edifice, pleasantly situated on an eminence, and comprises a nave, chancel, and south transept or chapel. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The amount of several charitable donations and bequests by various benefactors has been invested in the purchase of land producing a rental of £64. 19., which is annually distributed among the poor in money and clothing during the winter. On the summit of a lofty hill, one mile east-south-east of the church, is Pen y Gaer, a British camp of great strength, comprehending a spacious area defended by ramparts of stones: the foundations of several circular buildings lie scattered about it, and the fosses by which it was surrounded are still visible: in the immediate neighbourhood of this camp are numerous upright stones, perhaps, as Camden observes, placed there to serve as chevaux de frise to defend the



approaches to the camp. At Tal y Cavn, an isolated township of this parish, entirely surrounded by portions of that of Caerhên, is an important ferry across the Conway, communicating with Eglwys-Bâch, in Denbighshire, and the only one between the bridges of Llanrwst and Aberconway. Near the approach to this ferry is a small artificial mound of earth, on which once stood a castle, or tower, to protect the passage of the river, but not a vestige of this building can now be seen. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £232. 5.

**LLANBEDR (LLAN-BEDR-DYFRYN-CLWYD)**, a parish in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. E.) from Ruthin, on the road to Chester, containing 527 inhabitants. This parish is about three miles in length, and two in breadth: its surface is partly hilly and partly flat, but no part of it is subject to inundation: the soil of the higher grounds is light and sandy, but of the lower more loamy. The village occupies a pleasant situation; and the environs, in which are some handsome seats, partake of the scenery which characterizes the beautiful Vale of Clwyd: the seats are, the elegant mansion of Llanbedr Hall, the residence of Joseph Ablett, Esq., romantically situated at the foot of the hills; and Berth, the seat of Edward Lloyd, Esq. Many attempts have been made, and considerable sums of money expended, in the expectation of finding coal in this parish, but they have been unavailing; the miners having mistakenly regarded the bituminous siliceous shale, with which the soil abounds, as indicative of coal, in the fruitless search for which small portions of manganese have been found, but so much mixed with pyrites of iron as to be of little value. The living is a rectory, rated in the king's books at £13. 1. 8., and in the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, a small neat edifice in the later style of English architecture, is delightfully situated on a gentle eminence within the park of Llanbedr, and forms a pleasing and picturesque object, as seen through the embowering woods by which it is surrounded. There is a place of worship in the parish for Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school is supported by subscription, in which thirty-six children receive gratuitous instruction. The interest of several charitable bequests, amounting in the aggregate to £765, is annually distributed among the poor at Christmas. On the summit of Moel Venlli, one of the Clwydian mountains, which is one thousand seven hundred and twenty-two feet in height, is an extensive British camp, comprising an area of sixty-three acres, surrounded by a double vallum and intrenchment, and additionally defended on the eastern or English side by a triple fosse: the ascent to this station, which is so strongly guarded on every side as anciently to have rendered it impregnable, is by a circuitous path round the western side of the mountain: a portion of the inner gate is still remaining. This fortified camp appears to have been occupied by the Romans after their conquest of this part of the principality: several military weapons used by that people have been discovered at various times; and, in 1816, more than one thousand five hundred Roman coins, principally denarii, were found nearly in the centre of the camp, of which several are preserved at Llanbedr Hall. Moel Gaer, a small hill under Moel Venlli, is also strongly fortified with a

single dyke, which entirely surrounds its summit: this appears to have been an outwork to the camp or principal station of Venlli. Immediately above Moel Gaer is Moel Vamma, another of the Clwydian mountains, and the loftiest in that magnificent chain: it is one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two feet in height, and on its summit the gentlemen of Denbighshire and Flintshire have erected, in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the accession of George III., a lofty structure of stone, consisting of a square central tower six yards in length on each side, and thirty-nine feet high, flanked at each angle with a square tower of the same dimensions and elevation: from the central tower, and resting partly on the angular towers, rises a square tower of larger dimensions, to the height of forty feet, surmounted by an obelisk thirty-six feet high. The base of this structure, commonly called the Jubilee Column, occupies an area eighteen yards square: the angular towers are solid, but the central tower on the basement is perforated with an arch, and it was intended to construct a staircase leading from this archway to the larger tower above. The building is one hundred and fifteen feet in height, and, from its commanding situation, is a prominent and very imposing object in the views from all the high grounds in the neighbouring counties: it is seen from Chester, Liverpool, and other distant places, and forms a conspicuous landmark for vessels navigating the Irish sea. The side of the mountain towards Flintshire is remarkable for its volcanic appearance. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £365. 5.

**LLANBEDR (LLAN-BEDR)**, a parish in the hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S. S. E.) from Harlech, on the road to Barmouth, containing 403 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the river Artro, which has its source near Cwm Bychan, a spot remarkable for the wildness and sublimity of its scenery, and for the stately magnificence of the rocks and precipices by which it is encircled. At the mouth of this river, according to some accounts, was anciently situated a weir, granted by Gwyddno Garanir, a petty prince of Cantre'r Gwaelod, to his son Elphin, by whom was discovered, in a coracle hanging from one of the poles of the weir, the infant Taliesin, who afterwards became the celebrated British bard of that name, and who had been exposed in that situation soon after his birth. Elphin, taking compassion on the infant, had him carefully brought up and properly educated; and among the compositions of the bard is an ode to his preserver, of which an elegant translation was published in 1780. The approach to Cwm Bychan is through a richly wooded glen watered by the river Artro: the view in ascending this picturesque vale comprehends a rock of conical form, embosomed in a beautiful grove, beyond which rises in majestic elevation a series of rugged and sterile mountains, which form the back ground. After passing through the woods, and ascending Dinas Porchellyn, the view expands into a wider field, of which the horizon is bounded by rude masses of barren rocks and lofty mountains. The sterility of these crags is relieved by some stately oaks, which have taken deep root in the fissures, and of which some are from eight to nine feet in girth. Near these is a rapid torrent, beyond which the view embraces a small mill of roman-



tic appearance, and an ancient arch flung from rock to rock over the river, of which the water is darkened by the foliage of trees. At a little distance beyond this point, after following a winding and nearly precipitous ascent formed in the rocks, Cwm Bychan appears in sight, deeply embosomed in rocks of magnificent grandeur, and enlivened with the waters of its beautiful lake, above which is the sequestered house of the Lloyds, whose ancestors have been possessors of these wilds since the year 1100, and of whom David Llwyd, a celebrated warrior, and a firm adherent of the Earl of Richmond, was present at the battle of Bosworth Field. At no great distance is the fortified pass called Drws Ardudwy, which is described in the article on Llanddwywau, and which, as well as this place, was most probably occupied by the sons of Cadwgan, in their contests with the sons of Uchtryd ab Edwyn, whom they succeeded in expelling from the country. Among the mountains which surround Cwm Bychan is Carreg y Saeth, on the summit of which are a maen hîr and a carnedd. The parish is extensive, being seven miles in length and four in breadth, and having a mountainous and, in some parts, uncultivated surface. An act of parliament was obtained, in 1810, for enclosing the waste lands in this and the adjoining parish, under the provisions of which nine hundred and forty acres were enclosed within the limits of the former. The manufacture of flannel is carried on upon a moderate scale; and in the parish is found manganese, the procuring of which also affords employment to a portion of the inhabitants. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llandanwg, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is an ancient structure. According to an absurd local tradition it was originally intended to erect it at a place about forty yards to the right of the road, where there are four or five broad stones, eight feet high, standing upright; but the workmen found that what they executed by day was removed at night, and therefore commenced the building on its present site. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, was founded by Mrs. Mary Parry, of Ruabon, in the county of Denbigh, daughter of the late Rev. J. Hughes, rector of this parish, who, in 1817, bequeathed £1000 for its support. Mr. Theodore Roberts left £20, and there are some smaller charitable donations and bequests, the interest of which is annually distributed among the poor. In one of the rocks here several Roman coins are said to have been found. Maes y Garnedd, in this parish, was the birthplace of the regicide Colonel Jones. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £102. 10.

**LLANBEDR-GÔCH (LLAN-BEDR-GÔCH)**, a parish in the hundred of TYNDAETHWY, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (W. N. W.) from Beaumaris, containing 437 inhabitants. In old writings this place is called Llanbedr Mathavarn Eithav: it is advantageously situated on the Irish sea, which constitutes its northern boundary, and forms within the parish a safe and commodious bay, or harbour, called Traeth Gôch, or Red Wharf bay, in which large sloops may ride in perfect security during the severest gales. The lands, with the exception only of such as are appropriated to mining

purposes, are enclosed and cultivated, and the soil is generally fertile. The parish abounds with limestone of very superior quality, of which quarries are worked upon a large scale, affording constant employment to more than two hundred men, exclusively of a considerable number employed in conveying it to its several places of destination. From these quarries, of which the principal is Castell Mawr, conveniently situated near Red Wharf bay, many thousand tons of limestone are annually procured and shipped at that small port for various parts of England, Wales, and Ireland. Marble is also found in the parish, and several good slabs of black and grey marble have been raised; but, though susceptible of a high polish, it has not been found to retain it for any length of time, and consequently is not in very great request. Considerable improvements have been made in the port of Traeth Gôch, under the auspices of the Anglesey Railway Company, who, in the 52nd of George III., obtained an act of parliament, enabling them to raise certain sums, in shares of £150 each, for making and maintaining a railway from Penrhyn-Mawr, in the parish of Llanvihangel-Ysceiviog, to Red Wharf in this parish, and for making a dock and other necessary works for the convenience of shipping coal and other produce from that district. This railway, which is seven miles in length, and rises and falls in its course from fourteen to thirty-eight feet above and below the level of high water, commences at the Penrhyn-Mawr coal-works, and pursues a north-easterly course, crossing the road between Holyhead and Bangor, to Red Wharf bay, where it has a branch which is continued for a short distance northward, in a direction parallel with the shore. The expense of carrying this useful undertaking into execution was estimated at £9802. 8. 2., for defraying which the Earl of Uxbridge and another landed proprietor in the neighbourhood subscribed each £5000. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llanddvyman, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a small but beautiful cruciform structure, with a handsome east window, situated on a rocky eminence in a distant and exposed part of the parish. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school has been erected, which is supported by subscription, and in which seventy-six children of the parishes of Llanbedr-Gôch, Llanddvyman, Llanvair-Mathavarneithav, and Pentraeth, receive gratuitous instruction. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £154. 6.

**LLANBEDR - PAINSCASTLE (LLAN - BEDR - PAIN'S-CASTLE)**, a parish in the hundred of PAINSCASTLE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. W. by W.) from Hay, containing 356 inhabitants. This parish derives the distinguishing adjunct to its name from a fortress called Pain's Castle, anciently situated within its limits, and said to have been built by a Norman baron named De Paine, who obtained possession of the hundred of Lower Elvael about the time that Bernard Newmarch wrested the principality of Brycheiniog from Bleddyn ab Maenarch, whom he defeated and slew. It occupied the summit of a steep eminence, on which a strong rampart or military station had previously been constructed by the Welsh,



called *Caer yn Elvael*, which name was, on the erection of the castle, changed for *Pain's Castle*, or *Elvael Castle*. A village was also built by *De Paine* at the foot of the eminence on which the castle stood, which was inhabited by the dependants and vassals of the feudal baron, and which subsequently rose into considerable importance, and received the grant of a market. On the death of *De Paine*, this castle, which, on account of its importance, had given name to the hundred, passed, with the territories belonging to it, to the *Mortimers*, and from them to *William De Breos*, or *De Bruce*. About the end of the twelfth century it was taken from this powerful Norman baron by *Rhys ab Gruffydd*, soon after his capture of *Radnor castle*. Of this strong fortress there are now no remains, except the moat which surrounded the site; and the town of *Paincastle*, participating in its fate, has dwindled into an insignificant village. The parish, comprising about four thousand acres, is separated from that of *Llanddewi-Vâch* by the small river *Bachwy*, which falls into the *Wye* above *Boughrood*, nearly opposite to the influx of the *Clettwr*, on the *Brecknockshire* side. It contains a fine sheet of water, about a mile in circumference, called *Boughlyn Pool*. The lands are in some parts hilly, in others flat, but no where subject to inundation; and the soil, though gravelly, is by no means unfertile. Fairs for horses, sheep, and horned cattle, are held annually on May 12th, September 22nd, and December 15th, in the township of *Paincastle*, the market at which, however, has been for some time discontinued: the petty sessions for the hundred are occasionally held here. This parish, with that of *Boughrood*, constitutes the prebend of *Llanbedr-Paincastle*, or *Boughrood*, in the collegiate church of *Brecknock*, rated in the king's books at only 13s. 4d., and in the patronage of the Bishop of *St. David's*. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of *Brecknock*, and diocese of *St. David's*, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Prebendary: about fifty acres of glebe land belonging to it are situated in the adjacent parish of *Llandeilo-Graban*. The church, dedicated to *St. Peter*, from which circumstance the name of the place is derived, is an ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, but presenting no remarkable architectural features. There is a place of worship for *Primitive Methodists*. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £258. 9.

**LLANBEDROG (LLAN-BEDROG)**, a parish in the hundred of *GAFLOGION*, *Lleyn* division of the county of *CARNARVON*, *NORTH WALES*, 4 miles (S.W.) from *Pwllheli*, containing 459 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the north-western shore of *Cardigan bay*, near *St. Tudwal's Roads* in *St. George's channel*. It has the advantage of a small but secure bay, affording good anchorage for vessels, and maintains a direct communication with *Carnarvon*, *South Wales*, *Liverpool*, and *Dublin*. The village, which is small, is pleasantly situated in a beautifully picturesque valley, embosomed in mountains, on one of which, partly in the adjoining parish of *Llangian*, was a well called *Fynnon Dduw*, or "God's Well," about three yards square, enclosed with a wall from four to five feet high, the waters of which were formerly much esteemed for their efficacy in rheumatic complaints; and adjoining to it was

another, about one yard square, from which the invalids used to drink the water. Around this well it was customary for the people of the neighbouring country to assemble for the celebration of rustic sports, but it has now for many years been neglected. *Wern-Vawr*, the only seat of any importance in this parish, is a spacious and ancient mansion, the property of *Colonel Wardle*. The living is a rectory, with the perpetual curacies of *Llanvihangel-Bâchelleth* and *Llangian* annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of *Bangor*, rated in the king's books at £25. 11. 5½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of *Bangor*. The church, dedicated to *St. Pedroc*, son of *Clement Prince of Cornwall*, by whom it is supposed to have been founded in the seventh century, is a small but neat edifice, and was thoroughly repaired in 1827, at an expense of £130: in some of the windows are fragments of ancient stained glass. There are places of worship for *Calvinistic* and *Wesleyan Methodists*. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £199.

**LLANBERIS (LLAN-BERIS)**, a parish in the hundred of *ISGORVAI*, county of *CARNARVON*, *NORTH WALES*, 9½ miles (E.S.E.) from *Carnarvon*, on the road to *Capel-Curig*, containing 725 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to *St. Peris*, a British, or, according to some accounts, a Roman saint, who is said to have been a cardinal of *Rome*, and to have resided in this sequestered spot with *Padarn*, an anchorite who had a cell, or small chapel, in a meadow between the site of *Dôlbadarn castle* and that of the present *Dôlbadarn Inn*. *Dr. Pughe*, in his well-known *Cambrian Biography*, states that *St. Peris* was a native of *Wales*, and calls him the son of *Helig ab Glanog*, and also says that he was both a saint and a cardinal, and lived about the sixth century. In this parish is situated *Dôlbadarn castle*, anciently the principal defence of this part of *Wales*. It is supposed to be one of the oldest mural fortresses in the principality, and to have been originally founded by *Padarn Beisrydd*, son of *Idwal*, to defend the passage through the *Snowdonian mountains*. This castle appears also to have been used as a state prison; *Owain Gôch*, brother of *Llewelyn*, the last native prince of *Wales*, who had conspired with his brother *Davydd* to dethrone this prince, having been confined in it for more than twenty-three years. It is supposed to be the fortress anciently called the "castle of *Bere*," which was provided by *Davydd ab Gruffydd*, after the unfortunate death of his brother *Llewelyn*, with a strong garrison for its defence against the English forces, commanded by *Edward I.* in person; and which is described by historians as being situated in *Snowdon*, in a morass, through which a single causeway formed the only access to it, and which could be approached only through narrow and rugged defiles. But so sunk in despair were the Welsh by the death of their late prince, that even this castle was surrendered to the king, after it had been for some time closely invested; the weak defence of its garrison being the last opposition made to the victorious *Edward* in his conquest of *Wales*.

The parish, which is of very great extent, is situated in the heart of a wildly romantic district, comprehending several of the loftiest mountains in the principality, and abounding with mineral treasures, and with scenery of the boldest character. Among the mountains of



this district, and within the parish, are the Elidyr, the Gluders, Moel Eilio, Carnedd Igyn, and, towering above all, the gigantic Snowdon, of which, however, only one-half is within this parish. Moel Eilio is two thousand three hundred and seventy-seven feet in height; Carnedd Igyn, so called from a carnedd of loose stones placed on its summit by a person of that name, rises to a height of two thousand nine hundred and seventy-five feet above the level of the sea; and the highest summit of Snowdon has an elevation of three thousand five hundred and seventy-one feet above the same level. The village, which consists only of three or four houses and a spacious and comfortable inn, called the Dôlbadarn Inn, for the accommodation of the visitors who in the summer season resort to this place, in their excursions to Snowdon, is beautifully situated on the river Seiont, which flows into the lake of Llŷn Peris, a little below the church, and, after traversing both this and the lower lake, falls into the Menai below the ancient Segontium, at the present town of Carnarvon. Through it is brought the new and important line of road from Carnarvon, through the romantic pass and valley of Dyfryn Membyr, to join the great Irish road at Capel-Curig. The narrow Vale of Llanberis, extending five miles in length, and bounded on each side by lofty mountains, whose summits are commonly enveloped in clouds, comprehends a rich variety of picturesque and romantic scenery, and contains within its narrow limits a striking combination of features unrivalled in grandeur and sublimity. Though obscured by the over-shadowing mountains which form its boundaries on either side, it abounds with luxuriant meadows affording rich pasturage, and comprises a small proportion of arable land, adapted to the cultivation of oats, which is the only grain raised in the parish. It is intersected by the new line of road above-mentioned, and its surface is agreeably diversified by the two beautiful lakes of Llŷn Peris and Llŷn Padarn: the former, which is called the upper lake, is one mile in length and about a quarter of a mile broad, and, though by much the smaller of the two, is greatly superior in the beauty of its form and the scenery which immediately surrounds it: the latter, which is called the lower lake, in Welsh Llŷn Isâv, is nearly three miles in length, and about half a mile broad, and is separated from the former by a narrow isthmus two hundred yards in breadth. On the summit of a high rock rising from the isthmus and overlooking Llŷn Peris, are the remains of Dôlbadarn castle, consisting of some portions of walls, and one solitary tower, and forming a prominent and interesting feature in the scenery of the vale. About a quarter of a mile south-east of the Dôlbadarn Inn, and not far from the public road, is the noble cataract called Ceunant Mawr, formed by an impetuous mountain torrent precipitated with violence over two vast masses of rock, and falling into two tremendous chasms beneath. Within this parish, besides Llŷn Peris and Llŷn Padarn, already noticed, are four other lakes, viz., Llŷn y Cwm, Llŷn-Cwm-Dwythwch, Llŷn Dû yr Arddu, and Llŷn-Cwm-Fynnon, which, however, are of much smaller size, and some of them are situated high up the sides of the mountains. In Fynnon Vrêch, a smaller pool, about a mile east of the village, in the hollow of Cwm Glâs, is found, as in Llŷn y Cwm, a great variety of aquatic plants, among which are the *Lobelia Dort-*

*manna*, *Subularia Aquatica*, *Isoetis-Lacustris*, and *Juncus-Triglumis*: the *Hieracium Alpinum*, *Rubus Saxatilis*, *Solidago Cambrica*, and other rare plants, are also to be found in this alpine region, which is a favourite resort of botanists. Llŷn-Cwm-Dwythwch abounds with trout of very superior quality, resembling salmon both in colour and flavour.

Since the opening of the new line of road from Carnarvon to Capel-Curig, Llanberis has become the principal resort of parties visiting Snowdon, to which mountain the ascent is easier from this village than from any other place in the district, and may be accomplished on horseback, almost to the summit. For this purpose, guides are constantly in attendance during the summer season; and ponies may be obtained, which are accustomed to these arduous and precipitous roads, on which they travel with perfect ease and security. In addition to the spacious and comfortable inn of Dôlbadarn, a new and more capacious house of entertainment is now being erected in a more splendid style, for the accommodation of the increased number of visitors whom the new line of road has induced to select this as the principal place from which to make their mountainous excursions, and commence their ascent to Snowdon. The approach to this mountain from the pass of Llanberis is singularly striking: its higher summits become gradually concealed by intervening heights, consisting of lofty and rugged masses of rock, which, like secondary mountains, rise from its base, forming a grand series of natural outworks and majestic barriers, to defend its steep acclivities, and of precipitous ridges of sharp pointed rocks, opposing a succession of formidable ramparts to guard the ascent to its summit. By these the mountain is concealed from the view of persons approaching it, till, on their arrival at Bwlch yr Eisteddva, it bursts at once upon the sight, in all the fulness of overwhelming grandeur. Just above this point is the Gorphwysva, or "resting-place," at the extremity of the pass, which is the highest ascent on the new line of road, and from it is seen the pass of Llanberis beneath, called Bwlch y Gwyddil. On the left is Crib Côch, "the red ridge," or third summit of Snowdon, beyond which appears part of the second summit, called Crib y Distyll: on the same side, but lower down, is a succession of rocks of inferior height, forming the grand western buttress by which the mountain appears to be supported; and below these are seen the two lakes of Llanberis, and the tower of Dôlbadarn castle, occupying the rocky summit of the narrow isthmus by which they are divided. On the right are the precipitous acclivities of Gluder-Vawr, skirted in many places with vast ranges of columnar rocks of basaltic formation, thrown together in the greatest confusion, and some having a slight degree of curvature: one cluster of these basaltic columns is detached from the rest, and occupies an isolated part of the mountain, in which it maintains a perfectly upright position. The lower ground in this pass is thickly strewn with vast fragments of rock, of various forms and sizes, which add materially to the grandeur of the scene: some of them are sixty feet in length, and of proportionate bulk, and the great number of huge masses which lie scattered in all directions, and in the wildest irregularity and disorder, give a high degree of beauty to the view, by their forcible display of light and shade. From this point, no higher ground intervening



between Snowdon and the Menai, the view in that direction is perfectly open, and the Isle of Anglesey becomes conspicuous in the horizon. At a small distance along this path, which winds under some very lofty and awfully impending rocks, the whole of Crib Côch appears in view: its summit, which seems to be almost inaccessible, is covered with the *Festuca Vivipara*, a viviparous alpine grass, which bears clusters of seedlings on very slender stems, and which, waving in the wind, apparently without any support, gives a singular appearance to the rocks, which seem to be in motion.

The highest summit of Snowdon is called *yr Wyddva*, or "the conspicuous," and rises almost to a point, affording space only for a small enclosure of loose stones, where the traveller may take refreshment, while resting from the toil of his arduous ascent, and within which a pole, consisting of four thick planks inserted in a mound of stone, was erected by order of Government, in the year 1827. From this point Snowdon appears to be supported by four distinct and immense piles of rocks, forming vast buttresses, with four tremendous chasms between them, in all of which, except one, are lakes to which various names have been given from the apparent colour of their waters: of these, the most conspicuous from this point is Fynnon Lâs, or "the green well." Beyond is a continued succession of chasms, of which the sides are nearly perpendicular, forming one of the most magnificent amphitheatres in nature. On Gluder-Vawr is a quarry, from which are dug hones of a very superior quality, great quantities being annually sent to London. This mountain is noted for rare plants, among which are the *Saxifraga Nivalis*, the *Bulbocodium* of Ray, or the *Anthericum Serotinum* of later botanists, and the *Lichen Islandicus*. The view from this mountain is truly sublime, comprehending the most extensive and magnificent range of mountain scenery perhaps to be found in the island. On the right of Cwm Idwal, noted for the murder of a young prince of that name, son of Owain Gwynedd, by Dunawt, son of Nevydd Hardd, to whom his father had entrusted him to be brought up according to the custom of the country, is a vast split rock, called Twll-Dû, or "the Devil's Kitchen:" the fissure forms a frightful chasm, about one hundred and fifty yards in length, one hundred in depth, and only six in width; and opening perpendicularly to the mountain, the waters of the lake of Llŷn y Cwm are seen rushing through it with impetuosity. Fossils and minerals of various descriptions are found in abundance in this mountainous tract: among these the most valuable are the beautiful Snowdon crystals, transparent as the diamond; and on Glydr-Vawr are found some of brilliant colours, like the ruby and the amethyst: they are a species of the marcasite, and in the latter mountain there are evident indications of a large deposit of copper-ore. These mountains scarcely produce any grain, but they afford good pasturage in some parts for cattle and sheep during the summer. Goats, of which large flocks were formerly kept upon them for the purposes of the dairy, and for the sake of their long hair, which was manufactured into wigs, are now seldom seen. Foxes are found here in considerable numbers, and in the time of Leland there were large herds of wild red deer. The royal forest of Snowdon, erected by Edward I., on his entire subjugation of the Welsh,

was, in the reign of Elizabeth, under the superintendence of Dudley, Earl of Leicester, who was appointed chief ranger, and who endeavoured to extend its boundaries, which were very indefinitely marked, into the counties of Anglesey and Merioneth, in which he was prevented solely by the firmness and perseverance of Sir Richard Bulkeley: it was finally disafforested about the year 1624, in the latter part of the reign of James I., to the great satisfaction of the neighbouring farmers, whose crops suffered greatly from the deer, and to that of the inhabitants of this part of the principality, who were grievously oppressed by the vexatious laws which were enacted for its government.

Copper-ore abounds in the parish, and two copper-mines are at present worked in it: the principal of these is situated on the southern margin of the upper lake, near its higher extremity, and the other in Clogwyn Côch, or "the red rock," about half-way up Snowdon, at the upper extremity of the hollow called Waŷn Cwm Brwynog, and near the small lake Llŷn Dû yr Arddu. The former of these mines, commonly called Llŷn Peris mine, has been regularly worked for nearly a century, and the original vein of ore may be considered as almost exhausted: attached to it is a stamping-mill for pulverizing the fragments of rock in which the ore is imbedded, preparatory to its being separated by washing: the ore is sent down the lakes in boats, and conveyed by land from their lower extremity to Carnarvon, where it is shipped coastwise. The mine at Clogwyn Côch is comparatively of modern date, having been worked only for a few years. The ore of these mines is a sulphate, and is found in a matrix of quartz, imbedded in hard rocks of whinstone and hornstone schistus. Llanberis has also extensive quarries of slate, of a beautiful light blue colour, which is very much esteemed, and is in great demand for various purposes: these quarries were formerly worked only on a very limited scale, but in 1824 they were very much enlarged, and several new ones opened, and at present they afford employment to more than three hundred men. The quantity of slates quarried in them, and in those of the adjoining parish of Llandeiniolen, exceeds twenty thousand tons annually, upon the average, and are of all the various sizes described in the article on the county of CARNARVON. The produce of the mines is conveyed to the small port of Dinorwic, by means of a rail-road, constructed in 1824, from the mines in this parish to that place, a distance of seven miles, at the expense of the mining companies; and by means of this, and also of the sledge road to the copper mines, the heights of Snowdon, have been rendered more easily accessible than they formerly were. Fairs are held on September 18th and 27th.

The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £4. 18. 9., endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Peris, and situated in a deeply sequestered glen, about a quarter of a mile above Llŷn Peris, is a small, low, cruciform structure, principally in the later style of English architecture, with some portions of a much earlier date, probably of the seventh century, which are parts of the original edifice: the more modern part is supposed to have been erected in the reign of Henry VI.: the whole forms a neat and venerable structure,



in perfect harmony with the retirement of its situation and the picturesque scenery by which it is surrounded: two small chapels open into the chancel, one on each side, in each of which and also in the chancel is a good east window. In Nant Isâv, or the "lower vale," there is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. There are no charitable institutions in the parish: a farm called Tŷ Dû, which was bequeathed by Dean Goodman as part of the endowment of Christ's Hospital, at Ruthin, is situated here; and a slate quarry has recently been opened upon it, which promises a very considerable addition to the funds of that useful establishment. Remains of camps and other defensive works are numerous in the mountainous region of Snowdon, and vestiges of several are seen within the limits of the parish. In Cwm Glâs is a cromlech. Near the church is the well of St. Peris, enclosed with a wall, formerly famed for its miraculous efficacy in the cure of diseases, and which, in Mr. Pennant's time, was still celebrated for the divinations of a sybil, according to the appearance or non-appearance of a fish lurking in some of its holes. Moel y Cynghorion, or "the Hill of Council," on the southern confines of this parish, is supposed to derive its name from a council held upon it by the Welsh chieftains, when about to surrender to the victorious Edward. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £152. 11.

**LLANBEULAN (LLAN-BEULAN)**, a parish partly in the hundred of LLYVON, partly in that of MALLTRAETH, and partly in that of TŴRCELYN, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (W. by S.) from Llangewni, containing 375 inhabitants. The living is a rectory, to which are annexed the perpetual curacies of Ceirchiog, Llanerchymedd, Llanvaelog, Llêchylched, and Tal y Llŷn, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £22. 3. 11½., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Peulan, who lived in the beginning of the sixth century, was originally founded in 630: the present edifice is a small cruciform structure, situated in a little barren valley, near the new line of road to Holyhead, and the south transept bears evidence of very great antiquity: it has some windows in the later English style, of good design, especially the east window of the chancel, which is a very superior composition. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. David Jones, in 1726, bequeathed £10, the interest arising from which he directed to be annually given to two of the oldest inhabitants of the parish, who should be considered as deserving objects of charity. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £197. 13.

**LLANBISTER**, a parish in the hundred of KNIGHTON, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (W.) from Knighton, containing 1508 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the river Ithon, and extends nearly fifteen miles in length, with an average breadth of two miles. The surface is in some parts almost mountainous, and the surrounding scenery is in general of a pleasing character. From the higher grounds are some fine and extensive prospects; and the village, as it is approached from the south-west, assumes, from its situation on a gradual ascent, with timber of luxuriant growth in the back ground, a beautifully picturesque appearance. The lands are partially enclosed and in a good state of

cultivation, and the inhabitants are generally employed in agriculture. The turnpike road from BUILT in Brecknockshire to Newtown, in the county of Montgomery, passes through the parish. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 11. 5½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Kynlog, is a small ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, well pewed and paved, with a tower, which, according to tradition, having been partly destroyed by lightning, about a century ago, is now reduced to one-half of its original elevation. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. A Sunday school, which is supported by subscription, is held occasionally for the gratuitous instruction of poor children; and a small charitable bequest of £2 per annum, secured upon an estate called the Vron, in this parish, is annually distributed, according to the will of the donor, among the poor of this and the adjacent parishes of Llanano, Llanbadarn-Vynydd, Llandewi-Ystradenny, and Abbey Cwm Hîr. Within the parish are several mineral springs: the water of two or three of these is black and strongly impregnated with sulphur, and is considered efficacious in the cure of cutaneous diseases. The others, which are disregarded for medicinal uses, are of a reddish copper colour, and if copper be immersed in them, it will, in the course of an hour or two, become of a whitish colour, while silver, in like manner, will be made yellow. A red and a black spring rise within ten yards of each other, in the same meadow; and near the church is a celebrated spring, called "Pistyll Gynllo." The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £495. 5.

**LLANBLETHIAN (LLAN-BLEIDDIAN)**, a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, adjoining the town of Cowbridge, and containing 670 inhabitants. After the defeat of Iestyn ab Gwrgan, the last native Prince of Glamorgan, this part of his dominions was given by Fitz-Hamon, the Norman victor, to Sir Robert St. Quentin, who erected the castle of Llanblethian, or St. Quentin: the castle and manor subsequently formed part of the dower of the widow of Hugh Spencer, the younger, on her marriage with Guy de Brien. The parish, which is pleasantly situated on limestone substrata, is intersected by the river Thaw, which falls into the Bristol channel at the distance of six miles, where it forms the small port of Aberthaw, celebrated for the superior quality of its lime. The lands, which are in general fertile, are, with a small exception, enclosed and in a state of excellent cultivation. The village is enlivened by several elegant cottages, the residences of highly respectable families; and the dwellings of the poor have an unusual appearance of neatness and comfort. The scenery immediately around it is of varied and pleasing character, and the ancient bridge over the river Thaw, which flows through it, adds greatly to the picturesque effect of the scene. To the north-east of the village, on the summit of a hill round the foot of which the river flows, are the remains of the ancient castle of St. Quentin: they consist principally of mouldering ruins, of which the only entire feature is a gateway mantled with ivy, and sheltered from the violence of the winds by a few trees: the Marquis of Bute now holds the constabulary of this castle, together with the lordship of the borough of



Cowbridge: the estate is the property of John Thomas, Esq., of Caer-Cady House, near Cowbridge. The living is a discharged vicarage, with Cowbridge annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £10. 3. 4., and in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Gloucester. The church, dedicated to St. Bleddian, the Welsh name for Lupus, who accompanied Germanus in his mission to Britain, to suppress the Pelagian heresy, is a conspicuous object in the surrounding scenery, being situated on the brow of an abrupt eminence. There are several places of worship for dissenters. Sir Leoline Jenkins bequeathed £20 for clothing poor aged persons every fourth year: various other benefactions have been invested in the purchase of land, the produce of which, with other small bequests in money, amounting in the aggregate to £4. 3. per annum, is distributed among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £329. 12.

LLANBOIDY (LLAN - BOIDY), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. W. by W.) from St. Clear's. comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, and containing 1820 inhabitants, of which number, 1123 are in the Upper, and 697 in the Lower, division. This parish, situated on the turnpike road leading from Narberth to Newcastle-Emlyn, extends nearly seven miles from north to south, and three in a transverse direction. The surrounding scenery, though not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature, is pleasingly varied; and from the higher grounds are obtained some extensive and interesting views. Among the gentlemen's seats in the neighbourhood, Maes Gwynne, the elegant modern mansion of Walter R. H. Powell, Esq., is the most conspicuous for the style of its architecture. The parish contains iron-ore, which is found in considerable quantity; and the springs in various parts of it are strongly impregnated with that mineral. A fair is held annually in the village on September 18th. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8, endowed with £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. In the hamlet of Ruggin, in this parish, is a chapel dedicated to St. David, called Eglwys-Vair-Lan-Tâf, pleasantly situated on the banks of the Tâf, and on the border of Pembrokeshire. The living is a perpetual curacy, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Frederick Bludworth, Esq., who is impropiator of eleven-fourteenths of the tithes of the hamlet, of which the remainder belongs to the incumbent. There is a place of worship for Independents. A National school, in connexion with the parent society in London, is supported by subscription, for the gratuitous instruction of the poor. Richard Lewis, in 1715, bequeathed £50 for the instruction of four poor boys; and the Rev. Walter Rice Howell, of Maes Gwynne, bequeathed £20 for the erection of almshouses in the parish. At Bronyskawen, in this parish, there are some faint remains of a spacious camp, near the entrance of which, according to Camden, were found, by some boys, two leaden boxes rudely formed, and each perforated with a hole nearly one inch in diameter, containing two hundred silver coins of the Roman Empire, some of which were the most ancient ever

found in the island: of thirty, which were shewn to Mr. Llwyd, the celebrated Welsh antiquary, the latest was one of Domitian in his fifteenth Consulate, A. D. 91. At one extremity of the parish, in the grounds belonging to Dôl-Wilym, is a perfect cromlech, of which the table stone, supported on four perpendicular stones, is about ten yards in circumference and one yard in thickness: it is situated near the summit of a lofty eminence, overlooking one of the most luxuriant vales in the whole course of the river Tâf. Near the village of Llanboidy is a large tumulus, flat on the summit, as if originally surmounted by some building: and on the opposite side of the river, and about a quarter of a mile higher up the stream, are the vestiges of a small encampment, probably intended to defend the passage of the valley. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £594. 18.

LLANBRÛNMAIR (LLAN-BRÛN-MAIR), a parish in the hundred of MACHYNLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 10 miles (E.) from Machynlleth, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, and containing 2040 inhabitants, of which number, 1067 are in the Upper, and 973 in the Lower, division. This parish extends more than eleven miles in length, and seven in breadth, and comprehends a large portion of mountainous land, affording good pasturage during the summer for sheep and young cattle, and considerable tracts of meadow and arable land, which have been brought into a good state of cultivation. The inhabitants obtain their letters from the Wynnstay Arms, a posting-house eleven miles from Machynlleth, on the road to Newtown, and about a mile and a half to the north-east of the village, which is pleasantly situated on an eminence commanding extensive prospects over the surrounding country, of which the scenery is richly and beautifully diversified. About four miles to the south-east of the village, in the township of Pennant, are two fine waterfalls near each other, of which the principal, called Frwd Vawr, is very grand, especially after heavy rains, the water having a perpendicular descent of more than one hundred and thirty feet. In the township of Tŷrmyneich, near Talerddig, is another waterfall, called Nant ysgolion; and at Glŷn Yal, in the same neighbourhood, is a stratum of hard rock, which has been hollowed into the form of an arch by the waters of a brook, and in a late formation of a new road cut through the rock. The road from Machynlleth to Carno, through this parish, is highly picturesque in many parts; and, from the higher grounds, the principal mountains in North Wales, and the beautiful Vales of LlanbrÛnmair, Pennant, and Carno, are seen to great advantage. In the township of Pennant there are lead mines; and flannel is manufactured in the parish, which forms the western extremity of the district in Montgomeryshire in which this trade is carried on. The principal fuel of the inhabitants is peat, which is procured within the limits of the parish. Fairs for horses, cattle, and sheep, are annually held on the Friday before the 10th of March, May 31st, September 16th, and November 25th. The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph: the former, which is a sinecure, is rated in the king's books at £4. 14. 9½.; and the latter, which is discharged, at £4. 8. 1½.; both are in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is an ancient structure: the interior



is ornamented with some beautiful specimens of ancient carving in oak; and in the churchyard are some yew trees of fine growth and of great age. At Talerddig was formerly a chapel of ease, but it has gone wholly to decay, and no remains of it can now be traced. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. Morgan Lloyd, Esq., in 1702, bequeathed in trust to the vicar and overseers of this parish the yearly produce of a tenement in the parish of Trèveglwys, to be distributed according to their discretion, for the benefit of the parish of Llanbryn-mair: these trustees have invariably endowed a parochial school with one-half of the rents, and distributed the remainder among the poor. The Independents have erected various buildings in different parts of this extensive parish, which are appropriated to the use of Sunday schools. On Newydd Mynyddog hill, in the township of Tirymyneich, are two Druidical circles, formed of large upright stones placed at unequal distances from each other: the larger of these circles is twenty-seven, and the other twenty-four yards in diameter; and on some higher ground in the immediate vicinity is a circle of smaller stones, nine yards in diameter, which, from its commanding situation, appears to have been an exploratory station. At Tavalwern Mill, in the township of Tavalwern, is a small tumulus. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £1118. 7.

**LLANCADWALADR (LLAN-CADWALADR)**, a parish in the Cynlleth and Mochnant divisions of the hundred of CHIRK, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 9 miles (W. by N.) from Oswestry, containing 205 inhabitants. This place was formerly a chapelry in the parish of Llanrhaidr yn Mochnant, but was separated from it by act of parliament, and formed into a parish of itself. The village is situated in a small valley surrounded by barren mountains of dreary aspect, and is not distinguished by any peculiar features. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church is dedicated to St. Cadwaladr, from which circumstance the parish derives its name. Mrs. Mary Maurice, about the year 1720, bequeathed £30 for poor housekeepers not receiving parochial relief; and in 1733, Mr. Thomas Humphreys bequeathed £50 to the poor of this parish: of this latter sum £40 has been lost. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £126. 3.

**LLANCARVAN (LLAN-CARVAN)**, a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. E.) from Cowbridge, comprising the Eastern and Western divisions, and containing 734 inhabitants, of which number, 411 are in the Eastern, and 323 in the Western, division. In this parish was established the first choir of saints before the institution of monasteries by St. Germanus, who came to England to suppress the doctrines of Pelagius. Here he placed certain religious men for the instruction of the people in the Christian religion. The first principal was St. Dubrig, or Dubricius, who was afterwards raised to the see of Llandaf, of which he was the first bishop. He was succeeded at Llan-carvan by St. Cadoc, or Cattwg, in honour of whom several churches were subsequently erected throughout the principality. To this saint

Hungy, a British chief, gave lands for the benefit of the institution, which rose on the ruins of the old British choir: it flourished under the ancient Latinized name of *Carbani Vallis*, and the abbot, who was considered to be one of the principal ecclesiastics in the diocese, assisted at a council held at Llandaf, in 560, which passed sentence of excommunication upon Meurig, King of Morgannwg, or Glamorgan. The village is situated in a retired dell, which presents no particular features of interest: the substratum of the parish is limestone, of which considerable quantities are quarried to be burned for manure. Within the parish are several farms, forming an extra-parochial district, called Llanoethin, where were formerly some vestiges of an ancient chapel: this district comprises the farms of Caer-Maen, Llanbithon, and Velin Vâch; and those of Carn Llwyd, Llanbythery, Llancadle, and Treguf, which are each subject to a modus. A fair is held on the Wednesday before Easter. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £8. 13. 9., and in the patronage of the Crown. The Dean and Chapter of Gloucester are impropiators of the great tithes. The church, dedicated to St. Cattwg, an ancient and spacious structure, now in a dilapidated condition, is said to have been built in the twelfth century by Walter de Mapes, chaplain to Henry I.: the altar-piece, which is elaborately embellished, and a portion of the ancient stone screen still remaining, convey some idea of its former grandeur. At present it consists of two aisles: in the north chancel is a remarkably fine window, measuring eleven feet by twelve, the mullions and tracery of which were destroyed during the civil commotions of the seventeenth century, by a fanatic named Bush. There are places of worship for Baptists and Wesleyan Methodists. Mrs. Mary Loughor, in 1745, bequeathed £50, the interest of which sum is annually divided among the poor at Christmas. In the parish are some remains of an ancient intrenchment, called the Castle Ditches; also a mineral spring, called Llan-carvan Well, the water of which is said to be efficacious in the cure of scorbutic and cutaneous diseases. Caradoc of Llan-carvan, the historian of Wales from the abdication of Cadwaladr to his own times, and cotemporary with Geoffrey of Monmouth, was a native of this parish: he wrote his work in Latin, and it was afterwards translated into English by Humphrey Llwyd, who accounts for the different periods to which the history is continued in different copies (in some of which it is brought down to within two years of the death of the last Llewelyn), by attributing to the monks of the abbey, in which they were deposited, an annual addition to the original, by way of continuation. The English version, with a continuation to the reign of Elizabeth, was published in 1585, by Dr. David Powel, and is considered as the standard history of Cambria. Walter de Mapes, son of Blondel de Mapes, who accompanied Fitz-Hamon into Glamorganshire, and obtained for his services the lands of Gweinydd ab Seisylt, lord of Llan-carvan, a writer of some celebrity in the twelfth century, was born in this parish: he built the church and a mansion for himself, and also the village of Walterston, a hamlet in this parish: he married the only daughter of Gweinydd, and, with unusual liberality, restored to their original native proprietors part of the estates which he inherited



from his father. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £389.

**LLANCYNVELYN (LLAN-GYNVELYN)**, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of **GENEU'R-GLYN**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 9 miles (N.E. by N.) from Aberystwith, on the road to Machynlleth, containing 826 inhabitants. This parish, which abounds in mineral wealth, is situated on the river Dyvi, which is here navigable, and affords a facility for the exportation of lead-ore and bark, which are shipped from this place in great quantities, while timber, coal, and limestone, are imported for the supply of the neighbouring district. Mines of lead and copper are at present in operation, but to a very inconsiderable extent. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, and in the patronage of the Chichester family, of the county of Devon. The church, dedicated to St. Cynvelyn, a very ancient structure, and in a very dilapidated condition, was originally erected in the sixth century, and is about to be rebuilt by voluntary subscription. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Mr. Thomas Owen, in 1731, bequeathed £10, the interest of which is distributed annually among the poor, according to the will of the testator. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £112. 15.



Seal and Arms.

**LLANDAF**, an ancient and decayed city, and a parish, in the hundred of **KIBBOR**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 2 miles (N.W.) from Cardiff, and 161 (W.) from London, containing 1299 inhabitants. The name of this place is a contraction of the Welsh words **Llan ar Dâf**, signifying "the church on the Tâf," a branch of

which river flows under the walls of the churchyard. It is uncertain at what period it first became the site of human habitations, or the seat of a religious congregation. Some writers assert, but on doubtful authority, that a church has existed here since the year 186. According to an ancient Welsh manuscript, the first church at this place was built by **Tewdric ab Teithvalch**, commonly called **St. Tewdric the Martyr**, grandfather of the renowned **King Arthur**, about the year 450. The first bishop of Llandaf mentioned in authentic history is **Dubricius**, a native of the country included in the modern **Pembrokeshire**, and called by the Welsh **Dyfrig Beneurog**, "Dubricius the Golden-headed." To this holy office he was consecrated, in the beginning of the sixth century, by **Germanus**, Bishop of **Auxerre**, and **Lupus**, Bishop of **Troyes**, who had been sent into Britain to uproot the **Pelagian** heresy, in which labour they were greatly assisted by **Dubricius**. The first endowment of the see was made during the episcopacy of this prelate, to whom certain lands were given by **Meuric**, son of **Tewdric**, and his successor in the sovereignty of **Gwent**, in a general council of his nation, and with the consent of the nobility, clergy, and laity. **Dubricius**, after presiding for a short time at Llandaf, was advanced to the metropolitan see of **Caerlleon**,

afterwards removed to **St. David's**, and was succeeded in the episcopate by the famous **St. Teilo**, or **Teilaw**, descended from the **Cuneddian** line of princes. With the aid of **Dubricius**, **St. Teilo** established a college at Llandaf, called after his name **Bangor Teilo**: he was slain by a nobleman in his own cathedral of Llandaf, which church was afterwards frequently called after his name **Llan Deilaw**. It is stated in **Cressy's Church History** that many miracles were wrought by this saint, both in his lifetime and after his death; but the author recites only one, which he gives on the authority of **Bishop Godwin**, to the effect that, after his death, the inhabitants of three several places earnestly contended for the honour of his interment; those of **Pennalun**, where his ancestors had been buried; those of **Llandilo-Vawr**, where, according to one account, he died; and those of Llandaf, among whom he had been bishop: when at length no agreement could be effected among them, there presently appeared three bodies of **St. Teilo**, exactly resembling each other, one of which was taken by the people of each of the above-named places, and thus the dispute ended; but **Bishop Godwin** adds, for the honour of his own church, that, by frequent miracles performed at his tomb, it appeared that the inhabitants of Llandaf possessed the true body. **Dubricius**, the first bishop, lived to a very advanced age, and dying in 522, at **Ynys Enlli**, or **Bardsey Island**, in **North Wales**, his remains were thence removed to Llandaf, and interred before the high altar of the cathedral church, where a monument was erected to his memory. During the prelacy of **Oudoceus**, the successor of **St. Teilo**, **Meurig ab Tewdric**, King of **Gwent**, in a synod held at Llandaf, was excommunicated for the perfidious murder of **Cunedda**: his dominions were also laid under interdict for two years, after the expiration of which he was allowed to make his peace with the church by the customary mode of increasing its endowments. During the presidency of these three bishops the endowments had gradually accumulated, so as to render this see one of the richest in Christendom. **Bishop Aidan**, the second successor of **Oudoceus**, was killed in 720 by the Saxons, who at this period made great ravages in **South Wales**. **Marchluith**, or **Marchlwys**, the twenty-fourth bishop of this diocese, over which he presided in the reign of **Hywel Dda**, was chosen, amongst others, by this monarch, to compile the code of laws for the enactment of which this reign is so distinguished in the Welsh annals.

According to **Caradoc of Llancarvan**, from the death of **Pater** or **Paternus**, **Marchluith's** immediate successor, in 961, to the consecration of **Gucan**, **Gogwan**, or **Gwrgan**, the twenty-sixth bishop, in 982, **Roderic**, son of **Morgan Hên**, King of **Glamorgan**, was bishop of this diocese; but having been raised to the see contrary to the wishes of the pope, the latter, in his anger, issued a bull forbidding all marriages in the diocese without his special license: this injunction, however, it was impossible for the priests to obey, the people compelling them to perform the marriage ceremony without the pontiff's sanction. In 987, the cathedral church was burned by a large party of marauding Danes, who made extensive ravages in the adjacent country and along the neighbouring coasts. **Bledri**, the successor of **Gwrgan**, who was consecrated in 993, and died in 1022, was celebrated as the most eminent scholar of his time, on



which account he obtained the name of "Bledri the Wise:" he instituted parochial schools in every church of his diocese, in which the priests were directed to instruct the people. Every encouragement was likewise given to these schools by his successor Joseph, who enjoined the clergy to teach the people gratuitously to read the sacred scriptures, and made some strict regulations for the better observance of the Sunday and the church holidays. During the episcopacy of this prelate, who died in 1046, Rhydderch ab Iestyn, Prince of Glamorgan, granted many privileges to the church of Llandaf, and confirmed to it all its former possessions. After the decease of Joseph's successor Herewald, the see remained vacant for about four years, until the consecration to it, in August 1108, of Urban, Archdeacon of Llandaf, who found the cathedral church in great dilapidation, it having frequently been despoiled by the Saxons and other invaders who had infested the coast, and by the Normans, whose subjugation of the native population of Glamorgan had now become permanent; the revenue of the diocese had likewise been greatly diminished, from the unsettled state of the country, and the negligence of those to whose care they had been entrusted. On representing these circumstances to Pope Calixtus II., at the council of Rheims, in 1119, Urban procured from that pontiff letters to the king of England, the archbishop of Canterbury, and the clergy and principal persons in the diocese of Llandaf, exhorting them to afford him their assistance in making the necessary repairs. Having for this purpose raised a large sum of money, he pulled down the old cathedral, dedicated to St Peter, a small edifice only twenty-eight feet in length, fifteen in width, and twenty in height, and, in April 1120, began the erection of the magnificent edifice, a great part of which, though in ruins, is still standing, and which he dedicated to St. Peter, and the first three bishops of the diocese, namely St. Dubricius, St. Teilo, and St. Oudoceus: the name of St. Teilo, however, is alone applied to it by the Welsh historians, in whose writings is found occasional mention of Eglwys Teilo "the church of St. Teilo;" Plwyv Teilo, "the parish or community of St. Teilo," &c. After the completion of this edifice, which was three hundred feet in length, eighty in breadth, and thirty in height, built of hewn stone, and ornamented with two lofty towers at the western front, and a splendid chapel, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, at the eastern end, Urban erected houses for the residence of himself, the canons, and other members of the establishment. He next undertook the task of recovering some of the possessions of his see, which had been usurped by the bishops of St. David's and Hereford, and attached to their respective prelacies; and this compelled him to undertake a journey to Rome, in the prosecution of which he died, in 1133.

He was succeeded, after an interval of six years, by Uchtryd, whose nephew Galfrid, or Geoffrey, who had presided over a college at Llandaf, and acted as domestic chaplain to William Earl of Gloucester and Lord of Glamorgan, was next consecrated to this see. Llandaf was visited, in 1188, by Archbishop Baldwin and Giraldus Cambrensis, when preaching the crusades in Wales, at which time William de Salso Marisco, or Saltmarsh, was bishop. After the death of this prelate, in 1191, Giraldus Cambrensis was himself elected to this see; but refused the proffered dignity, which was ac-

cepted by Henry, prior of Abergavenny, who gave certain portions of the property of the cathedral for the support of fourteen prebendaries, constituting the chapter, who had previously shared with the bishop in the revenue of the see, and appropriated to himself and his successors the remainder, forming the possessions which the prelates still enjoy. The ancient unity of possession of the bishop with the chapter, of which he thus constituted a member, caused the abolition, at a very early period, of the office of dean in this cathedral, a dignity which this circumstance rendered useless, the bishops themselves acting in that capacity, and in their absence appointing a representative in the person of the archdeacon: the names of only two deans are found upon record; the first, a priest named Joseph, who succeeded to the episcopate in 1022; and the other, an ecclesiastic named Elni, or Esni, who held this office in 1120. The seventh successor of Bishop Henry, William de Breos, prebendary of Llandaf, who died in March 1287, was buried in the cathedral church, at its north-eastern extremity: within the walls of this edifice were also interred William's second successor, John de Monmouth; his sixth successor, John Pascall; and his eighth successor, Edmund Brumfield. The cathedral, together with many other ecclesiastical structures in the principality, sustained great injury from the forces of the insurgent leader Owain Glyndwr, who is also said to have destroyed the neighbouring castellated mansion of the bishop. John Marshall, who was consecrated to this see in 1478, greatly beautified the cathedral church, in which, on his death in 1496, he was buried, on the northern side of the choir. Anthony Kitchen, who held the bishoprick during the successive reigns of Henry VIII. and his three children, greatly impoverished its revenue by lavish grants. William Morgan, his fourth successor, who was consecrated in 1595, and translated to St. Asaph in 1601, is eminent as the learned translator of the Old Testament into the Welsh language. His immediate successor was Francis Godwin, subdean of Exeter, and son of Thomas Godwin, Bishop of Bath and Wells: this learned prelate was author of a valuable catalogue of the bishops of England, and was afterwards translated to the see of Hereford. After the death of Morgan Owen, then bishop, in 1644-5, this see remained vacant for about sixteen years, until the Restoration: during this interval, lands belonging to it of the value of no less than £3830. 18. 1. were alienated by the parliament. Richard Watson, Regius professor of divinity in the University of Cambridge, who was promoted to the see in 1782, was equally distinguished by the extent and profundity of his erudition, and the Christian liberality of his spirit: he is more particularly known as the author of "Two Apologies for Christianity," and a variety of excellent sermons and religious tracts. Attached to this diocese were anciently the two archdeaconries of Monmouth and Glamorgan; but the former soon merged into the latter, and the two, thus united, have since been called the archdeaconry of Llandaf.

The city, now reduced to a mere village, occupies a pleasing and retired situation on the western bank of the river Tâf, on the road from Cardiff to Llantrissant: it stands on elevated ground, gently sloping on all sides, except towards the river, where the descent is more precipitous; and in this bottom stands the cathedral, partially embosomed among trees, with the river mur-



muring beneath its walls. It consists of little more than two short streets of cottages, not lighted or paved, terminating in a square, into which the great gateway of the old palace formerly opened, and where there are still several genteel houses : the bishop has no residence in the diocese. The Glamorganshire canal passes through the parish, and on its banks, at the hamlet of Gabalva, there is a wharf. There is no market ; but two fairs are held annually, one on the 9th of February, called St. Teilo's fair, and the other on Whit-Monday, a very large fair for cattle ; and at Ely Bridge, a populous village in this parish, additional fairs are held on July 22nd and December 11th. During the recent debates in the House of Commons, on the subject of amending the representation of the people, the first bill of reform proposed to make Llandaf contributory to Cardiff ; but that arrangement was subsequently altered, and it now forms no part of the act. The petty sessions for the hundred are held here. The parish is composed of five hamlets which are united for all purposes, namely, Llandaf, containing about five hundred and sixty-one acres ; Canton, five hundred and fourteen ; Ely, four hundred and seventy-four ; Fairwater, three hundred and twenty-seven ; and Gabalva, five hundred and ten ; making in all two thousand three hundred and eighty-six acres.

The diocese of Llandaf appears originally to have included the whole of the ancient principality of Siluria, or Gwent ; and at present its jurisdiction extends over the entire counties of Glamorgan and Monmouth, with the exception of the westernmost part of the former, comprising twenty-one parishes, which forms the deanery of Gower, in



Arms of the Bishoprick.

the diocese of St. David's, and seven parishes in the latter, three of which are also in the diocese of St. David's, and the rest in that of Hereford, the total number of churches and chapels within its limits being about two hundred and forty. The chapter of the cathedral church consists of fourteen members, viz., the bishop, who has a stall and authority as dean, the archdeacon, and twelve prebendaries : the stall of the bishop, as chief of the fourteen members, is situated on the right hand side of the entrance into the choir : the archdeacon exercises the same authority as subdean in other cathedrals, and as such has a stall on the left hand side of the entrance, opposite to the bishop's. To one of the prebends, called from this circumstance *Prebenda Thesaurarii*, is attached the office of Treasurer ; to another, called *Prebenda Precentoris*, belongs that of Precentor ; and to a third, called *Prebenda Cancellarii*, that of Chancellor : the prebend to which the treasurer'ship is attached was annexed to the bishoprick, in lieu of mortuaries, pursuant to an act passed in the 12th of Queen Anne's reign. The archdeacon has no visitatorial powers, the whole diocese being subject to an annual visitation of the chancellor ; neither does he exercise any other archidiaconal jurisdiction, the only court empowered to grant probates of wills and letters of administration being the consistorial court of the bishop. Besides the above-named dignitaries, there are

also two priest-vicars, a registrar, and inferior officers. The priest-vicars alternately officiate in the cathedral, as the parochial church, and at Whitchurch, an adjoining parish united to that of Llandaf. The great tithes of both these parishes are the property of the chapter, and the senior and the junior vicars each receive an annual stipend in lieu of the small tithes.

The cathedral, which also serves as the parish church, and is dedicated, as above-mentioned, to St. Peter and the three first bishops of the diocese, presents a remarkably incongruous appearance ; the ancient structure, erected early in the twelfth century, and subsequently repaired and enlarged in the early and later English styles, having fallen into decay, was again repaired and altered in the Grecian style of architecture, forming nearly a new edifice within the old walls, which constitute a considerable portion of it, about the year 1751. The façade of the modern church intersects the nave of the ancient edifice, the ruined western portion of which consequently forms a kind of vestibule to the former, and is justly admired as presenting a magnificent specimen of the early English style : on one side is a highly enriched Norman entrance, and on the other a plainer doorway of similar architecture. The west front is ornamented with a series of lancet windows of different sizes, delicately executed and tastefully arranged, and on the northern side has a noble tower in the later style of English architecture, built by Jasper Duke of Bedford, in 1485, which is in good preservation, except that it is no longer surmounted by the pinnacles by which it was originally adorned, and which were damaged, in 1703, by a violent storm that threw down a corresponding tower on the southern side of this front. Two sides of the remaining tower rest on the walls of the church ; while the other two are raised on light arches which spring from a single pillar within. Immediately over the grand entrance is the figure of a bishop, with a pastoral staff in one hand, and the other slightly raised. Above a series of trefoiled arches over the lancet-shaped windows is another figure, in a sitting posture, holding a book in one hand : the whole is surmounted by a cross. Between the western portal of this front and the façade of the present cathedral are the ruins of the greater part of the nave and aisles of the ancient structure, three elegant Gothic arches which separated the former from the latter still standing on each side : the columns are tapered and clustered, and their capitals varied and very neatly sculptured, the ribs of the arches terminating in prettily carved heads. The present cathedral comprises part of the nave, together with the choir, and the greater part of the north and south aisles of the ancient edifice : the expense of these modernizations and alterations amounted to no less than £7000 : even the altar was enclosed by a Grecian portico, which, however, was removed, in 1831, by order of the present chapter. At the eastern end is the ancient and handsome chapel of St. Mary, in which divine service is occasionally performed in the Welsh language ; a circumstance which has caused it to be commonly called the Welsh chapel : two services in English are regularly performed, with no variation from the ceremony observed in ordinary parish churches : the entire length of this chapel inside is fifty-seven feet and a half ; its breadth, twenty-four and a half ; and its height, about thirty-six : opposite



to it, behind the choir, is a Norman arch of the ancient edifice. Adjoining to the southern side of the cathedral is the chapter-house, a square building, enclosing an apartment of the same form, the roof of which is supported by arches springing in different directions from a pillar in the centre: this apartment measures about thirty-six feet along each side; but the business of the chapter is now transacted in a small building at the north-west corner of the churchyard. Besides many of the bishops who have successively filled this see, several persons of distinction, formerly resident in the neighbourhood, have been interred in the cathedral; but of the monumental memorials few, owing to the extent of the repairs and alterations which this edifice has undergone, now remain; and these have for the most part been removed from their original positions and greatly dilapidated. At the eastern end of the south aisle is one bearing the sculptured effigy in marble of a lady, supposed to be the wife of John Lord Audley, who is represented in a long robe reaching to her feet; and behind are the figures of two monks holding an escutcheon. In the same aisle is also a monument consisting of the figure of a skeleton, of large proportions, in a shroud, placed under a Gothic niche; another, the recumbent figure of a knight in armour; a third, a rich painted and gilded tomb, supporting a male and a female figure in alabaster, the former clothed in armour, and the latter in long loose robes, with ruffles, and a rich and singular head-dress; a fourth, the effigies of two bishops rudely sculptured; and a fifth, also constituting the tomb of a prelate. In the north aisle is the effigy of a female wrapped in a loose robe, and displaying in her form and countenance striking marks of sickness and decay. At the upper end of this aisle was the chapel of the Matthew family, monuments in alabaster to the memory of two of the members of which are still preserved here; and in the chapter-house are the disunited remains of an elegant and costly tomb of alabaster, representing a knight and his lady richly habited. Among numerous other sepulchral memorials of less note are two attributed respectively to St. Dubricius and St. Teilo. In the cathedral is preserved a small library, consisting chiefly of the works of some of the ancient fathers, founded, soon after the Restoration, by Bishop Davies, in place of one which had been destroyed in the recent civil commotions.

Within the parish is a place of worship for Baptists, situated at the village of Ely. An excellent National school, in which upwards of one hundred and twenty children are instructed, is supported chiefly by the annual subscriptions of the Bishop and Chapter, aided by contributions from the neighbouring gentry, and annual donations from the bishops of Durham and Winchester, who formerly presided over this see. Iltyd Nicholl, Gent., by will dated March 21st, 1716, bequeathed two cottages in Llandaf, and an acre and a half of freehold land within the parish, in trust to the vicars, churchwardens, and overseers, directing the income to be divided between two poor widows resident therein. The episcopal palace, having been destroyed by Owain Glyndwr, was never restored, and from that period the bishops have had no residence here: there yet remain some ruins of their castellated mansion, situated a little to the south-east of the cathedral, and consisting of the principal entrance gateway and the outer walls:

these are now the property of the heirs of the late Sir Samuel Romilly, who possessed a considerable estate in this neighbourhood. Mention is made of a college here, which is stated to have been founded by St. Teilo, and called after him Bangor Teilo, over which Galfrid, thirty-second bishop of this diocese, presided prior to his consecration, but nothing further is known of its history. Leland also saw some remains of "a Pile or Maner Place decayed at Eglins Newith, in the Paroch of Landaf." The principal modern mansions in the parish are, Llandaf Court, the property and residence of Walter Coffin, Esq., formerly belonging to the family of Matthew; Llandaf House, the residence of A. Homfray, Esq.; and Gabalva, formerly part of the extensive possessions of the Herberts of the White Friars, Cardiff, but now of John Moggridge, Esq. Near Llandaf bridge are found various kinds of marble, beautifully variegated with yellow and light liver colours, or with four colours, resembling the brocatello of lapidaries. Llandaf confers the titles of baron, viscount, and earl, in the peerage of Ireland, on the family of Matthew. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £532. 9.

LLANDANWG (LLAN-DANWG), a parish in the hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, including the small corporate and market town of Harlech, and containing 658 inhabitants. It is situated on the river Arthro, within a short distance of its influx into St. George's channel, and is about five miles in length and four in breadth. Its surface is wild and cheerless, consisting chiefly of rugged rocks and sterile hills; and the surrounding scenery is dreary and uninviting. An act of parliament for enclosing the waste lands was obtained in 1806, under the provisions of which two thousand six hundred and thirty acres were enclosed, of which a considerable portion has been brought under cultivation. The living is a rectory, with Llanbedr annexed, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £7. 13. 1½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Tanwg, is a small edifice, in the early style of English architecture, very inconveniently situated on a small isthmus at the mouth of the river Arthro, and so close to the sea that in stormy weather the waves inundate the churchyard. A parochial school, founded and endowed with £10 per annum by the Rev. John Ellis, is kept at Harlech for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, there being no village bearing the same name as the parish. The interest and produce of several small charitable donations and bequests of money and land is annually distributed among the poor. On the mountains in this parish are numerous foundations and remains of the rude dwellings of wood-rangers, erected for the purpose of accommodating the hunters, and called by the Welsh *Gyttiawr Gwyddelod*. From the coast, a few miles to the south of Harlech, a narrow ridge of sand and gravel, called Sarn Badrig, "Patrick's Causeway," or Sarn Bad-rhwyg, "the Ship-breaking Causeway," extends a distance of twenty-two miles seaward, in a curvilinear direction. The whole of this shoal is dry at low water of spring tides, and is always marked in storms by terrific breakers. According to a tradition of unknown antiquity, this bank anciently defended from the encroachments of the sea an in-



habited district called *Cantrer Gwaelod*, or "the Low-land Hundred," which was at last overwhelmed, about the year 500, through the negligence of a drunkard in omitting to close a sluice. According to another tradition of more modern origin, Sarn Badrig was miraculously formed to facilitate the passage of St. Patrick between Great Britain and Ireland. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £132. 10.

LLANDAROG (LLAN-DDAROG), a parish in the hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (E. by S.) from Carmarthen, containing 1037 inhabitants. The village occupies a bleak and unsheltered situation on the turnpike road from Carmarthen to Neath, and commands an extensive prospect, embracing on the north a view of Middleton Hall and Nelson's Tower. About half a mile distant, on the road to Llangendeirn, is Lletherllestry, the residence of I. L. Puxley, Esq. The parish abounds with coal, of which mines are worked upon an extensive scale, and above the strata of coal passes a continuous ridge of limestone, which is burnt in considerable quantities into manure for the supply of the neighbourhood. Fairs are held here on the Monday after May 20th and on September 27th. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £400 royal bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Twrog, is a small edifice, internally well arranged, and appropriately fitted up for the accommodation of the parishioners. Llandarog constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, rated in the king's books at £10, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. There were formerly two chapels of ease in this parish, of which there are still some slight remains: of these, one called St. Bernard's has been in ruins for nearly two centuries. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £282. 17.

LLANDAWKE (LLAN-DAWK), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (W. by N.) from Laugharne, containing 19 inhabitants. This parish consists only of two farms. The living is a rectory, with that of Pendine annexed, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 10., and in the patronage of William Powell, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret Marlos, is not distinguished by any architectural features of importance. There is no recent return of the expenditure for the support of the poor; but in 1818 a return was made, stating that there were no rates levied, the whole parish being then in the occupation of one individual, who bore all the expense.

LLANDDANIEL-VAB (LLAN-DDEINIOL-VAB), a parish in the hundred of MENAI, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (W. by S.) from Bangor, containing 372 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the great Holyhead road, comprises a large tract of land, which is generally enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. It is a place of considerable antiquity, as appears from the date of the erection of its parish

church, which was founded in the early part of the seventh century, by a son of the first bishop of Bangor. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Llanidan, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Daniel Vab, is a very ancient and dilapidated structure, originally erected in the year 616, and exhibiting some good specimens of the architecture of a very remote period. One-third of the great tithes is appropriated to the vicar of Llanidan. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The interest of various charitable benefactions in money, amounting in the aggregate to more than £130, is annually distributed among the poor of the parish. Near Bodlew, in this parish, is a deeply excavated and irregularly elliptical area, forty-three yards in length, and twenty-seven in width across the centre, with an entrance at the smaller end. Near the centre of this enclosure are the remains of an ancient small building, called Capel Cadwaladr, supposed to have been erected by the last king of all Britain of that name, as an occasional place of worship; but for what other purpose the area may have been excavated cannot now be ascertained, as there is no record of its history extant, nor description of any similar place in the kingdom. It is by some writers called Hên Fonwent, and is supposed to have been the oldest, if not the first, place of Christian worship established in the island. The progress of cultivation has nearly obliterated many of the vestiges of antiquity which existed in this parish: there are, notwithstanding, some traces of large *arneddau* at Bryn Keli, where two upright stones are still remaining, with some few others scattered around them; and in several of the adjacent fields are some upright stones of large dimensions, apparently the remains of cromlechs. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £205. 12.

LLANDDEINIOL (LLAN-DDEINIOL), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of LLAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (S. by W.) from Aberystwith, containing 254 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Daniel, is situated on the shore of Cardigan bay, and on the turnpike road from Aberystwith to Cardigan. From a small brook near it, which runs into the river Gwyre, it was anciently called *Carog*, under which appellation it formerly constituted a prebend in the collegiate church of Llandewy-Brevi, rated in the king's books at £4. The surrounding scenery is not characterized by any peculiarity of features, though from the higher grounds an extensive view is obtained over the bay of Cardigan and the country adjacent. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the family of Price of Knighton. The church, which is pleasantly situated on the brow of a hill, is a small ancient edifice, consisting only of a nave, divided by a double screen into two parts, the eastern of which forms a chancel: the font, which is octangular, is supported on a circular shaft, and placed in the north-western angle of the nave. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £54.2.

LLANDDERVEL (LLAN-DDERVEL), a parish chiefly in the hundred of PENLLŷN, though partly in

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that of EDEYRNION, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (E. N. E.) from Bala, containing 956 inhabitants. It contains nearly five thousand seven hundred acres of enclosed land, and two thousand three hundred acres of common mountain land, the greater part of the whole being hilly and steep. The village is pleasantly situated on the south road from Bala to Corwen, near the river Dee, the banks of which, throughout the whole extent of the parish, are beautifully picturesque and romantic: the parish is likewise traversed by the northern road between the above-mentioned towns, and is adorned by several gentlemen's seats. Nearly opposite to the church is the bridge, a neat structure of four arches, within a short distance of which the vale, abounding with richly varied scenery, begins to contract, and at Calettwr, where there is a beautiful waterfall, terminates in a finely wooded eminence, above which the vast chain of the Arenig mountains bounds the view. The prospect from the higher grounds is extensive and magnificent, comprehending the ranges of the Arenig and Berwyn mountains, Cader Idris, the Arans, and several other lofty hills; the vale of Penllŷn, Bala lake, and other interesting objects. The pass from the bridge of Llanddervel across the Berwyn mountains into Montgomeryshire is also characterized by features of striking and romantic beauty. The township of Llaeth-cwm, in this parish, is locally situated in that of Llanvawr: the prevailing soil of the whole is of a gravelly and loamy texture. The manufacture of flannel, and the knitting of stockings, afford employment to a portion of the inhabitants. Fairs are annually held here on the 17th of August and 16th of October, principally for cattle and horses. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £13. 12. 11., and in the patronage of the Bishop: the great tithes of the township of Nant Freuer, in this parish, are appropriated to the rectory and vicarage of Llanvawr, the small tithes only belonging to the rector of Llanddervel. The church, situated on a small eminence on the northern side of the Dee, and dedicated to St. Dervel Gadarn, or Dervel the Strong, who lived at the close of the sixth century, and was one of the abbots of the monastery of Bardsey Island, is an ancient structure, consisting of a nave and chancel, separated by the remains of a finely carved screen, formerly surmounted by a rood-loft, which has been removed to ornament the front of the gallery at the west end. Over the screen was anciently a figure of St. Dervel, carved in wood, which was removed to London in 1538, and used as part of the fuel which consumed Friar Forest, who was burned in Smithfield for denying the king's supremacy; and thus was fulfilled a vulgar prophecy that this wooden image should "set a whole forest on fire:" the carved figure of a red stag is still preserved as a relic of the image of the saint, with which it was in some manner conjoined. In the east window of the chancel, which is very large and of fine proportions, are some remains of ancient stained glass: in the churchyard are two yew trees of remarkably fine growth. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists, to which are attached Sunday schools. A National school, in which one hundred children are gratuitously instructed, was erected in 1829, and is supported by subscription. Mr. John Williams, in 1746, bequeathed £60 for the benefit of

the poor. In the township of Dôldrewin are several Druidical circles on the higher grounds; and in the vale is a farm-house, on the bank of the Dee, called Dôlygadva, or "the meadow of the encampment." Near the mountain of Mynyllod are numerous British monuments, called Pen y Garth, comprising various stone cells: within the parish, on a hill called Cevn Caereuni, is also a strong military intrenchment, named Y Gaer, or "the Fortress;" and in the grounds of Palê are the remains of a Druidical altar and a kistvaen. In making the road through the grounds of Vronheullog, in 1814, a celt and part of another instrument of war were found. On the hill called Cevn Caereuni is a lake named Llyn Caereuni, which is nearly half a mile long, somewhat more than a quarter of a mile broad, and contains an abundance of pike and eels. Edward Jones, an eminent bard, a skilful player on the harp, and author of several poetic compositions in Welsh, was a native of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £407. 12.

LLANDETTY, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES.—See LLANTHETTY.

LLANDEDEWI, or LLANDEWY, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 14 miles (W. by S.) from Swansea, containing 150 inhabitants. A castle is said to have been anciently erected here, the reputed site of which is now occupied by a farm-house, in which some of the walls of the ancient building are reported to be incorporated: there are, however, no records either of the origin or history of the fortress. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 3. 4., endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's, who is also impropiator of the tithes. The church, dedicated to St. David, is a small edifice. The parishioners of Knelston perform their various religious duties and ceremonies at this church, their own being in a state of dilapidation; and the vicar receives a small additional stipend from the chapter of St. David's, as a compensation for the additional duty. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £29. 18.

LLANDEDEWI-ABERGWESSIN (LLAN-DDEWI-ABER-GWESYN), a parish in the hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 13½ miles (N. N. E.) from Llandovery, containing 146 inhabitants. This parish, which comprises one of the wildest and least cultivated tracts in the county, derives its name from the dedication of its church, and from the little river Gwessin, near the confluence of which with the Irvon the village is situated. Lead-ore has been found within its limits, but is not now worked. The roads are utterly impassable for carriages, and unsafe even for common carts. The living is annexed to the vicarage of Llangammarch, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's. The church is dedicated to St. David: there is neither parsonage-house nor glebe land attached to the living. There is a place of worship for Independents. Llwynderw, or "the oak grove," the seat of the family of Jones, which is a handsome edifice, is the only gentleman's residence in the parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £87. 14.



**LLANDDEWI 'R CWM (LLAN-DDEWI Y CWM)**, a parish in the hundred of **BUILTH**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.) from **Builth**, containing 230 inhabitants. This parish, the name of which signifies "the church of St. David in the Vale," is pleasantly situated on the river **Dihonw**, near its junction with the **Wye**, and comprehends much rich and beautiful scenery, more especially on the banks of the river **Dihonw**, which washes the bases of several steep and lofty rocks, partially clothed with wood. In the lower parts of it are some beautiful knolls, covered with noble trees, which form very picturesque objects on the road to **Builth**; and within its boundaries are other luxuriant groves, in which the axe has already made and is still making great havoc. The village occupies a beautiful eminence, at the foot of which flows the river, which is here but narrow: on its banks near the church is some beautifully romantic scenery, as also in a deep glen through which flows the small brook called **Bwlch**. The lands are chiefly arable; the soil is generally clayey; and the substratum consists of clay slate. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to that of **Builth**, in the archdeaconry of **Brecknock**, and diocese of **St. David's**, endowed with £800 royal bounty. The church, dedicated to **St. David**, is situated on the eastern side of the old high road from **Builth** to **Brecknock**, but possesses no features of architectural interest. There is neither parsonage-house nor glebe land attached to the living. **Mrs. Sybil Vaughan**, of **Aberdihonw**, in 1681, bequeathed the rent of a tenement in this parish, called **Tir yr Wyll**, now producing £5 per annum, to be distributed annually on **All Saints' day** among the poor of the parish, which is now given only to such as do not receive parochial aid: the same benefactress also left ten shillings per annum for a sermon; and there is a rent-charge of twenty shillings, left by **Mrs. Anne Prosser**, for distribution among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £184. 15.

**LLANDDEWI-VÂCH (LLAN-DDEWI-VÂCH)**, a parish in the hundred of **PAINSCASTLE**, county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. W. by W.) from **Hay**, containing 136 inhabitants. This parish, the name of which signifies "the lesser church of St. David," is skirted on the north and west by the small river **Bâchw**, by which it is separated from the adjacent parish of **Llanbedr-Painscastle**. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of **Llowes**, in the archdeaconry of **Brecknock**, and diocese of **St. David's**: the tithes are appropriated to the archdeacon of **Brecknock**, who is patron of the united benefice. The church, dedicated to **St. David**, is situated close to a wood called **Allt Ddew**, but is not distinguished by any remarkable architectural features. A Sunday school is supported by subscription. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £101. 2.

**LLANDDOGET (LLAN-DDOGED)**, a parish in the hundred of **ISDULAS**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, lying near the eastern bank of the river **Conway**,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (N. by E.) from **Llanrwst**, containing 287 inhabitants. This parish is comparatively small, but contains the two elegant seats of **Belmont**, the residence of the **Rev. J. Nanney Wynne**; and **Plâs Madoc**, that of **William Lloyd Jones, Esq.**, commanding a fine view over the fertile Vale of **Llanrwst**. Courts leet

and baron are held annually in April, by the steward of the Bishop of **Bangor**, at which place the usual business is transacted. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of **St. Asaph**, rated in the king's books at £5. 13.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of **St. Asaph**. The church, dedicated to **St. Dogvan**, is a large edifice, consisting of a nave, chancel, and a south aisle, the last of more modern date than the rest, and said to have been erected since the Reformation, at the expense of one of the proprietors of the adjoining manor of **Maenan**: it contains some good monuments to the memory of deceased members of that family, among which is one to **Sir Thomas Kyffin**, attorney-general in the reigns of **Queen Anne**, **George I.** and **George II.**, who died on the 20th of June, 1745: on the floor are some slabs to different members of the family of **Wynne**, of **Maenan abbey**: the parsonage-house was built in a neat style in 1812. A National school was erected in 1827, by voluntary contributions, aided by a grant of £50 from the National Society, which is open to poor children of this and the adjoining parishes: it is supported by subscription, and is capable of admitting one hundred and twenty children, but there are at present only forty-five upon the books. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £118. 11.

**LLANDDONA (LLAN-DDONA)**, a parish in the hundred of **TYNDAETHWY**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. W.) from **Beaumaris**, containing 442 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to **St. Dona**, who flourished about the commencement of the eighth century, and is situated in the eastern part of the Isle of **Anglesey**, upon a peninsular projection which separates the bay of **Beaumaris** from the Irish sea. It comprises but a moderate portion of enclosed arable and pasture land, which is in a good state of cultivation, and an extensive common, which, from the rocky nature of the soil, affords but indifferent pasturage for cattle. The surrounding scenery, though not distinguished by any peculiarity of features, is pleasing; and the numerous farm-houses scattered over the parish give it an air of cheerfulness not generally found in this part of the principality. A considerable herring-fishery is carried on during the season at **Red Wharf bay**. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of **Anglesey**, and diocese of **Bangor**, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of **Lord Boston**. The church is a very ancient structure, supposed to have been erected about the year 610, and is situated very near the coast of **Red Wharf bay**. Several small charitable donations and bequests have been left by different benefactors to the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £172. 17.

**LLANDDULAS**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**.—See **NEWCHURCH**.

**LLANDDWYN**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**.—See **NEWBOROUGH**.

**LLANDDWYWAU (LLAN-DDWYWE)**, a parish in the hundred of **ARDUDWY**, county of **MERIONETH**, **NORTH WALES**, 4 miles (N. N. W.) from **Barmouth**, on the road to **Harlech**, comprising the townships of **Is y Craig** and **Uwch y Craig**, each of which separately maintains its poor, and containing 307 inhabitants.



This parish is situated on the shore of the great bay of Cardigan: the district, including and immediately surrounding it is called Ardudwy, from which the hundred takes its name, and abounds with numerous Druidical remains and relics of British antiquity. The mountains in the neighbourhood are of rugged and precipitous character, forming a natural bulwark for the defence of this part of the country, into which the entrance is through a narrow defile of difficult access, which might be secured by a very small body of men against thousands of assailing foes. The narrowest part of this rocky pass is called Drws Ardudwy, "the doorway to Ardudwy;" and the road through it consists in part of frequent flights of numerous steps cut in the rock, of hazardous and difficult ascent, and in some places descends precipitous declivities of frightful aspect and slippery passage, over which, in many parts, impend huge masses of rock, menacing the traveller's progress almost at every step. From the numerous encampments and fortifications of which there are extensive remains on various parts of the neighbouring mountains, it is evident that this pass has been regarded as one of the most important posts in this part of the principality; and from the vast numbers of tumuli, carneddau, kistvaens, and other monuments of deceased warriors, it is more than probable that these mountains have been the scene of many important conflicts in the earlier periods of British history. In this parish are three small lakes, Llŷn Irddin, Llŷn Dulyn, and Llŷn Bodlyn. A small canal has recently been formed from it, nearly parallel with, and at only a short distance from, the coast, to the creek near Llandanwg church, into which it conveys the waters of two streams. Within the limits of the parish stands the mansion of Corsygedol, the ancient seat of the Vaughans, and now the property and residence of Mostyn Lloyd Mostyn, Esq.: a long avenue of stately trees leads to the house, which is deeply embowered in extensive woods, exhibiting in a very striking manner the influence of the strong westerly winds to which they are exposed, and by which the tops of the trees are shorn to one uniform level: the boughs are also so intricately interwoven as to form a close and almost impenetrable curtain. In the grounds are four silver fir trees, the largest in North Wales, which are much admired for the beauty of their growth: the library contains some curious ancient manuscripts. The waste lands of this parish, including more than four thousand five hundred and eighty acres, of which one-half is at present uncultivated, were enclosed by act of parliament in 1810. The village is pleasantly situated on the shore of Cardigan bay: webs are manufactured to a small extent. Fairs are held on April 18th, August 12th, and November 9th.

The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llanenddwyn, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor. The church is dedicated to St. Dwywan, son of Hywel ab Emyr Llydaw, and brother of Dervel Gadarn, or Dervel the Strong, who flourished about the sixth century: it is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, and has on the north-east a sepulchral chapel, separated from the aisle by a screen, and belonging to the proprietors of Corsygedol: the walls are ornamented with several monuments to the memory of the Vaughans, the former possessors of that estate, who were descendants of Osborn

Fitz-Gerald, called by the Welsh Osborn Wyddel, or the Irishman, who came into Wales in the time of Llewelyn the Great, by whom he was much esteemed. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Miss Ellen Humphreys, daughter of the Rev. E. Humphreys, rector of this parish, bequeathed, in 1801, the sum of £200 for the instruction of poor children of the parishes of Llanddwywau and Llanenddwyn, the interest of which is appropriated to the maintenance of a parochial school, chiefly supported by subscription, in which children of both parishes are gratuitously instructed. The Rev. Mr. Jones bequeathed £100 to the minister and churchwardens in trust for the benefit of the poor; Mrs. Jane Wynne, in 1725, also bequeathed £40 for the same purpose; and there are several other charitable donations and bequests, of which the interest is annually distributed among the poor. Near Llŷn Irddin are several Druidical remains, now very much diminished by the removal of the stones composing them, to furnish materials for the walls of enclosures. The principal of these was a circle of loose stones, about fifty-six feet in diameter, the area included within which was divided into four nearly equal parts by upright columns placed in pairs. About thirty yards from this was a similar one of smaller dimensions; and about half a mile to the south, on the side of a hill, are two carneddau of vast size, a cromlech, a maen hir, or columnar stone, and a kistvaen; the largest of the carneddau is fifty-five feet long and twelve high. On the summit of a hill to the west of these is the strong post called Castell Dinas Corddin, surrounded by a deep intrenchment, and having an advanced work on one side of it. On the summit of another hill is Castell Craig y Dinas, surrounded by a vast rampart of stones, through which is an oblique entrance with a facing of stone on each side, and defended by two other ramparts of stone. These fortifications appear to have been erected to defend the above-noticed pass through the mountains, for which purpose they are judiciously situated on the summit and declivities of a hill commanding the entrance. On the summit of two smaller eminences, near each other, are two large carneddau, within one of which are the remains of a kistvaen. Near a tenement called Bryn y Voel are the remains of a cromlech, sixteen feet four inches in length, and seven feet four inches broad, of which the upper stone is twenty inches in thickness: there is another in a field near Corsygedol. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £102. 16.

LLANDDYVNAN (LLAN-DDYVNAN), a parish in the hundred of TYNDAETHWY, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (W. N. W.) from Beaumaris, containing 678 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the turnpike road from Beaumaris to Llanerchymedd and Amlwch, is, with the exception of a small part, enclosed and well cultivated: it formerly contained an extensive common, which was enclosed some years ago, and several houses erected upon it. The scenery is pleasingly diversified and enriched with wood, and in the neighbourhood are obtained some good prospects. The adjacent seat of Plâs Llanddvnan is a spacious and handsome mansion, beautifully situated, and environed with extensive woods, in which is some of the largest and most valuable timber in the island. The pa-



rich abounds with limestone of very excellent quality, of which large quantities are shipped to the government harbours, quays, and other public works in Ireland, and also to Liverpool, for various purposes. The living is a rectory, with the perpetual curacies of Llanbedr-Gôch, Llanvair-Mathavarneithâv, and Pentraeth annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £38. 6. 8., and held in commendam since the year 1701, by the Bishop of Bangor, who appoints a stipendiary curate. The church, dedicated to St. Dyvnan, who came from Rome about the year 180, to assist in converting the Britons to Christianity, was originally founded in the year 590; and the present structure, which is spacious and well built, appears to have been originally of much greater extent: in digging in the churchyard, foundations of ancient buildings have at various times been discovered, at a considerable distance from the site of the present edifice. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The interest of several small charitable donations and bequests is annually distributed among the poor, at Christmas, pursuant to the directions of the several benefactors. Not far from the church are some remains of a well-constructed Roman road, fourteen feet wide, running in a west-north-western direction towards Holyhead: it is supposed to have been a continuation of the road leading from the shore in the parish of Penmôn, and may be traced at intervals entirely across this parish, and again near Plâs Tregaian, in that adjoining. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £306. 3.

**LLANDEBIE (LLAN-DYBIEU)**, a parish in the hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.) from Llandilo-Vawr, on the road to Swansea, containing 2248 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Tibieu, is pleasantly situated on the river Loughor, and is nearly six miles in length and about four in breadth. The lands, of which the soil is fertile, are in general in a good state of cultivation, a small portion only being waste, and this consisting chiefly of that part of the mountain of Mynydd-Mawr which is within the parish. The surrounding scenery is pleasing and highly varied, and within the parish are several handsome seats, the residences of opulent families. Dyfryn, the seat of William Lewis, Esq., is a genteel residence, the grounds of which are tastefully laid out, and comprise much beautiful scenery; Blyne, that of Mr. Protheroe, is a handsome old mansion; and Glyn-hîr, the seat of Mrs. Dubuisson, is beautifully situated in grounds comprehending much varied scenery, and ornamented with a picturesque cascade, the water of which falls from a height of more than thirty feet. The mountainous district abounds with coal and limestone, which are obtained in great quantities for the supply of the neighbouring districts, and the procuring of which affords employment to a large proportion of the poorer inhabitants. Fairs are held on the Wednesday at Whitsuntide, July 16th, and December 26th; and at Cross Inn, a considerable village on the borders of this parish and that of Bettws, another is held on March 23rd and 24th. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4, endowed with £200 parliamentary grant,

and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church is a neat plain structure, with a lofty square embattled tower. There are in the parish two places of worship for Independents, two for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists, and one each for Baptists and Wesleyan Methodists. Sunday schools, in connexion with the established church and with the several dissenting congregations, are supported by subscription. A rent-charge of £2. 10., bequeathed by Mrs. Mary Price, is annually distributed among the poor at Christmas. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £474. 7.

**LLANDECWYN (LLAN-DECWYN)**, a parish in the hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (N.E.) from Harlech, on the road to Festiniog, containing 462 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of the church to St. Tecwyn: it is pleasantly situated in a part of the county abounding with lakes, of which Lllyn Tecwyn Uchâ, Lllyn Tecwyn Isâ, Lllyn Eiddew Bach, Lllyn Dû, and Lllyn y Dywarchen, are all within the parish. The lands, consisting of about four thousand acres, of which the greater portion is hilly, with a variety of soils, are for the greater part enclosed and in a good state of cultivation; but there are considerable tracts of common. The appearance of the country is finely diversified, and the lakes materially contribute to the picturesque beauty of the scenery. Maes y Neuadd, in this parish, is an ancient seat of the family of Nanney. There is a lead mine in the parish, near the road from Tan y Bwlch to Trêmadoc. The parish consists of one entire township and part of another, the rest of which is included in that of Llanvihangel y Traethau. The living is a perpetual curacy, with that of Llanvihangel y Traethau annexed, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Treasurer of Bangor Cathedral, to whose office is attached the rectory, rated in the king's books at £16. 14. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ . The church is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, and is pleasantly situated on an eminence commanding an extensive view of the surrounding country. The Rev. John Jones, D.D., in 1719, bequeathed £50, the interest of which, according to the will of the testator, is applied to the instruction of ten poor children of this and the adjoining parish of Llanvihangel y Traethau. Mr. Richard Edwards, about the year 1764, bequeathed £40; and in 1769, Mr. Henry Poole bequeathed £5, the interest of which sums is annually distributed among the poor of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £134. 7.

**LLANDEGAI (LLAN-DEGAI)**, a parish in the hundred of LLÊCHWEDD-UCHÂV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 1 mile (E.) from Bangor, on the Holyhead road, containing 2600 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Tegai, a divine of the fifth century, who came over from Armorica with Cadvan, to revive the Christian faith in Britain, then in a declining state, is situated on the river Ogwen, and extends for more than fifteen miles in length, from the shore of the Menai strait far into the mountainous regions of Snowdon, comprehending a widely extended dis-



trict, abounding with almost every species of mineral treasure. The only historical event peculiarly relating to it is the battle which was fought within its limits, in 1648, between the royalists, under Sir John Owen, and the parliamentary forces under Colonels Carter and Twisleton: the former, whose number was by much the smaller, had raised the siege of Carnarvon to meet the latter, who were advancing to its relief: a furious encounter ensued on the banks of the Ogwen, near the church of Llandegai, in which Sir John was defeated and made prisoner: this was the last battle fought in the principality. Among the mountains within the parish are the Gluder-Vawr, Gluder-Vâch, Carnedd-Llewelyn, Carnedd-Davydd, Y Garn, Carnedd y Filiast, Lidir-Vawr, and several others. On the summit of Carnedd-Llewelyn is a large heap of stones, said to be the grave of one of the princes of the royal family of North Wales, from which the mountain took its name; and on the top of Carnedd-Davydd are some loose stones, supposed to have formed the last retreat of Davydd, brother to Llewelyn, the last native prince of Wales, before he was taken prisoner by Edward I. The former of these mountains rises to the height of three thousand four hundred and sixty-nine feet above the level of the sea in Carnarvon bay, and the latter has an elevation of three thousand four hundred and twenty-seven feet above the same level. The scenery of the neighbourhood is beautifully picturesque and impressively grand, comprehending on one side a vast amphitheatre of mountains, and on the other a fine view of the Menai strait. Penrhyn Castle, the residence of G. H. Dawkins Pennant, Esq., is beautifully situated between the rivers Ogwen and Cegin, which flow through its extensive demesne, and commands an unbounded prospect over the Menai strait, the bay of Beaumaris, and the Isle of Anglesey. This mansion was originally a royal palace, and the residence of Roderic Molwynog, who began his reign about the year 720; and subsequently of Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, and other princes of North Wales, after being once destroyed, in 987, by Meredydd ab Owen, who in that year invaded North Wales, and slew Cadwallon ab Ievav, the reigning prince. In the reign of Elizabeth it was occupied by the celebrated Piers Gruffydd, who, at his own expense, fitted out a ship of war, and, sailing from Beaumaris, joined the fleet under Sir Francis Drake, in its South American expeditions, and afterwards aided in the defeat of the Spanish Armada. In 1622, it became the property of the Lord Keeper Williams, and passed from him into the possession of his nephew, from whom the present proprietor is descended. The castle, which is situated in the centre of an extensive park, surrounded by a wall thirteen feet high and seven miles in circuit, is being rebuilt in the ancient style of architecture: the whole of the exterior is of Mona marble, and displays a magnificent range of building, crowned with lofty towers, of which five are circular: the keep, and another of the principal towers, are square, with light and beautiful angular turrets, and the whole, when completed, will form one of the most spacious and elegant structures in the principality. The internal decorations correspond in every respect with the magnificence of the exterior, the mantel-pieces and other ornaments being of the same marble, which is susceptible of a

high degree of polish; and the furniture has been chosen with an especial regard to appropriateness of character. There are several lodges forming entrances into the park, all elegant in their design, and lofty in their elevation: the principal lodge, which is near the junction of the London and Liverpool roads, is a stately and beautiful specimen of the architecture of the whole.

Copper-ore is found in most of the mountains in this district; and iron of excellent quality, lead, zinc, manganese, molubdena, and pyrites, in greater or less abundance throughout the parish. Beautifully transparent crystals, both white and of a red colour, are found on the Glydr-Vâch: these vary in their form, some having five, and others six, eight, and ten faces: they are of the largest kind, and sometimes single crystals have been found, weighing more than six lb. But the most important and distinguishing feature in the mineralogy of this parish, and the principal source of its wealth, are the slate quarries of Dôlawen, or Braich y Cavn, which were originally opened on a very large scale by the late Lord Penrhyn, in 1782, and which, by a regular series of progressive improvements, have now become the most extensive and the most valuable in the island. Prior to the year 1785, the annual export of slates from these quarries did not exceed one thousand tons; and, owing to the ruggedness of the road, they were conveyed from the quarries to the creek of Aber-Cegin, since called Port Penrhyn, close to the city of Bangor, in panniers on the backs of horses. This amount, however, was shortly increased by the facilities afforded by a good road formed from the quarries to the same port by Lord Penrhyn, who likewise continued the same line of communication from the quarries a further distance of nine miles, through Nantfrancon and the romantic interior of Snowdon, to Capel-Curig, the whole tract being his own property. It is probable that his lordship, from the commencement of his improvement of these roads, had in view the substitution of this nearer route for the Irish mails, to be brought through Shrewsbury, for the old one through Chester and Aberconway, a change which has since taken place, the former joining the latter near the church of this parish, after running a course of twenty miles through the most mountainous and rugged parts of North Wales: by this means the distance between Pentrevoelas and Bangor is shortened upwards of ten miles. The demand for the slates of these quarries at the same time increasing in an enormous degree, caused his lordship to construct an iron railway from Dôlawen to Port Penrhyn, a distance of six miles, and to increase the number of men employed in the quarries at the former place from sixty to between four and five hundred. In 1794, the annual exportation of slates from these quarries amounted to fifteen thousand tons; but in the following year, the imposition of the tax on slates carried coastwise reduced it to eight thousand, and the number of men employed in quarrying and carrying them in proportion: in a few years, however, it amounted to twenty thousand tons, the duties having been taken off. These quarries are on the north side of the Lidir-Vâch, in the vale of Nantfrancon, and afford employment to one thousand four hundred men, who, upon an average, raise in them from five to six hundred tons of slate per diem. On the adjoining river a large mill was erected,



in 1801, for sawing the blocks of slate into slabs for mantel-pieces, tombstones, and other purposes, and for dividing them into laminæ for roofing, for the American, as well as the British and Irish, markets. The roofing slates are of all the various sizes described in the article on the county of Carnarvon. Lord Penrhyn also established, near Bangor, a manufactory in which the finest slates are planed and framed for writing, of various sizes, and to the number of ten thousand dozens annually: these are exported to London and various other British ports, and some of them, without frames, to different parts of the Continent. The schist of the Dôlawen quarries is also converted into casing for the outside of buildings, as a defence against the weather, which, by being painted and sanded, have the appearance of freestone; dados and plinths for stables and passages; dairy-tables; side-boards; pannels for doors, shutters, &c.; inkstands, washball-stands, &c. It is wholly exported from Port Penrhyn, where a commodious wharf, projected by the late Lord Penrhyn, and subsequently enlarged and completed by the present proprietor, has been constructed, with extensive quays, accessible at every state of the tide, and spacious warehouses, provided with every requisite accommodation. Port Penrhyn was originally only an insignificant inlet, formed by the mouth of the small river Cegin, but these and other improvements have rendered it a commodious harbour, capable of admitting vessels of three hundred tons' burden. About two hundred men are employed at the port, making the total number connected with the slate-works about one thousand seven hundred. Ochre is dug out of a mine near the slate quarries, and, having been separated from the sand with which it is intermixed, by grinding and successive filtrations, is collected in a sediment, and dried by the sun and air in summer, and upon kilns in winter. The general colour of this earth is yellow, but others of various hues, with which, in their natural state, the Snowdonian shepherds mark their sheep, are ground in the same manufactory, also for the use of painters. Quartz and chert, from neighbouring quarries of these materials at the base of Carnedd-Llewelyn, together with flint, brought in ballast by ships which convey slates hence to London and Ireland, were formerly ground for the use of the English porcelain and delft ware potteries, at a mill erected on the stream of the Ogwen, in this parish, by the late Lord Penrhyn. An ore of manganese was also prepared here for the purposes of bleaching, and an ore of zinc as a substitute for white lead in the composition of paints.

The living is a perpetual curacy, with those of Capel-Curig and St. Anne annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church is a small ancient cruciform structure, with a low square central tower, containing six bells, the gift of the late Lady Penrhyn: the interior is elegantly fitted up, and contains some ancient sepulchral memorials, among which is a mural monument to the memory of Archbishop John Williams, with his effigy in an episcopal habit, kneeling at an altar; an altar-tomb with two recumbent figures, probably of the ancient family inhabiting Penrhyn castle; and a splendid monument to the late Lord and Lady Penrhyn, exquisitely sculptured by Westmacott, and uni-

versally admired. The church is beautifully situated on an eminence overlooking the river Ogwen, and commanding an extensive and richly varied prospect; and forms a picturesque and interesting object in the scenery of the grounds of Penrhyn castle, within which it is situated. A chapel, dedicated to St. Anne, was erected near the slate quarries, by the late Lord Penrhyn, at an expense of £2000, for the accommodation of persons engaged in those works: it was consecrated in 1813, and endowed in 1815 by Lady Penrhyn: it is a neat, well-built edifice, and is appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine worship. The living is a perpetual curacy, endowed with £400 private benefaction, and £2200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of G. H. Dawkins Pennant, Esq. The chapel of Capel-Curig is noticed under its appropriate head. There are within the parish two places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, and one each for Baptists, Independents, and Wesleyan Methodists. Two free schools, one for boys and the other for girls, were established in this parish by the late Lady Penrhyn, who, however, made no provision towards their permanent endowment; they are, nevertheless, liberally supported by the present proprietor of Penrhyn castle, and are open to all the children of the parish. Several charitable donations and bequests by various benefactors, together with munificent additions from the family at the castle, are annually distributed among the most necessitous of the poor at Christmas. Archbishop Williams, whose monument in the church has been noticed above, was a resident at Penrhyn castle during the reign of James I., who, in 1610, made him dean of Salisbury, and, in 1620, dean of Westminster: in the following year he was appointed Lord-Keeper of the Great Seal, in which office he succeeded the illustrious Lord Bacon, and in less than a month was promoted to the see of Lincoln. On the accession of Charles I. he was dismissed, through the influence of Buckingham: he was moreover censured by the Court of Star-Chamber, and imprisoned from 1637 till 1640, but soon after his release he was promoted to the archiepiscopal see of York. He was subsequently, with several other bishops, impeached of high treason, and imprisoned for a year and a half, but was ultimately released on bail, on the express condition of not entering his diocese during the disturbances which then prevailed in the city of York: disobeying the injunction, however, he was enthroned in the cathedral, but was immediately driven away by the Hothams, and retired into his native country, where he ended his life on the anniversary of his birth, March 25th, 1650: he died at Glodd-aith, the seat of Sir Roger Mostyn, an eminent loyalist, having completed his sixty-eighth year. The drinking horn of Piers Gruffydd, a large bugle, formed from the horn of an ox, enriched with chased silver, and suspended by a silver chain, is still preserved in Penrhyn castle: at one end are the initials P. G., together with R. G. K., those of his father and mother, Rhys and Katherine Gruffydd. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £529. 10.

LLANDEGLA (LLAN-DEGLA), a parish in the hundred of YALE, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (S. E.) from Ruthin, containing 378 inhabitants. This parish takes its name from the dedication of its church to St. Tecla, under whose supposed auspices



the waters of an adjoining spring were anciently in high repute for the miraculous cure of the falling sickness. The patient afflicted with this disease, which was called the "Clwyv Tecla," after washing in the well, making an offering of fourpence, and performing certain ceremonies, which, to inspire the greater awe, were never commenced till after sunset, passed the night in the chancel of the church, and at day-break, after renewing his offering, went away under the belief of being healed. The village is pleasantly situated on the river Alyn: fairs, chiefly for the sale of black cattle, are held annually on March 10th, May 6th, June 23d, August 4th, and October 26th. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £8. 12. 3½., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church is a small rude edifice, presenting no remarkable architectural feature. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. This parish possesses one moiety of an endowment in the parish of Llanarmon, by Mrs. Margaret Vaughan, of Bôdidris, who bequeathed an estate in the parish of Llanellidan, now producing about £30 per annum, for the education and apprenticing of ten poor boys of the parishes of Llanarmon and Llandegla. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £129. 1.

LLANDEGLAY (LLAN-DEGLA), a parish, partly within the liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, and partly in the hundred of KEVENLEECE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 1½ mile (E. S. E.) from Pen y Bont, containing 355 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Tecla, is intersected by the turnpike road from Hereford, through Knighton, New Radnor, and Rhaiadr, to Aberystwith, and comprises a tract of about four thousand acres, of which a considerable portion is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature: some part of the surface is flat, and the rest very hilly: the parish is watered only by two streams, called respectively the Meithil and the Logun: the soil is generally fertile: some part of it is gravelly, but the greater portion is heavy and wet. Veins of lead-ore are supposed to exist, but they are not worked at present. This place constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, rated in the king's books at £5, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 5. 5., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church is a small ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a low tower having a shelving roof: the original character of the building has been much disfigured by the insertion of modern windows, in a style totally differing from that of the prevailing architecture. There is a place of worship for the Society of Friends. A parochial day school, endowed by an unknown benefactor with the rent of a farm, in this parish, called Portys y Gerthy, now producing £20 per annum, affords gratuitous instruction in reading and writing to the poor children of the parish. Ann Griffiths, by will, in 1721, bequeathed

£120, and Evan Griffiths, by deed in the same year, gave £40, both which sums have been invested in the purchase of a small farm, called Ty'n y waen, in this parish, the rental of which, amounting to £18, is annually distributed, in equal proportions, among the poor of the parishes of Colva, Llandeglay, and Llanvihangel Nant Melan, agreeably to the directions of the donors. Here are two mineral springs, one of which is a strong chalybeate, and the other impregnated with sulphur: both are in high estimation for their medicinal virtues. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £195. 10.

LLANDEGVAN (LLAN-DEGVAN), a parish in the hundred of TYNDAETHWY, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (W. S. W.) from Beaumaris, containing, exclusively of the borough of Beaumaris, which is within its limits, 738 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Tegvan, comprises an extensive tract on the western shore of the Menai. During the civil war in the reign of Charles I., a detachment of the parliamentary forces, under the command of General Mytton, disembarked at Garth Ferry, in this parish, in 1648, and hence proceeded to the reduction of Beaumaris. This is now the principal ferry across the Menai strait, by which the distance from Beaumaris to Bangor is reduced to three miles. The new line of road from the Menai bridge to Beaumaris is continued for nearly three miles through the parish, in a direction parallel with the strait, and throughout the whole of its course presents a succession of finely varied and highly picturesque scenery. The village, which is about two miles inland, is beautifully situated in a pleasant and fertile district; though from its proximity to Beaumaris, and its situation on the shore of the Menai, it possesses every facility of commercial intercourse, yet this place carries on neither trade nor manufacture of any kind. The living is a discharged rectory, with Beaumaris annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £19. 11. 8., and in the patronage of Sir R. B. Williams Bulkeley, Bart. The church is of very ancient date, having been originally founded by St. Tegvan, its tutelar saint, prior to the year 450, in which he died. The present church, erected by the munificence of Viscount Bulkeley, in 1811, is a spacious and handsome cruciform structure, in the later style of English architecture, with a lofty square embattled tower crowned with pinnacles: the interior, consisting of a nave, chancel, and north and south transepts, is appropriately fitted up; and the chancel is ornamented with a handsome east window of good design. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The Rev. John Jones, Dean of Bangor, in 1719, bequeathed to the rector the sum of £50, in trust, to appropriate the interest to the payment of a schoolmaster to teach ten poor children to read and write. A National school having since been established at Bangor, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, those of this parish on the foundation of Dean Jones are now instructed in it. Lady Bulkeley, in 1823, bequeathed £1000 also to the rector, in trust, to appropriate the interest to the relief of the most necessitous of the poor: the whole of this sum has been vested in government securities, and the income arising from them is annu-



ally distributed according to the will of the testatrix: there are also some smaller charitable donations and bequests for the relief of the poor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £254. 1.

LLANDEGWING (LLAN-DEGONWY), a parish, partly in the hundred of GAFLOGION, but chiefly in that of COMMITMAEN, Lley Division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 9 miles (W.S.W.) from Pwllheli, containing 148 inhabitants. This parish, which is of very small extent, is pleasantly situated on the shore of Cardigan bay: the lands, which are principally enclosed, are fertile, and in a state of good cultivation. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llaniestyn, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Tegonwy, is a small edifice, and is kept in excellent repair. The sum of £2. 10. per annum, arising from money secured on the Carnarvon turnpike trust, given by an unknown benefactor, is annually divided among the poor at Christmas; and there are also some other trifling charitable donations and bequests. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £94. 11.

LLANDEILO, or LLANDILO-TÂLYBONT, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.W. by N.) from Swansea, containing 1253 inhabitants. The village is pleasantly situated on the river Loughor, which here forms a boundary between the counties of Carmarthen and Glamorgan, and on the turnpike road through Pontardulas to Swansea. The river, which at high tides is navigable to the church, affords a facility for the importation of limestone, which is brought in small craft, and burnt as a manure for the supply of the neighbourhood. This parish is comprised within the coal basin of South Wales, but the mines are worked only for the supply of the inhabitants. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 14. 7., and in the patronage of John Edwards Vaughan, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Teilo, from which circumstance the parish takes its name. There are places of worship for Independents and Welsh Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. At the distance of about two hundred yards from the river Loughor is a tumulus, called by the inhabitants Banc Llwyn y Domen: it is surrounded by a trench, and is supposed to have been thrown up for the purpose of defending the passage of the river. At Court y Carw, to which a small manor is attached, was anciently a small monastery, dependent on the abbey of Cadoxton near Neath: till within the last century, the site was appropriated as a burial-place for unbaptized infants. According to the late Mr. Edward Williams, the eminent antiquary, of Flemingston near Cowbridge, commonly known as the Bard of Glamorganshire, this was the birthplace of St. Patrick, the apostle and patron saint of Ireland; but from its proximity to Loughor, from which it is distant only one mile and a half, Mr. Owen Pugh and other writers refer his nativity to that borough. At Glynloughor, a hamlet within the parish, was born Ieuan Lawdden, the most celebrated poet of his time: he was for many years curate of Machynlleth, in the county of Montgomery; towards the close of his

life he retired to his native village, where he died and was buried, but no monument has been erected to his memory. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £442. 17.

LLANDEILO-GRABAN (LLAN-DEILO-GRABAN), a parish in the hundred of PAINSCASTLE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S.E. by S.) from Builth, containing 272 inhabitants. This parish extends along the banks of the river Wye, and is situated in the centre of a mountainous district. There are not only no public roads leading to it, but even the private roads by which it is traversed are almost impassable in some places. The surface is chiefly mountainous, but the lower lands are principally enclosed and in a tolerable state of cultivation: the soil is for the most part gravelly: the lower grounds produce comparatively good crops, and the bottoms, which are well drained, afford good pasturage. The parish is separated from that of Llanstephan by a stream called the Bâchwyl, which here forms a beautiful cascade, round which is some strikingly magnificent scenery. Its surface is bold and striking, but, in common with that of the adjacent country, is destitute of picturesque beauty, owing to the nakedness of the mountains: from some of the higher hills, however, the prospects are extensive and magnificent beyond description. On the side towards Brecknockshire nearly the whole of the mountains in that county are conspicuous in one grand continuous chain, extending more than thirty miles; and part of the mountains in the counties of Cardigan and Carmarthen are seen from some of the other heights. Near the line of demarcation between this parish and that of Llanstephan is a beech tree of remarkable growth, allowed to be the loftiest in the county, and forming a singular and striking object from many points of view, both in this county and in that of Brecknock. The parish contains no village: it constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, rated in the king's books at £9. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Prebendary of Llandeilo-Graban. The church, dedicated to St. Teilo, is a plain neat edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a low tower, covered with a shelving roof. There is a place of worship for Primitive Methodists. David Bedws, in 1726, bequeathed to the poor of this parish £100 in money, which, being vested in land, produces £6 per annum: William George, in 1686, bequeathed £40; and Thomas George gave certain portions of land at present worth £40 per annum; but at the time of proving the will of the last-named donor, a compromise took place between the heir and the parish, by which the latter, to save litigation, granted a lease of the lands to the former at £10 per annum: a doubt, however, is still entertained of the legality of the transaction. There is also a small donation in land by an unknown benefactor. The produce of these several benefactions is appropriated to the relief of decayed housekeepers. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £273.

LLAN-DEINIOLLEN, or LLANDDENIOLLEN (LLAN-DDEINIOLLEN), a parish in the hundred of ISGORVAI, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 5



miles (N.E. by E.) from Carnarvon, on the road to Bangor, containing 2610 inhabitants. This parish, which is divided into an Upper and a Lower portion, extends seven miles in length, and about three in breadth, and is separated from the parish of Llanberis by the lake called Llyn Padarn and the river Seiont, which form its boundaries on the south: it is traversed by the road from Carnarvon to Bangor. The mountains of Elidyr Vawr and Carnedd Viliast, both rich in mineral wealth, form its eastern boundaries; and the secondary hills of Moel Lucci towards the north, and Moel Rhiwen to the south, are within its limits. Near the latter of these hills a battle is said to have been fought at some remote period, and on the side of the hill are numerous hillocks, which are supposed to be the graves of the warriors who fell on that occasion. This place appears to have been known to the Romans: within half a mile south-eastward from the church are the remains of an extensive camp, from which a Roman road leading to the ancient *Segontium*, another in the direction of Bangor, and a third pointing to the mountains, may be distinctly traced. The surrounding scenery, though of a bold and striking character in the mountainous district, is generally throughout the parish uninteresting and unpleasing: scarcely a tree is to be seen on any of the farms; the farm-houses are in general of a very mean description; and the fences of loose stones have a cold and cheerless appearance. The lands are thickly strewed with stones; and large fragments of rock, scattered almost in every direction, greatly impede the process of cultivation. The soil is generally poor, cold, and unproductive; the arable parts being sown chiefly with barley and oats, and, in some few places, with a small quantity of wheat: large tracts of land are fit only for the purpose of planting, the soil being such as to promise no indemnification for the expense of bringing them into cultivation; and, from the great want of timber prevailing throughout this extensive parish, the application of them to that use would be productive of the most essential benefit. The waste lands were enclosed under an act of parliament obtained in 1806, explained and amended by another obtained in 1808. In the upper part of the parish are some of the most extensive slate quarries in the principality, principally the property of T. Assheton Smith, Esq.: of these the most noted are Allt-Dû and Clogwyn y Gigvran, which were opened in 1787, and at first afforded employment to about sixty men. In 1820, Mr. Smith had three hundred men at work in them, and at present (1831) there are about six hundred constantly employed: about seventy tons of slate are raised daily, some of which is sawn into slabs for mantel-pieces, tombstones, and other purposes, by machinery impelled by water. The whole is conveyed to the coast by a rail-road, seven miles in length, which was laid down in 1824, and extends from the quarries through the parish of Bangor to the Menai strait at Port Dinorweg, formerly called Aber y Pwll, where vessels of as much as two hundred tons' burden can enter at high water, and whence it is shipped coastwise to various parts of the kingdom.

The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £13. 8. 9., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Deiniol-

len, said to have been the son of Deiniol, who founded a college at Bangor, and to have flourished early in the seventh century, is a spacious ancient structure, kept in good repair: in the churchyard are several yew trees, of luxuriant growth, one of which measures twenty-eight feet four inches in girth. There are two places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, and one each for Independents and Wesleyan Methodists. The Roman camp above mentioned, which was probably an outpost to the station *Segontium*, near the present Carnarvon, comprises an extensive area on the summit of a lofty eminence, defended by a rampart of small stones, backed by a stronger one, with two wide and deep ditches: this post, formerly called Dinas Dinorweg, is at present designated Pen Dinas; and in the neighbourhood are the remains of several camps and fortresses of British origin. At no great distance from Llyn Padarn are the remains of Llŷs Dinorweg, an ancient palace, and formerly the residence of Prince Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, which, together with the manor of that name, was bestowed by Edward I. on Griffith Lloyd, Esq., of Trêgarnedd, in Anglesey, who was knighted by that monarch at Rhuddlan castle, in the county of Flint, on conveying to him the intelligence of the birth of his son Edward, in the castle of Carnarvon, and who afterwards, rebelling against that sovereign, was taken prisoner in an unsuccessful attempt to surprise Mold castle, and soon afterwards executed. The manor subsequently became the property of Sir William Williams, of Vaenol, Bart., who left it by will to Sir Boucher Wrey for life, with remainder to King William, who granted it to an ancestor of T. Assheton Smith, Esq., the present proprietor. The mansion is now in ruins; and near it a stone, resembling a Roman millary, was discovered about thirty years ago, bearing the inscription IMP. Q. DECIO. The river Cegin has its source in a strongly chalybeate spring, about two miles south of the church, called Fynnon Cegin Arthur, or the "Well of Arthur's Kitchen," and, after flowing through this and the adjoining parish of Llandegai, falls into the Menai strait at Port Penrhyn. At Rhŷd-Vawr, about a mile to the south of the church, is Fynnon Deiniolen, or "St. Deiniolen's Well," the water of which was formerly in high esteem for its efficacy in the cure of rheumatic and scorbutic diseases. Near Penllŷn, in this parish, lived the celebrated Margaret Uch Evan, denominated by Mr. Pennant the Queen of the Lakes. This extraordinary woman, who lived to be more than ninety years of age, had a boat upon the lakes, and was employed in bringing down the copper-ore from the mines in the neighbourhood: she is reported to have been the greatest hunter, shooter, and fisher of her day; an excellent musician, playing well upon the harp and violin; at the age of seventy, the best wrestler in the country; a good blacksmith, shoemaker, boat-builder, and harp-maker; excelling, indeed, in almost every mechanical art, and was long the wonder and admiration of the surrounding country. Allt Wenn, in this parish, presents an interesting field for the researches of the botanist, producing a variety of scarce plants, such as the *Rubus saxatilis*, &c. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £275. 18.

LLANDELOY (LLAN-DYLWYV), a parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH



WALES, 7 miles (E. by N.) from St. David's, containing 217 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is pleasantly situated in the north-western part of the county. The living is a discharged vicarage, annexed to that of Llanhowel, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant. The church, dedicated to St. Teillaw, is not remarkable for any interesting architectural features. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £65. 18.

LLANDEUSANT, or LLANDEUSAINT (LLAN Y DDEUSAINT), a parish in the hundred of TAL Y BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (W. by N.) from Llanerchymedd, containing 407 inhabitants. This parish, which is of considerable extent, is situated near the river Alaw, and partakes generally of the scenery common to this part of the principality, but is not distinguished by any peculiar features: the village is small, but pleasantly situated. The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacies of Llanbabo and Llanvair-yng-hornwy annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £20. 16. 3., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Marcellus and Marcellinus, is a small but venerable edifice, in the early style of English architecture, with a good lancet-shaped window of three lights at the east end, of which the gable is externally surmounted with an antique cross. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Two poor men of this parish are eligible, by the will of Mr. David Hughes, to apartments in the hospital, or almshouses, founded by that benefactor at Beaumaris, in the year 1609; and the produce of several small charitable donations and bequests in land and money is annually divided among the poor of the parish, in conformity with the will of the benefactors. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £163. 2.

LLANDEVAILOG-TRE'R-GRAIG (LLANDEVAILOG-TRËV-Y-GRAIG), a parish in the hundred of PENCELLE, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 5½ miles (E. by N.) from Brecknock, containing (exclusively of the township of Llanyern, the population of which is included in the return for that of the adjoining parish of Llangorse) 47 inhabitants. It is of small extent, comprising only about five hundred acres, of which nearly one-half constitutes a single farm, and the rest is divided among three others, the greater portions of which are included within the adjacent parishes, to the poor's rate of which they are assessed, although the houses are in Llandevaillog parish, which, however, contains not a single labourer's cottage; so that at least one-half of the cost of the maintenance of the poor of Tre'r Graig, who now consist of seventy claimants, scattered through the adjoining parishes, falls on the first-named farm. The village, which is small, is pleasantly situated, near the road from Brecknock through Llanvihangel Talyllyn to Talgarth, on the western bank of the small river Llynvi, which falls into the Wye near Gläsbury, and by which this parish, bordering upon the hundred of Talgarth, is separated from that of Llangorse. The Brecknock and

Hay railway passes along the eastern margin of the Llynvi, within one hundred yards of the church. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llanvillo, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Tyvae-log, was erected in 1710, at the sole expense of the Rev. Gregory Parry, A.M., who resided at that time in the adjoining mansion: it is a small neat structure, consisting of a nave and chancel, and is appropriately fitted up for the use of the parishioners: at the western extremity of the roof is a shed containing two small bells. There is no separate register kept for this parish, the births and burials being entered in that of Llanvillo.

LLANDEVAILOG-VÂCH (LLAN-DEVAELOG-VÂCH), a parish in the hundred of MERTHYR-CYNOG, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 2¼ miles (N. by W.) from Brecknock, composed of the Upper and Lower divisions, the former of which constitutes the chapelry of Llanvihangel-Vechan, and containing 359 inhabitants, of which number, 188 are in the Upper, and 171 in the Lower, division. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, and is distinguished by its adjunct from Llandevaillog-Tre'r-Graig, in the same county, is pleasantly situated on the river Honddû, and on the old turnpike road from Brecknock to Builth. It comprehends about three thousand acres, forming a fine tract of country, partly mountainous, the rest hilly and in some places richly wooded, the scenery of which is pleasingly diversified, combining features of picturesque beauty and romantic grandeur; and from the higher grounds are obtained interesting and extensive views of the surrounding country, in which the Black Mountains of Talgarth, and the Brecknockshire Beacons in the distance, form prominent and distinguishing characteristics: the soil consists chiefly of loam, with some clay. The village, which, though small, is highly prepossessing in appearance, is delightfully situated on the western bank of the river Honddû, which washes the eastern wall of the churchyard, in its course through the parish to join the river Usk at Brecknock. In the vicinity are some handsome villas and pleasing residences, of which the principal within the parish is Glän Honddû, the property of John Jones, Esq., an elegant villa, beautifully situated on a gentle acclivity, under an elevated ridge, the summit of which is crowned with timber of stately growth, and commanding a pleasing view of the fertile and beautiful Vale of Honddû. At a little distance from Glän Honddû, to the north, and nearly adjacent to the church, is Llandevaillog House, the residence of the Rev. William Jones, a mansion pleasantly situated in grounds tastefully laid out, at the back of which is a large tumulus, perfectly level on the summit, and which probably forms the sepulchre of some native British chieftain of remote antiquity, or was formerly surmounted by a military work, to defend the passage of the river Honddû, over which at this place is a substantial stone bridge of one arch. One of the most delightful scenes in the Vale of Honddû is viewed in the approach to Llandevaillog church: opposite to the wooded heights under which stands Glän Honddû several woody knolls decline in verdant meadows towards the margin of the river, which is partially seen emerging from a thick grove, which here covers its steep banks; the tower of the church is seen



just rising above the dark foliage of the venerable yews by which it is surrounded, with Llandevaillog House nearly adjacent; while in the back ground the landscape appears to be entirely enclosed by successive ranges of distant hills.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £13, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The advowson was formerly vested in the lords of Brecknock, but, upon the attainder of Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, escheated to the crown. The church, dedicated to St. Tyvaelog, a dark, damp, and greatly dilapidated edifice, was taken down and rebuilt, in the year 1831, of stone raised on the glebe land, and given for that purpose by the rector. The building, which is characterized by neatness and simplicity of style, was erected at an expense of little more than £200, raised by subscription, aided by a grant of £60 from the Incorporated Society for the enlargement of churches and chapels, in consideration of which fifty-five sittings are declared free and unappropriated. It consists of a nave and chancel, having a boarded floor, raised on dwarf walls, and fitted up with every regard to neatness and comfort: there is also a neat Gothic porch; the old tower, which is a heavy and rude edifice, of much more recent date than the ancient church, is still remaining in its original state; and most of the ancient monuments have been preserved in their former situations. In the chancel are several sepulchral memorials of the seventeenth century, to the memory of the Powells of Castle Madoc; on the north wall is a shield of armorial bearings of sixteen quarterings, of the family of Prytherch, now extinct; and on the west wall is an elegant tablet of white marble, richly sculptured, to the memory of the late Pennoyre Watkins, Esq. The churchyard, from its beautiful situation on the west bank of the river, between which and the turnpike road it is situated, and from its being ornamented with some fine aged yew trees, has a strikingly picturesque appearance. It contains a very extensive mausoleum, surrounded by a high wall, belonging to the family of Watkins of Pennoyre, in which the coffins are all placed upon iron tressels above the ground. On the west side of the wall of this mausoleum, near the entrance, is an ancient carved stone, about two yards in height, and varying from half a yard to a foot in breadth: it is divided into four compartments, the uppermost of which contains a rude cross, encircled with scrolls; the second the rudely carved figure of a man with a battle-ax in the right hand, and a dagger in the left; the third an inscription which has not yet been decyphered; and the lowest is ornamented with scrolls similar to those in the first compartment. This stone, by others, however, thought to have been raised to the memory of Brochmail Yscythrog, is conjectured by Mr. Jones, the late historian of the county, to commemorate Rhain, the eldest legitimate son of Brychan, Prince of Brycheiniog, who, according to an old manuscript, died some time in the fifth century, and was buried at this place; and perhaps the tumulus above noticed was raised over his remains: another stone, perhaps of Roman workmanship, which bore the inscription *CAVC*, and has been noticed by all antiquaries since the time of Camden, was preserved here until the recent re-erection of the church, when it

was accidentally destroyed. The chapel of Llanvihangel-Vechan is situated about three miles to the north of the church, on the road to Builth. There are places of worship for Independents in the Higher division, and for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists in the Lower division, of the parish. Miss Sarah Prytherch, who died in 1793, charged an estate called Peytin Glâs with the annual payment of £10 to the poor of this parish. A road from the Roman station near Brecknock to that of *Loventium*, in the Vale of Teivy, called by the natives Sarn Helen, or Sarn Leon, is supposed to have entered this parish near a village called Sarnau, about a quarter of a mile westward from the church. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor in the Lower division is £94. 1., and in the Upper, £109. 13.

LLANDEVALLEY, a parish in the hundred of TALGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N.E.) from Brecknock, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, each of which is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, as also the hamlet of Troesgoed, and containing 838 inhabitants, of which number, 398 are in the Upper, and 440 in the Lower, division. This parish comprehends a rich and fertile tract of country, consisting principally of arable lands, of which the soil is very productive. The village is pleasantly situated about a mile to the north-west of the turnpike road leading from London to Brecknock through Hay, and consists of a few neat and comfortable dwellings, the inhabitants of which are principally employed in agriculture. The living is a discharged vicarage, with that of Crickadarn united, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5, and in the patronage of the Trustees of the late Pennoyre Watkins, Esq., to be given to the nearest relation of the testator in holy orders. By the will of the Rev. David Williams, of Stapleford, in the county of Hertford, dated January 16th, 1712, it is endowed with the rectorial tithes of Llandevalley, Crickadarn, and part of Bronllys, subject, however, to the payment of certain charities charged thereon, and of an annual stipend of £25 to the officiating curate of Crickadarn. The church, dedicated, according to some accounts, to St. Teilaw, and according to others to St. Matthew, is an ancient structure, with a tower at the western end, containing five bells, and was formerly one of the finest in the county: the body of the edifice consists of a nave, nearly seventy feet in length, with a narrow aisle on the south, and a chancel about twenty-five feet long: the aisle is separated from the nave by four pointed arches resting on octangular pillars: the roof, which is of oak, is finely arched, and supported by transverse ribs springing from corbels: the chancel is separated from the nave by the ancient rood-loft, which is still in tolerable preservation. The windows are in the later style of English architecture: in the east window is some stained glass, presenting chiefly heads with stars and other devices; and in one of the windows on the south side are two half-length figures of bishops, with their mitres and crosiers, one of whom is represented in the act of giving a benediction. In the south aisle is a finely painted window, representing the Crucifixion, in which the figures are well proportioned, especially those of the Virgin and Mary Magdalene; and in another window of this aisle are half-length figures intended to represent the Father



and the Saviour, inscribed over which, in old English characters, are the two first sentences of the Apostle's Creed. Adjoining the churchyard is a large parsonage-house, erected in 1718, to which are annexed about fifty acres of glebe land. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists: the former is endowed with the sum of £100 under the will of the late William Parry, Gent., of Llŷswen, which directs the interest to be applied towards the support of the minister officiating there, who consequently receives from this bequest £4 per annum. In a room under the tower of the church is held a day school, supported partly by subscription, and partly by the friends of the children: about £13 per annum is raised by the former means, and thirteen children are instructed for this sum: the average number in attendance throughout the year is from forty to fifty. One of the charitable bequests of the Rev. David Williams, charged on the tithes of the three parishes above-mentioned, is forty shillings per annum, to be distributed among the poorest housekeepers, day-labourers, and widows of Llandeulley, one-half on St. Thomas's day, and the other half on Good Friday, and double this sum in default of payment on the days specified. Mr. William Lewis, of Caer Gitto, in this parish, gave, in 1740, the sum of £16, directing the interest to be annually distributed among the poor at Christmas. Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, of Llandeilo-Graban, in 1748, bequeathed ten shillings per annum for a sermon to be preached by the minister on Good Friday, and £5 per annum to be distributed immediately after divine service, on the same day, in half-crowns, to forty poor parishioners, with the payment of which sums she charged an estate in this parish, now belonging to Thomas Williams, of Velin Newydd, Esq. On the farm of Pwllcwrw, situated upon an eminence within the parish, are vestiges of a small British encampment; and in a lane near the northern extremity of the parish, called Heol Einon, or Pen Heol Einon, is a stone about four feet high, supposed to be a sepulchral memorial. In this parish is a mineral spring, the properties of which are similar to that of Llanwrtyd: the water is strongly impregnated with sulphur, with a small portion of marine salt, and also partakes in a considerable degree of a chalybeate nature: it is highly recommended in scorbutic and cutaneous diseases. Trebarried, formerly the seat of William ab Harry Vaughan, by whom it was built, about the middle of the seventeenth century, partly with the materials of a more ancient mansion, has been for many years abandoned by the family, and is now a farm-house. In this parish was anciently settled a family of Norman extraction, named Bois, who had within its limits a castellated mansion, called Trebois, of which nothing now remains but the moat by which it was surrounded: of this family was David Bois, prior of the Carmelite friars at Gloucester, and author of several Latin works on religious and ecclesiastical subjects. The average annual expenditure of the whole of the parish, for the support of the poor, amounts to £511. 4., of which sum, £250. 17. is raised by the Lower, and £230. 12. by the Upper, division, the remainder being assessed on the township of Troesgoed.

LLANDEVEYLOG (LLAN-DYVAELOG), a parish in the hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. S. E.) from Carmarthen, con-

taining 1278 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the navigable river Tywi, by which it is bounded on the west, and contains a large tract of fertile land, the whole of which, with a very trifling exception, is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is richly varied, and that portion of the parish which is situated between the turnpike road from Carmarthen to Kidwelly, which passes through the village, and the river Tywi, is not inferior, for the variety and beauty of its scenery, to any district in this part of the principality. There is an ancient weir for taking salmon and sewin, attached to the Plâs Gwyn estate. Several good family houses are situated within the limits of the parish, but most of them have been deserted by their proprietors, and converted into farm-houses. The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 13. 4., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £1600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Trustees of the late John Meller, Esq. There are places of worship for Independents, Wesleyan and Welsh Methodists, and Unitarians. The Welsh Methodists assemble for divine worship in an ancient edifice, formerly a chapel of ease to the mother church, but which, having long fallen into disuse, has been recently repaired for the purpose to which it is at present appropriated. A school, in which forty children are gratuitously instructed, is supported by subscription, aided by an endowment of £1 per annum, bequeathed in 1777, for the instruction of two poor children, by Harry Mansell, of this parish, who also left a rent-charge of £2 to be distributed in bread to the poor; and by one of ten shillings, the interest of £10 in money bequeathed for the like purpose, by David Griffith John. A farm-house near the church is supposed to have been anciently a monastery, of which the only memorial is preserved in the appellation "Nant Llan," by which it is designated. On a tenement called Pistyll, in the lordship of Cloigin, is a spring of limpid water, which was formerly in great repute for its efficacy in curing diseases of the eye; and in the same lordship was anciently an extra-parochial chapel, in which no other service was performed than the solemnization of marriages; but no vestige of it is at present discernible, except the foundations, the materials having been removed at various times for private uses. Some traces of an ancient causeway, now a bridle-way to Carmarthen, are visible just above the river. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £413.

LLANDEVEYSON (LLAN-DYVEISANT), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, comprising part of the market and post town of Llandilo-Vawr, on the eastern boundary of it, and containing 230 inhabitants. It is situated on the river Towy: the lands, which are tolerably fertile, are, with the exception of a very small portion, enclosed and in a good state of cultivation; the surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified; and the distant views present numerous objects of interest and features of picturesque and romantic beauty. Newton Park, the property of Lord Dynevor, which comprehends within its limits, besides his lordship's modern residence, the site and venerable ruins of Dynevor castle, the ancient residence of the princes of



the house of Dynevor, from whom the present noble proprietor is lineally descended, and of which a more detailed account is given in the article on Llandilo-Vawr, comprises a very considerable portion of the parish. The present mansion, formerly called Newton House, and now Dynevor Castle, is a plain substantial quadrangular structure, crowned at each of the angles with a cupola. The grounds, which are very extensive, are finely laid out, and comprise some noble heights to the west of the town; the plantations are of stately and luxuriant growth; and the park comprehends a richer assemblage of picturesque beauty than is perhaps to be found within the same circuit in almost any other part of the principality. Among the most prominently interesting objects in the grounds, which are seen to great advantage from the opposite side of the river, are the parish church of Ilandeveyson, and the ruins of the ancient castle of Dynevor, the towers of which, rising above the luxuriant foliage of the trees by which they are partly concealed, and preserving even in their ruins an air of venerable majesty, form a strikingly romantic feature in the scenery. The living is a donative, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Earl Cawdor. The church is a small edifice, situated within the limits of Newton Park, and is supposed to have been built on the site of a Roman temple, upon the foundation of which its northern angle is said to rest. In levelling the churchyard, some years since, the walls of this Roman edifice were discovered; and, within three hundred yards of the spot, a pot of Roman coins was subsequently found. The ebbing and flowing well noticed by Giraldus Cambrensis, as having some dependence on the fluctuation of the tides, and the stream issuing from which is called Nant y Rheibio, "the bewitched brook," is, in the opinion of the most competent judges, nothing more than a natural syphon, the operation of which is easily deducible from the principles of hydrostatics. The annual average expenditure for the support of the poor is £39. 6.

**LLANDEWI - YSTRADENNY (LLAN-DDEWI-YSTRADENAU)**, a parish partly in the hundred of KEVENLEECE, and partly in that of KNIGHTON, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N.) from Pen y Bont, containing 653 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, and its position in a winding vale, is situated on the river Ithon, and intersected by the turnpike road leading from Builth, in Brecknockshire, to Newtown, in the county of Montgomery. It comprehends an extensive tract of land, of which by far the greater portion is enclosed and cultivated: the surface is boldly undulated, but the soil is in general productive. The scenery among the hills is extremely magnificent, and the view from that on which the parsonage-house stands is strikingly grand and beautifully picturesque. From this point the distant mountains are seen in three or four distinct ranges, varying in elevation and differing in aspect, finely grouped in almost every variety of form, and so numerous, that it is impossible with any degree of correctness to allocate them to their respective counties. The village comprises only a few houses, occupying a pleasant situation: the inhabitants obtain their letters from a receiving-house at Pen y Bont. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of

Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Prebendary of Llanbister in the Collegiate Church of Brecknock, although Lord Kensington has of late presented, as lessee of the great tithes under the prebendary. The church, dedicated to St. David, has been lately rebuilt: it is a small but neat edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, the latter of which has a handsome east window of good design: the churchyard is surrounded by some ash trees of majestic growth and very imposing appearance. The produce of some small charitable donations is annually given to the poor. On the summit of one of the mountains within the parish, impending over the Vale of Ithon, are the remains of a strong intrenchment, called the Gaer, supposed to have been one of the fortified posts alternately occupied, in the twelfth century, by Cadwallon and Mortimer, during the continued and arduous conflicts which took place between them. It is elliptical in form, being inaccessible on the side towards the vale, and on every other side defended by two parallel intrenchments. On the opposite hill is an extensive tumulus of earth, surrounded by a moat, called Bedd Ygre, "the grave of Ygre," supposed to have been raised in memory of some ancient British chieftain who fell near the spot and was interred there. About two miles from this place formerly stood an ancient fortification, called Castell Cymaron, occupying the summit of an eminence, and supposed to have been originally built by the Anglo-Normans, to protect the territories of which they had violently possessed themselves in this part of the principality, and soon afterwards destroyed by the Welsh, in their continued efforts to repel their aggressions and recover possession of their territories. It was subsequently rebuilt by Hugh Earl of Chester, who, in 1142, obtained possession of the whole of the district of Maelienydd, in which it was included, and was constantly an object of contention between the Anglo-Normans and the Welsh, in the frequent conflicts which arose from the repeated efforts of the former to extend their encroachments, and of the latter to repel them. This castle at length fell into the hands of the Mortimers, about the year 1360, and remained for ages in the possession of their descendants. Its site, and the moat by which it was surrounded, may still be distinctly traced; but of the building itself not the slightest vestige is discernible. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £316. 9.

**LLANDEWI-VELVREY (LLAN-DDEWI-VELVRE)**, a parish principally in the hundred of NARBERTH, but partly in that of DUNGLEDY, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (E.N.E.) from Narberth, containing 710 inhabitants. This place is situated in a rich and fertile vale, watered by the river Taf, which separates the parish from that of Llangan, in the county of Carmarthen. The lands are wholly enclosed and in a good state of cultivation, and the soil is eminently fertile. The neighbourhood abounds with pleasing and interesting scenery, and is enlivened with several gentlemen's seats, of which the principal are Trewern, the residence of John Thomas Benyon, Esq.; and Hênllan, the seat of John Lewis, Esq. The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's: the former, which is



a sinecure, is rated in the king's books at £8, and in the patronage of the Principal and Tutors of St. David's College, Lampeter: the vicarage, which is discharged, is rated at £7.9.4½, and in the patronage of the Crown: the tithes of the entire parish are equally divided between the rector and the vicar. The church, dedicated to St. David, is remarkable for the simplicity of its architecture, and displays evident features of a very remote antiquity: an elegant mural tablet of white marble, to the memory of the late David Lewis, Esq., of Hênllan, and his youngest daughter, has lately been put up in the chancel by his widow. The vicarage-house has been nearly rebuilt on an enlarged scale by the present incumbent, under the provisions of an act of parliament, commonly called Gilbert's Act. A school-house, built at the expense of the parish in 1828, is at present occupied by one of Mrs. Bevan's circulating charity schools. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £331. 3.

**LLANDEWY-ABERARTH**(**LLAN-DDEWI-ABER-ARTH**), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of LLAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 13 miles (N. W. by N.) from Lampeter, containing 976 inhabitants. The name of this parish, which comprises about three thousand acres, is derived from the dedication of its church, and its distinguishing adjunct from its situation near the mouth of the small river Arth, which here discharges its waters into the bay of Cardigan. This parish is also watered by the Aëron, and from the vale through which this river winds the greater part of its surface presents a hilly aspect. The surrounding scenery, though bold and varied, is not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature: the higher grounds command extensive views across the open bay, and some pleasing prospects over the adjacent country. The village, which is intersected by the turnpike road leading from Cardigan to Aberystwith, is remarkably neat and well built; and in the neighbourhood are some pleasing seats, of which the principal in the parish is Tŷ-Glyn, that of the family of Jones, situated about two miles from the village. A tract called Morva Mawr, or "the Great Marsh," and the meadows on the banks of the Aëron, which are liable to inundation, have a fine, deep, loamy soil; that of the more elevated tracts is lighter: but the whole is productive of superior grain of every kind; the only uncultivated portion of the parish is about fifty acres of woodland. This place constitutes a prebend in the cathedral church of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £10, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Prebendary. The church, dedicated to St. David, is a very ancient structure, forty-four feet in length, thirty in breadth, and thirty-eight in height, with a tower sixty feet in height. A chapel, dedicated to St. Alban, was erected in 1809, for the accommodation of the family residing at Tŷ-Glyn, by the late Rev. Alban Thomas Jones Gwynne, who endowed it with a small farm called Rhôs Taverne, in the parish of Llandyssil, now producing £24 per annum: the living, which is further endowed with £800 royal bounty, is a perpetual

curacy, in the patronage of the Proprietor of the Tŷ-Glyn estate. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. A Welsh charity school is supported partly by subscription, and partly by an endowment of £7 per annum, of which sum, £5 were given by Henry Jones, of Tŷ-Glyn, Esq., and the remainder by the late Rev. Alban Thomas Jones Gwynne, his successor in that estate. Near the sea-shore are some vestiges of an ancient circular encampment, called Castell Cadwgan, supposed by some antiquaries to have been thrown up by that chieftain about the year 1148; but its defences are now almost levelled. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £177. 18.

**LLANDEWY-BREVI** (**LLAN-DDEWI-BREVI**), a parish comprising the townships of Dothie-Camddwr, Dothie-Pyscottwr, Godwidd, and Prisk with Carvan, in the upper division of the hundred of PENARTH; the chapelries of Blaen-Penal and Gartheli, and the townships of Cugian, Gwynvil, and Llanio, in the lower division of the same hundred; and the chapelry of Bettws-Leike, in the upper division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES; 8 miles (N. E. by N.) from Lampeter, and containing 2461 inhabitants: each of the chapelries and townships is separately assessed for the maintenance of its own poor. This parish, which is intersected by the river Teivy, and by the turnpike road from Lampeter to Trêgaron, appears, from some discoveries recently made on a farm called Llanio, to have contained a Roman station of some importance, supposed to have been occupied by a cohort of the second legion of Augustus. According to an inscription upon one of the stones still remaining, this cohort assisted in building the walls of the place, which most antiquaries agree in supposing to have been the *Loventium* of the Roman Itineraries. The parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. David, was distinguished at a very early period as the place where a memorable convocation of the fathers of the Christian church was held, for the suppression of the Pelagian heresy, which early in the sixth century was spreading rapidly through the principality. At this synod, which was held in 519, and of which many marvellous particulars have been related by Giraldus Cambrensis, St. David presided, to whom St. Dubricius, at that time archbishop of Caerlleon, who was present at the meeting, resigned his archiepiscopal see and retired to Bardsey Isle, where he spent the remainder of his days in solitude and devotion. In 1073, a sanguinary battle was fought here between the forces of Gronw and Llewelyn, sons of Cadwgan ab Bleddyn, who had excited an insurrection to avenge the murder of their grandfather, the late Prince of Powys, and the troops of Rhŷs ab Owain and Rhydderch ab Caradoc, princes of South Wales, in which the former were victorious, and Rhydderch was slain. In making their attack upon the princes of South Wales, the sons of Bleddyn crossed the river Camddwr by a ford still called Rhŷd y Meirch, or "the ford of the Cavalry;" and on the western bank of that river are the remains of a military work, called Castell, which was constructed by Rhŷs ab Owain on this occasion. A college was founded here in 1187, by Thomas Beck, Bishop of St. David's, in honour of the patron saint of his cathedral, who had so ably con-



futed the Pelagian heresy at this place, in the year 519, also recommending it to the patronage of King Edward the Confessor, for a precentor and twelve prebendaries, which he amply endowed, and which continued to flourish till the dissolution, when its revenue was estimated at £40. A society formed of late years, for the promotion of Christian knowledge and Church union, in the diocese of St. David's, contemplated the foundation of a college at this place, for the education of young men intended for the ministry in the Church of England. For this purpose they had procured stone and timber for the erection of suitable buildings; but the plan was afterwards altered, and the object of the society was ultimately carried into effect at Lampeter. This parish comprises the upper part of the Vale of Teivy, the banks of which river are ornamented with some pleasingly varied scenery; but on the north and east it is environed by hills of bleak and desolate appearance, and the surrounding country, consisting of high and barren mountains, wears a dreary aspect. The village, situated about a mile from the Teivy, consists only of a few detached cottages, and is watered near its entrance by a small brook, called in Leland's time the Brevy. Fairs are annually held here on May 7th, July 24th, October 9th, and November 13th.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the alternate patronage of the Earl of Lisburne and R. Price, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. David, and erected on an eminence said to be the spot on which that saint stood, while preaching against the Pelagian heresy, was built by Thomas Beck, Bishop of St. David's, as the collegiate church of the establishment which that prelate founded here in 1187. It is a spacious and venerable structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a massive square tower, and was originally cruciform, but the north transept has been for many years a ruin, and the whole edifice has suffered materially from dilapidation. In it is preserved a very large horn, called by the inhabitants of the place "*Mat-Korn ŷch Davydd*," which is said to have been in the possession of the parishioners since the time of that saint. On a stone over the entrance to the chancel is a Latin inscription, which is noticed by Edward Lhuyd, in a communication to Bishop Gibson, and is as follows: *HIC IACET IDNERT FILIVS I. . . . QVI OCCISVS FVIT PROPTER P. . . . SANCTI*. Near the west end of the church is a curious old monument, called by the natives of the place "*David's Staff*," on which he is said to have leaned whilst preaching in the synod. It is an upright stone, seven feet high, and about ten inches broad, bearing a mutilated inscription, which is now illegible. A similar stone, four feet five inches high, and one foot eight inches broad, inscribed only with a cross, serves as a gate-post at the western entrance into the churchyard; and at the eastern entrance is a third, three feet ten inches in height, and one foot two inches in breadth, with an illegible inscription: all these monuments are supposed to have been raised in the early part of the sixth century. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists at Blaen Penal. At Llanio, in this parish, are three ancient inscribed stones, now built up in the walls of two cottages, which probably belonged to the ancient stations at this

place: one of these bears an inscription, in rude characters, which has been read *Caii Artii Manibus* (or *memoriae*) *Ennius Primus*; another, "*Overioni*;" and the third, which now serves as a seat in the porch of one of the cottages, has the inscription "*Cohors Secundae Augusta. Fecit Quinque passus*." To the south-east of the farm-house is a piece of ground called *Caer Castell*, in which may still be traced the foundations of ancient buildings. At this place have been found, at various times, Roman coins, bricks, culinary utensils, and other relics of Roman antiquity, which strongly corroborate the opinion of its having been occupied as a Roman station. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £524. 9.

LLANDILO (LLAN-DEILO), a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (N.) from Narberth, containing 117 inhabitants. This parish, which is not of very great extent, is pleasantly situated in the eastern part of the county, bordering on Carmarthenshire. It derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Teilo, one of the most eminent saints of British antiquity, who flourished in the latter part of the fifth, and the beginning of the sixth, century. The surface is boldly undulated, and in some parts rises into abrupt eminences, among which are some of the highest summits of the Percelly range of mountains. The lands are but partially enclosed and cultivated; and the soil is various, being in some parts fertile, and in others thin and poor. Slate of good quality is found in abundance within the parish: some quarries of it are worked with advantage, the produce consisting of roofing slates, which are in high estimation. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to that of Llangolman, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, and endowed with £800 royal bounty. There is a place of worship for Independents. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £17. 10.

LLANDILO-ABERCOWAN (LLAN-DEILO-ABER-CYWYN), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S. W. by W.) from Carmarthen, containing 90 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Teilo, and its distinguishing adjunct from its situation on the river Cywyn, near its influx into the Tâf, by the æstuary of which latter river, expanding into Carmarthen bay, it is bounded on the south-west. The turnpike road leading from Carmarthen to St. Clear's passes through the village. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Mrs. Hughes. The church is not remarkable for any architectural details, but is pleasantly situated on the eastern bank of the river Cywyn. Adjoining the churchyard was anciently a hospital, called the Pilgrims' Lodge; but no particulars, either of its foundation or its history, are recorded, and the building has long been appropriated to other uses. John Popkin, in 1713, bequeathed £10 to the poor of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £20. 2.

LLANDILO-'R-VÂN (LLAN-DEILO-VÂN), a parish in the hundred of MERTHYR-CYNOG, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (N. W. by W.)



from Brecknock, containing 585 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on a tract of high ground above the Vale of Usk, and is intersected by three brooks, namely, the Mawen, or Vawen, the Ethrym, and the Cilieni, the two former of which effect a junction near the church, and about a mile lower down flow into the latter, which preserves its name till it falls into the river Usk at Pont Maes. Its north-western extremity, adjoining the hundred of Builth, was formerly called *Tŷr yr Abad*, or Monksland, and formed part of the possessions of the abbey of Strata Florida, in the county of Cardigan. Llandilo'r Hall, the property of David Watkin Lloyd, Esq., and Noy-add, that of Edward Jones, of Llandovery, Esq., the only seats in the parish, have ceased to be occupied as family mansions, and are both let to tenants. Though, from its more elevated situation, the lands are less fertile than those in the Vale of Usk, they are by no means unproductive; the greater portion is enclosed and well cultivated; and there are extensive tracts of common land, the right of which, as in most of the hilly districts, is considered by the inhabitants as a valuable and important privilege. The village is within three miles of the high road from Brecknock into Carmarthenshire, through Trêcastle. The living is a perpetual curacy, with that of Llanvihangel Nant Brân annexed, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Trustees of the late Walter Jeffreys, Esq. During the Commonwealth, this living was endowed with £40 per annum out of the sequestered rectory of Merthyr-Cynog, which, however, ceased at the Restoration. The church, dedicated to St. Teilo, is in good repair, and appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service. In the northern part of the parish, which anciently belonged to the abbey of Strata Florida, were found, between twenty and thirty years ago, twenty pieces of silver coin of the reign of Edward I., which were carefully wrapped up, and appeared to have been lost, or concealed in a bog. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £211.11.

**LLANDILO-VAWR (LLAN-DEILO-VAWR)**, a parish comprising the market town and liberties of Llandilo-Vawr, and the hamlets of Maenor-Deilo-vabon, Taliaris, and *Tŷr Esgob* with Rhôs-maen, in the lower division of the hundred of *PERVETH*; the hamlets of Cwm Garw Llwyd, Maenor-Deilo Upper, Maenor-Deilo Lower, and *Tâch Lleian* with Rhiw Lâs, in the lower division of the hundred of *CAYO*; and the hamlets of *Brÿn y Beirdd*, Glyn-Aman, *Pentrêv Cwn*, Trêcastell, and Trêgib, in the hundred of *ISCENNEN*, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, each of which is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, and containing 5149 inhabitants, of which number, 1268 are in the town and liberties of Llandilo-Vawr, 15 miles (E. by N.) from Carmarthen, and 202 (W. by N.) from London. The name of this place is derived from the dedication of its church to St. Teilo, an eminent British saint, who flourished towards the close of the fifth, or early in the sixth, century: after his death, his remains, which had been vehemently contended for by this parish, in which he died, by the inhabitants of Pennalum, where his ancestors had been buried, and by those of Llandaf, where he had been bishop, were finally

interred at the last-named place. The town, though now one of the most considerable in South Wales, derived all its former importance and present historical interest from the neighbouring castle of Dinas Vawr, or Dynevor, originally erected as a royal palace, by Roderic the Great, sovereign of all Wales. After the death of Roderic, in 877, his dominions were divided into three separate sovereignties, and the seat of government for that of South Wales was removed, for the sake of greater security, from Carmarthen to Dynevor, which was strongly fortified both by nature and art. This castle, in which, in the tenth century, was deposited a copy of the celebrated code of laws compiled and enacted by Hywel Dda, continued to be the residence of the sovereigns of South Wales, till their government was overthrown by the aggression of the Normans, after their conquest of England. In 1142, Cadell, son of Gruffydd ab Rhŷs, a scion of the ancient royal family of South Wales, laid siege to this castle, then held by the Norman usurpers of the circumjacent soil, took it, and retained it in his possession. About the year 1150, his brothers Rhŷs and Meredydd, returning into their own territories, after a successful predatory incursion into the lands of the English vassals, rebuilt this ancient palace of their ancestors, and rendered it stronger than it had ever before been. Rhŷs having made peace with Henry II., that monarch ceded to him the territory of *Cantrêv-Mawr*, in which Dynevor castle was situated, and also several other lordships at that time in the possession of the English. These territories not being given up according to treaty, Rhŷs again had recourse to arms, and soon obtained them by force, recovering also the other ancient demesnes of his family; and after continuing for some time to spread devastation through the territories of the English vassals in the counties of Cardigan and Pembroke, he returned to Dynevor, laden with spoil and military honour.

From this time until the death of Henry II. Rhŷs remained in quiet possession of Dynevor castle, where, excepting in the case of a formidable attack which he made on the Marches, after the accession of Richard I., he appears to have lived entirely in peace and retirement. In the year 1204, his grandson, Rhŷs ab Gruffydd, made a successful attempt to recover possession of this fortress, which had been seized by his uncle Maelgwyn; but the latter, with the assistance of his brother, Rhŷs Vychan, regained possession of it, and likewise seized nearly all the other possessions of Rhŷs ab Gruffydd and his brother Owain. Under these circumstances the latter chieftains had recourse for assistance to the English monarch, John, who ordered Lord Foulke to demand of Rhŷs Vychan the castle of Llandovery, with its dependent territory, for the support of the brothers Rhŷs and Owain. This application being refused, the English commander, accompanied by these chieftains and all the forces they could collect in the neighbourhood, advanced towards Dynevor, and, meeting on their march the forces of Rhŷs Vychan, a battle ensued, in which that chieftain was defeated with considerable loss, and compelled to retreat upon Dynevor, the garrison of which he reinforced; and, after burning to the ground the town of Llandilo-Vawr, he retired into the most inaccessible parts of the neighbouring country. Foulke and the native chieftains immediately



invested the castle, and so pressed the siege, that the garrison surrendered on the following day, on condition of being allowed to depart with their arms. Soon after, Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, in alliance with several of the chieftains of South Wales, dispossessed many of the English vassals of the usurped territories in this part of the principality, and, in the partition of them, assigned Dynevor castle, with nearly the whole of Cantrev-Mawr, to Rhys Vychan, who afterwards died at Llandilo-Vawr, in 1233. His son Rhys, having been deprived of his territories, in 1254, by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, who divided them among other chieftains of South Wales, applied for assistance to Henry III.; and that monarch granted him a powerful force, to aid him in the recovery of such of them as were held by his brother Meredydd. With these auxiliaries Rhys came by sea to Carmarthen, and proceeded thence to Dynevor castle, which he immediately invested; but Meredydd ab Owain and Meredydd ab Rhys, reinforced by a large body of troops, sent by Llewelyn, gave the English battle, and, after one of the most sanguinary conflicts which ever took place in this part of the principality, defeated them, with the loss of more than two thousand of their number. Soon after the accession of Edward I. to the English throne, Payen de Chaworth, who commanded that monarch's forces in South Wales, attacked and laid waste the territories of several of the native chieftains, who, despairing of assistance from Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, made their submission to the English sovereign, and delivered the castle of Dynevor into the hands of his lieutenant. Edward I., about the time of his final invasion of North Wales, also sent an army into South Wales, under the command of the Earl of Gloucester and Sir Edward Mortimer, who, near Llandilo-Vawr, encountered and totally defeated the Welsh army which had been raised to oppose them, but not without sustaining a considerable loss on their own side, five knights, and William de Valence, cousin of Edward I., being slain: this last victory was one of those which completed the final conquest of Wales. In 1287, Rhys ab Meredydd, who had excited an extensive insurrection in South Wales, suddenly besieged and took the castle of Dynevor; but it was afterwards retaken by the English under the Earl of Cornwall, and subsequently demolished. In the reign of Henry VII., it formed part of the family estates of the celebrated Sir Rhys ab Thomas; but on the unjust attainder of his grandson, Rhys ab Gruffydd, in the reign of Henry VIII., it reverted to the crown. In the following reign, Mary restored a small portion of the estates to his son Gruffydd ab Rhys; and Charles I. restored to Sir Henry Rice all the family estates that then remained in the possession of the crown. George Rice, who died in 1782, was created Baron Dynevor, with remainder to his daughter, whose son, the present Lord Dynevor, is proprietor of the ancient castle and its dependent territory.

The town is beautifully situated on an eminence rising from the right bank of the river Towy, over which is a narrow stone bridge of modern erection, and consists of several irregularly formed streets, containing few houses of ancient date which at all agree, either in size or style of building, with the important rank which the place now holds in the county. Within the last few years considerable improvements have taken place, and

greater regularity and a more prepossessing appearance have been given to the buildings which have been recently erected: a new road has also been constructed through the churchyard, instead of the old one, which was so steep in this part of its course as to be almost impassable for carriages; and the approach from the town to the bridge has likewise been materially improved. The inhabitants are plentifully supplied with water; but the streets are neither paved nor lighted. The surrounding scenery is richly diversified with hill and dale, and greatly embellished with flourishing plantations: towards the east the view embraces the lofty Carmarthenshire Beacons, and to the west the wooded heights enclosing the Vale of Towy, through which that river winds its majestic course, in a vale of the most luxuriant beauty. In the vicinity are several elegant seats and pleasing villas, the grounds of which add greatly to the beauty and interesting character of the surrounding country. The parish is upwards of thirteen miles in length, from north to south, and about eight in breadth, from east to west. Both the town and parish are intersected by the roads from London to Carmarthen by Brecknock, and from Swansea to Lampeter. The market, which is well supplied with corn, is on Saturday; and fairs are held on February 20th, Palm Monday, and June 4th. The midsummer quarter sessions for the county, and the county court are held here; the latter is held monthly before the under sheriff. The election of a knight for the shire took place here prior to passing the acts relative to amending the representation of the people, which direct that the county members shall be elected at Carmarthen: this has been made one of the polling-places within the county. The town-hall is a respectable building of modern erection, containing the courts for the sessions, and a grand jury room, with a commodious area underneath, in which the corn market is held.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £16, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Teilo, and situated nearly in the centre of the town, is a large heavy building, consisting only of two aisles, and undistinguished by any peculiar architectural features. In the hamlet of Taliaris is a neat chapel, erected by the late Lord Robert Seymour, and endowed with a house and ten acres of land. Formerly there was a chapel of ease to the mother church, called Capel yr Ywen, now in ruins. Within the limits of the parish are four places of worship for Independents, two for Baptists, two for Wesleyan Methodists, and one each for Calvinistic Methodists and Unitarians: of these, three only are in the town, *viz.*, one for Baptists, one for Wesleyan Methodists, and that for Calvinistic Methodists. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is endowed with £5 per annum, given by Mrs. Warner, and £4 per annum by Mr. James; and there are some small bequests for apprenticing children and for distribution among the poor. In the vicinity of the town are many interesting ruins. The remains of Dynevor castle, situated at the southwestern extremity of Newton Park, which is within the parish of Llandeveyson, and contains also the modern mansion of Lord Dynevor, comprise a qua-



drangular area, about thirty-five yards in length and thirty yards in breadth, which was anciently enclosed with lofty walls of massive thickness, and appears to have been defended at the angles by towers, two of which are still standing, namely, a square one on the north, and a large round tower, overhanging a tremendous precipice on the south-east, overlooking the river Towy. About four miles from the town, and in that part of the parish which is in the hundred of Iscennen, are the remains of Carreg Cennen castle, occupying the summit of an isolated rock, nearly one hundred yards in perpendicular height, at the base of which flows the small river Cennen, from which it derives its name. The erection of this fortress is by some writers ascribed to a chieftain named Goronw, and by others to Urien Reged, the remote ancestor of the house of Dynevor, whose ancient territories extended from the river Neath, in Glamorganshire, to the river Towy in the present county of Carmarthen. The simplicity of its architecture certainly bespeaks its early origin; and there can be little doubt of its having been of ancient British construction, although by some it is supposed to possess no claim to an origin more remote than the reign of Henry I. Recent discoveries have only contributed to involve the question in still greater obscurity; some coins of the Emperor Domitian, which have been found here within the last few years, lead to an opinion of its occupation by the Romans; and a stone hatchet has been found in the immediate vicinity, which is evidently of a date anterior to the use of metal in Britain for the construction of military weapons. The only historical event on record concerning it is its re-capture by Rhŷs Vychan, about the year 1248, or 1254, from the English, to whom it had been given by his mother, from motives of personal dislike, in order to prevent it from falling into his hands. This fortress, from its elevated situation and the loftiness of its buildings, forms an interesting and a conspicuous object from many points of view, especially from the direction of Llandebie, from which village is the finest approach to it. The present remains occupy a quadrilateral area, nearly thirty-five yards in length and twenty-five in breadth, and consist chiefly of two square towers on the northern side, which defend the entrance, a large round tower at the north-western angle, and an octangular tower at the north-eastern, where is the principal entrance. On the eastern side of the quadrangle are the remains of several of the principal apartments, and on the southern side is a range of building, consisting of smaller apartments, which were probably the offices of the castle. There appears to have been another entrance, by a covered way leading along the margin of the precipice on which the castle is built, to a gate on the southern side; and a narrow arched passage on the northern side leads by an easy descent to a gallery excavated in the rock, and apparently designed as a well for supplying the castle with water. This gallery is about fifty yards in length, varying in breadth from three to twelve feet, and in height from four to ten, and is lighted at intervals by apertures cut outward through the rock: at the lower extremity is a basin, about four feet from the level of the floor, capable of holding not more than two gallons, and into which the

water trickles from the roof. From the summit of the rock on which the castle stands is an extensive and almost boundless prospect over the wide valleys intervening between the lofty mountains by which the site is surrounded. Near the source of the small river Cennen are numerous excavations, the interior surface of which is covered with fine grass: these are supposed to have been habitations of the aboriginal Britons; and, from the names of two farms to the south of Carreg Cennen, the neighbourhood is thought to have been a residence of the Druids, and a scene of their religious solemnities.

Dynevor castle, the *modern* residence of Lord Dynevor, forms an important feature in the environs of the town, and is described under the head of Llandeveyson, of which parish the park comprises a principal portion. At a short distance to the east of the town, and beautifully situated near the river Towy, is Trêgib, the residence of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Hughes, and now the property of her grandson, the eldest male representative of the late Captain Hughes, who is a minor. In the hamlet of Taliaris is the seat of the late Lord Robert Seymour, formerly part of the extensive property of the Gwynnes of Glânbrân, of which notice occurs in the article on Taliaris. In this parish are also Manorabon, the residence of D. Pughe, Esq., and, exclusively of such as belong to large estates, a greater number of seats and villas of opulent and respectable families, than in any other parish of the same extent in the principality. About five miles to the south of the town is Fynnon Craig Cefel, a chalybeate spring; and in various parts of the parish are several others of inferior note; but the waters of none of them are now used for medicinal purposes. On the opposite side of the river is a remarkable ebbing and flowing well; and at a short distance to the south of Carreg Cennen castle, at a place called Llanduvaen, on the borders of the Black Mountains, are some natural baths, one of which was formerly greatly resorted to by the natives of South Wales, for the cure of paralytic disorders; but they have now lost nearly all their ancient reputation. In the south-eastern part of the parish is the source of the river Llwehwr, or Loughor, which issues from a limestone rock, in a stream of sufficient force to give motion to the machinery of some extensive iron-works at a small distance, and, near its rise, falls over a ledge of rocks eighteen feet in perpendicular height, forming a fine cascade: close to the spring is a spacious natural cavern, in several places exhibiting a pleasing variety of petrifications and stalactites. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the whole of this parish amounts to £1319. 4.

LLANDINAM (LLAN-DINAM), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. N. E.) from Llanidloes, on the road from Newtown to Aberystwith, containing 1015 inhabitants. This parish is bounded on the south-west by the Llandinam mountain, which forms also a boundary between the counties of Montgomery and Radnor, and, rising to the height of one thousand eight hundred feet above the level of the sea, commands from its summit an extensive view of the surrounding country. The village is beautifully situated on the south-eastern bank of the river Severn, which flows smoothly through a narrow but highly



cultivated vale, bounded by hanging woods of luxuriant foliage, which in many places impend over its stream, and through which also the road winds in a direction parallel with its course: the scenery of this small vale is pleasingly picturesque, and in some parts highly romantic; and from the summit of Carnedd hill a fine view is obtained of the Vale of Severn, with the windings of the river, and the beautiful country on each of its banks. All the waste lands have been allotted among the freeholders, under the "Arustley Enclosure Act," obtained in 1816, and have chiefly been enclosed and brought under cultivation. The manufacture of flannel is carried on to a moderate extent, affording employment to a portion of the inhabitants. The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £7. 3. 1½, and in the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The rectory, divided into two compositions, and valued in the king's books at £22, was, by act of parliament in the 1st of James II., vested in the Dean and Chapter of Bangor, in trust, to appropriate one-third to the augmentation of the vicarages within the said compositions, and the remainder to the repairs of the cathedral church, and the maintenance of its choir. The church, dedicated to St. Llonio, a saint of the sixth century, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a square embattled tower, and is said to have been partly erected with the materials of the ruined fortifications of *Caer-Sws*: the western entrance is through a lofty and finely pointed arch under the tower, leading into the nave, and the interior is appropriately ornamented. At *Pen Halwg*, in the township of *Hëngynwith*, stood an ancient chapel of ease to the mother church, which was rebuilt in 1826, on the site of the former structure, and is situated six miles distant from the parish church: it is a neat plain edifice of stone, adapted to the accommodation of three hundred persons. There are places of worship for Welsh Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school, in which the poor children of the parish are gratuitously instructed, is supported by subscription; and there are Sunday schools in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations. Within the parish are three British encampments, of which the most perfect is that called the "Moat," about a mile nearly south-east from the Roman station at *Caer-Sws*, in the parish of *Llanwnnog*: it comprehends a quadrilateral area of about three acres, having the entrance at the lower extremity, and is defended by a strong intrenchment surrounded with a fosse. Connected with this camp is another of smaller dimensions, similarly fortified, and terminating with a high mound of earth entirely surrounded by a broad and deep moat; and about a quarter of a mile distant, on the summit of an eminence, is another, called *Caer-Vechan*, which, from its greater elevation, appears to have been an exploratory station. Several silver coins of the reign of Edward III., and of later date, have been found in this parish; and near the bridge over the Severn to *Caer-Sws* an urn containing ashes was discovered, about thirty years ago. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £1447. 4.

**LLANDINGAT (LLAN-DINGAD)**, a parish, partly in the higher division of the hundred of *PERVETH*,

and partly in that of the hundred of *CAYO*, county of *CARMARTHEN*, *SOUTH WALES*, comprising the market town of *Llandovery*, and containing 2465 inhabitants. This parish, which takes its name from the dedication of its church, is pleasantly situated near the confluence of the rivers *Brân* and *Gwytherig*, which, uniting their streams a little above the town of *Llandovery*, fall into the river *Towy*. The surface is for the most part undulating; and, with the exception of the summits of a few of the hills, the lands are generally enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The turnpike road from London to *Carmarthen* intersects the parish; and from the higher grounds some pleasing views are obtained over the romantic Vale of *Brân*, and the adjacent country. The environs are enlivened by numerous handsome seats, of which the principal within the parish are, *Llwyn Brân*, the elegant mansion of Major Rice, situated about two miles and a half from the town, embracing within its grounds a pleasing variety of scenery; and *Velindre*, the seat of Edward Jones, Esq., of which the grounds are tastefully laid out. The living is a vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of *Llanvair ar y brÿn* annexed, in the archdeaconry of *Carmarthen*, and diocese of *St. David's*, rated in the king's books at £7, and in the patronage of the Bishop of *St. David's*. The church, dedicated to *St. Dingat*, is an ancient building, consisting of two spacious aisles, with a tower, but presents no interesting architectural details: it was once destroyed by the Norman invaders of this part of Wales. The church of *Llanvair ar y brÿn* is situated within this parish, about a quarter of a mile from *Llandovery*, and about a mile distant from its own parish. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, all situated in the town of *Llandovery*, where there is a school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children of this and the adjoining parish of *Llanvair ar y brÿn*: there are also Sunday schools in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations. The spot on which the church of *Llanvair ar y brÿn* is built is supposed by some to have been the site of a Roman station; and Sir R. Colt Hoare considers that, from the number of Roman roads which terminate here, it must have been a station of importance: the intrenchments are at present very indistinct, but Roman coins, bricks, antique lamps, and other relics have been found within the area. According to tradition, this station was called *Trê-Gôch*, or the "red city," which appellation the same antiquary deduces from its having been originally built of brick: the present remains are very inconsiderable. In the church of *Llandingat* the celebrated *Rees Prichard*, commonly known as the "Vicar of *Llandovery*," who died in 1644, was buried. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor, including those of the town of *Llandovery*, amounts to £596. 5.

**LLANDISILIO (LLAN-DYSILIO)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of *DEYTHUR*, county of *MONTGOMERY*, *NORTH WALES*, 8 miles (N. N. E.) from *Welshpool*, on the road to *Oswestry*, containing 623 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to *St. Tysilio*, a saint who flourished in the sixth century, is situated on the river *Vyrnwy*, by which it is separated from the county of



Salop, and at no great distance from its influx into the Severn: the Montgomeryshire canal passes through the western part of it. The waste and common lands were enclosed under the provisions of an act of parliament obtained for that purpose in the year 1787. The petty sessions for the hundred are held in the village, on the first Friday in every month. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, and in the patronage of the Bishop, by whom the rectory is held in commendam. The church is a neat edifice, in the early style of English architecture, and contains several good monuments to the memory of deceased members of the family of Lloyd of Domgay. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. A Sunday school, in connexion with the established church, in which the children of the parish receive gratuitous instruction, is supported by subscription. David Jones, in 1696, gave some land for the relief of ten poor persons; and Peter Jones also gave a portion of land for the relief of the poor in general: the produce of these benefactions is annually appropriated according to the intention of the donors. Offa's Dyke may be distinctly traced in its progress through this parish, in which also are some obvious remains of an ancient Roman road pointing northwards towards Chester. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £381. 13.

**LLANDISSILIO (LLAN-DYSILIO)**, a parish, partly in the lower division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, and partly in that of DUNGLEDY, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. by E.) from Narberth, on the road to Cardigan, containing 1025 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is about five miles in length and four in breadth, and comprises two divisions, which are respectively situated in the counties of Carmarthen and Pembroke, each separately maintaining its own poor: the lands are enclosed and in a good state of cultivation, and the soil is in general fertile. It constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, rated in the king's books at £12. 9.  $4\frac{1}{2}$ , and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Tysilio, has no architectural claims to notice. In the churchyard, leaning against the south side of the church, is an ancient stone of large dimensions, with the inscription, in rude characters, *LVTORICI. FIL. PAVLINI. MARINI LATIO*: it was dug from under a heap of rubbish by the present incumbent, in the year 1827, and placed by him in its present situation: a tradition, however, of its existence had been preserved in the parish, which led to its discovery. There is a place of worship for Baptists in that division of the parish which is in the county of Carmarthen, and one for Independents in that which is in the county of Pembroke. Morris Jones, Esq., in 1621, bequeathed a rent-charge of £2, payable out of his farm of Cae Helig, in the parish of Wrexham, county of Denbigh, to be distributed in white bread among the poor of this parish. John Matthias, of Kilvaur, bequeathed £1. 1. per an-

num for a sermon on the uncertainty of human life, to be preached here annually on the second Sunday in June. Cicely Morris, by deed enrolled in 1776, gave £2. 2. per annum for the instruction of five poor children of this parish, and £2. 2. per annum for apprenticing them to some trade; these sums are chargeable on lands in the parish, and are duly appropriated according to the intention of the benefactress. On the farm of Cäsgrwŷn, in that part of the parish which is in the county of Pembroke, is an ancient encampment, comprising a semicircular area, two hundred and forty yards in circumference, with an entrance fifteen yards in width: the aspect is towards the west, and commands an extensive tract of country: small cannon balls have been turned up by the plough in its vicinity. Another encampment of similar form, and commanding the same tract of country, is seen on a farm called Portispark, in that part of the parish which is in the county of Carmarthen: it is situated on an eminence, and includes an area of which the chord is one hundred and thirty yards in length. On the farm of Llwyn-ybol is a circular encampment, thirty yards in diameter, surrounded by a rampart three feet high: in the centre are two stones, four feet in height, and in a position inclining from the perpendicular. There were formerly about twenty of these, varying in height; and at the distance of two hundred yards to the north-west is a small circle, within which are two erect stones, from four to five feet in height, near which it is supposed was formerly a third stone, so placed as to form an altar. Two avenues of stones, in opposite directions, but both tending to the circular enclosure, may still be traced; and around this relic of British antiquity are scattered numerous barrows, varying in dimensions, in one of which, on its being cut through in forming the present road from Narberth to Cardigan, was found an entire vessel, rudely formed of coarse pottery. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £270. 5., of which sum, £179. 2. is raised on that part which is in the county of Carmarthen, and £91. 3. on that in the county of Pembroke.

**LLANDOUGH (LLAN-DÔCH)**, a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mile (S.) from Cowbridge, containing 118 inhabitants. This parish is separated from that of St. Hilary by the river Ddaw, which winds through a beautiful little valley, richly wooded, and abounding with pleasing and picturesque scenery. On an eminence above the river, a little to the west of the village, are the remains of Llandoough castle, the castellated mansion successively the residence of the Welsh families of Vychan and Walche, which have been incorporated with a handsome modern mansion, now the residence of Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan. The substratum of the soil is limestone, interspersed with sandstone; and the lands are in general enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The living is a discharged rectory, united to that of St. Mary-church, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £4. 18. 9., and in the patronage of C. R. M. Talbot, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Dôchdwy, is a small neat structure, and contains some ancient monuments, among which is one to the family of Walche, consisting of recumbent effigies of a male representative of that family and his lady.



A few children are gratuitously instructed, chiefly at the expense of the family of Lieut. - Col. Morgan. To the south-east of the church are the remains of a small British encampment; and, within four hundred yards of it, a great number of human bones has been discovered, supposed to be those of individuals killed in the numerous and sanguinary battles which took place between the natives and the early Norman settlers. The Rev. John Walters, M.A., an eminent Welsh divine and critic, and author of an English and Welsh Dictionary, was for some time rector of this parish: he died in 1794. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £37. 1.

**LLANDOUGH**-(**LLAN-DÔCH**), or **LLAN-DOCHE-PENARTH**, a parish in the hundred of **DINAS-POWIS**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 4 miles (S. W.) from Cardiff, containing 119 inhabitants. This place is supposed by some writers to have been the site of an ancient monastery, founded in the fifth century for twelve monks, or canons, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity, by St. Cyngarus, which was afterwards amply endowed by Paulentus, at that time King of Gwent. St. Cyngarus, who is also called Docuinus, and who, according to Bishop Tanner, came into this part of the country about the year 474, has by other writers been identified with the British saint Dôchdwy, who is said to have accompanied Cadvan into Wales in the early part of the sixth century; and the parish church, which is dedicated to that saint, has consequently been regarded as the original church of the monastery. But this conjecture is not supported by any satisfactory authority, nor has it been confirmed by the discovery of any remains of the conventual buildings which may naturally be supposed to have belonged to such an establishment. The village is pleasantly situated on a finely wooded eminence, on the west bank of the Ely, about a mile above its fall into Penarth harbour, overlooking a large level tract, which is intersected by the rivers Ely and Tâf, and commanding an extensive and interesting view of the surrounding country, which abounds with richly varied scenery. The exhalations from the marshes below are unfavourable to the health of the inhabitants, who are consequently subject to attacks of ague. Limestone is the prevailing substratum of the parish. The living is a discharged rectory, with the rectory of Leckwith and the vicarage of Cogan annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £8. 8. 4., and in the patronage of the Marquis of Bute. The church, a very ancient structure, is evidently of a period anterior to the introduction of the English style of architecture, though some windows of that character have been inserted: it is neatly fitted up, and kept in good repair. In the churchyard is the shaft of an ancient circular cross, ornamented with scrolls and tracery, but without any legible inscription. A National school, in which from fifty to sixty children are gratuitously instructed, is supported at the joint expense of the Marquis of Bute and the rector of the parish: a neat school-house, with apartments for the mistress, has been erected by subscription, aided by a grant from the parent society in London. Cogan Pill, the ancient family seat of the Herberts, a branch of the family of that name near Swansea, has been converted into a farm-house, the grand hall having been appropriated as a barn: the

Herberts of this county were ancestors of the Earls of Pembroke and Warwick. At a short distance from the church, to the south-east, is a small circular mound, commanding the entrances of the rivers Ely and Tâf, and probably an outpost for the defence of those rivers, communicating with those at Whitchurch, Romney Bridge, and Cardiff. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £42. 15.

**LLANDOVERY**, an incorporated market town, in the parish of **LLANDINGAT**, hundred of **PERVETH**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 27 miles (E. N. E.) from Carmarthen, and 187 (W. by N.) from London, on the road from London through Brecknock to Carmarthen, containing 1766 inhabitants. The present name of this place is an obvious corruption of its ancient Welsh appellation, *Llan ym Ddyfri*, or *Llan ym Ddyvroedd*, signifying "the church among the waters," and is derived from the situation of its church on a level promontory between the river Towy and the stream formed by the union of the rivers Brân and Gwydderig, which here falls into the former river. By some writers the town is supposed to have had its origin in the establishment of a Roman station within a quarter of a mile of its present site, an opinion which is strengthened by the discovery of numerous Roman coins, bricks, and fragments of pottery: but it is equally probable that, like many other towns in South Wales, it owes its origin to the erection of its castle, the early history of which is very imperfectly known. Its original foundation, however, may be ascribed to some of the Norman settlers in this part of the principality, to enable them to retain the territories which they had usurped from the native proprietors. The first authentic historical notice concerning it occurs in the reign of Henry I., about the year 1113, when it was occupied by Richard de Pons; and in 1116 it was attacked by Gruffydd ab Rhys, who burned the outer ward, and slew part of the garrison; but he sustained so great a loss in this attempt to reduce it, that he was disabled from pursuing his advantage, and compelled to abandon the siege. In 1158, Rhys ab Gruffydd, one of the most powerful chieftains of South Wales, laid siege to the castle, of which he made himself master; and on the death of Meredydd ab Rhys, in 1201, it was seized by his brother Gruffydd ab Rhys, on whose death in the following year it fell into the hands of his brother Maelgwyn. In 1204, Rhys, son of Gruffydd ab Rhys, attacked the castle of Llandovery, in order to recover it from his uncle Maelgwyn, and succeeded in obtaining possession, but did not long retain it; for Maelgwyn, assisted by Gwenwynwyn, Prince of Powys, soon wrested it from him: Rhys, however, subsequently succeeded in his efforts to recover it. In 1208, Rhys Vychan, brother of Maelgwyn, having entered into hostilities against his nephews Rhys and Owain, obtained from the English monarch a supply of troops, with the aid of which he invested the castle of Llandovery, the garrison of which fortress, having no prospect of relief, surrendered it to him on condition of being allowed to depart with their arms and property. Rhys and his brother Owain, having complained to King John of the violent proceedings of their uncles, that monarch sent to demand the fortress of Llandovery, with the dependent territory, for the support of the young chieftains; but Rhys Vychan, neglecting to comply with this de-



mand, Rhŷs ab Gruffydd, aided by a party of English auxiliaries, recovered possession of it by assault in 1214. It appears, nevertheless, to have been repossessed by Rhŷs Vychan; for, in 1226, it was surrendered by him to his son, by whom he had been taken prisoner, as the price of his liberation from captivity. After the entire subjugation of the principality by Edward I., the castle of Llandovery became vested in the English crown, and was garrisoned by the king; but, during the absence of that monarch in France, an alarming insurrection was excited in South Wales by Rhŷs ab Meredydd, who, for his instrumentality in the subjugation of his country, had been knighted by Edward, and who, among other fortified places in this part of the principality, besieged and reduced this castle. Few particulars are henceforward recorded of it till the time of the parliamentary war, during which it is supposed to have been demolished by Cromwell.

The town is pleasantly situated in the upper part of the Vale of Towy, on the banks of the river Brân, and consists principally of two streets meeting nearly at right angles. Leland describes it, in the reign of Henry VIII., as "poor built, of thatched houses;" but since that period great improvement has taken place, and the houses at present are well built and of respectable appearance. The streets are partially paved, and the entire town, which was lighted for the first time with oil, in the winter of 1831, is abundantly supplied with water, which, passing over a gravelly bottom, is beautifully transparent, and of excellent quality. Balls and concerts take place occasionally at the assembly-rooms at the Castle Inn. About a mile above the town the river Towy is crossed by a handsome stone bridge of one arch, eighty-three feet in the span, built by William Edwards, the ingenious self-taught architect of the celebrated Pont y Prydd; and a handsome iron suspension bridge is now in progress of erection over the same river, about one mile westward from the town, on the road to Llandilo-Vawr, by subscription, the interest to be paid by a toll: the first stone was laid by Col. Gwynne, April 18th, 1832. The appearance of the neighbourhood is enlivened by several gentlemen's seats. A road of modern construction, which leads from Llandovery eastward towards Brecknock, winding through a deep valley round the base of the Black Mountains, exhibits a succession of the most romantic scenery. The trade is very inconsiderable, consisting only of what is necessary for supplying the consumption of the town and its neighbourhood, which latter is inhabited by several families of great respectability. The market, which is well supplied with corn, and with provisions of all kinds, is held on Wednesday and Saturday, the latter being the principal, in a commodious area under the town-hall. The fairs are on the first Wednesday after the 17th of January, March 19th, the Wednesday after Low Sunday; Whit-Tuesday, which is called the Bailiff's fair; July 31st; the Wednesday after the 10th of October; and November 26th, for horses, cattle, and sheep, and the following day for pigs. The inhabitants were first incorporated by Richard I., who made this place a free borough, and invested it with many privileges, which, though confirmed by Henry VIII., who made it a contributory borough to Carmarthen, and afterwards by Elizabeth, have, with the elective fran-

chise, fallen into disuse. By these charters the government was vested in a bailiff, recorder, and burgesses, assisted by a town-clerk, two serjeants at mace, and four constables, who still continue to be chosen annually, though they exercise no magisterial functions. The bailiff, who is also coroner within the borough, is elected by the burgesses; the recorder is appointed by the lord of the manor; and the burgesses, who are unlimited in number, are self-elected. The corporation were empowered to hold various courts, which have been discontinued; and the town is entirely under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, who hold petty sessions for the hundred every Saturday, in a room over the lock-up house. Llandovery is one of the polling places, appointed under the late Reform Act, in the election of a member for the county. The town-hall, erected in 1752, at the expense of the corporation, is a commodious building, containing rooms for the transaction of the municipal business, under which is an area for the corn market.

There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The Salem Chapel, belonging to the Independents, is a spacious and handsome structure, capable of containing upwards of two thousand persons. A National school is supported by subscription, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children of the parishes of Llandingat and Llanvair ar y brŷn, and their immediate neighbourhood: at present there are seventy children in this school. An infants' school, in which are from forty to fifty children, was established in 1829, and, by permission of the lord-lieutenant of the county, a room, formerly used as a dépôt for arms, has been appropriated to its use. There are Sunday schools, in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations, in which from three to four hundred children are instructed. A tract of woodland, about sixty acres in extent, situated within a mile of the town, in the parish of Llandingat, was left to the poor burgesses of Llandovery, many centuries ago, and is noticed in the charter of Richard I. Some remains of the ancient castle occupy the summit of a rocky eminence on the western bank of the river Brân: they consist of part of the keep and the intrenchments by which the works were surrounded; and the entire fortress, which does not appear to have been of very great extent, seems to have been suited rather for effective defence than domestic comfort. The Rev. Rees Prichard, Vicar of Llandingat, but better known as "the Vicar of Llandovery," was a native of this place. He is celebrated as the writer of a work called *Canwyll y Cymry*, "the Welshman's Candle," but more generally known under the title of *Llyfr y Ficer*, or "the Vicar's Book," comprising one hundred and seventy poems on religious subjects, written in the Welsh language with so much simplicity of style as to be perfectly intelligible to the most uncultivated understanding. This highly useful work is generally learned by heart by the Welsh peasantry, and forms a companion to the Bible in almost every cottage in the principality. Mr. Prichard bequeathed a house, and land of the value of £20 per annum, for the foundation of a free school in his native town; but either through neglect, or by a commutation with the Vicar's family for a sum of money, which has been either lost or expended on other objects, the intentions of the testator have not been carried into



effect. This venerated man was born in 1575, and, after a long life devoted to the welfare of his parishioners in particular, and the religious improvement of his countrymen in general, died in 1644.

LLANDOW, called by the Welsh LLAN-DŴV, a parish in the hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (W. by S.) from Cowbridge, containing 138 inhabitants. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £7. 4. 4½., and in the patronage of the Principal and Fellows of Jesus' College, Oxford. The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is a very small edifice of considerable antiquity. The parsonage-house is also a very ancient building, apparently coeval with the church: attached to the living are fifty-eight acres of glebe land. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £51. 4.

LLANDOWROR, a parish in the higher division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (W. S. W.) from St. Clear's, on the road from Carmarthen to Haverfordwest, containing 420 inhabitants. This parish appears to derive its name from its situation between the two waters of the rivulet Hîrwaun and the river Tâf, which last abounds with salmon and excellent trout, and is here navigable at high tides for boats. The lands are partly enclosed and cultivated, and a considerable portion is covered with underwood: the surrounding scenery is pleasing, and is characterized by some richly wooded heights, following the courses of these two streams. Within the limits of the parish is one of the finest quarries in the county, producing stone of excellent quality for building, and the working of which affords employment to such of the labouring inhabitants as are not engaged in agriculture. A new line of road, constructed to avoid the steep ascent of Llandowror hill to Tavernspite, on the border of Pembrokeshire, was completed in 1830, and extends from the village of Llandowror until it joins the road to Milford, considerably south of the former; it is intended to continue this line to St. Clear's. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6, and in the patronage of Sir R. B. P. Philipps, Bart. The church is dedicated to St. Cringat. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. David Lloyd, of Woodhouse, in the parish of Laugharne, in 1711, bequeathed £40, the interest of which is appropriated to the clothing of poor children; and Sir R. B. P. Philipps, Bart., allows £5 per annum for the instruction of twelve children of the parish: a school-room has been built by subscription. The Welsh circulating charity schools originated with the Rev. Griffith Jones, who for forty-five years was rector of this parish: he died in 1761, in the seventy-eighth year of his age, and was buried in the church, in which a handsome mural tablet was erected to his memory by Mrs. Bridget Bevan, of Laugharne, who had for many years attended his ministry, and after her death, in 1779, was, by her own previous request, interred by his side: this lady bequeathed £10,000 for the permanent support of these schools, which sum, during a course of litigation for twenty years accumulated to £30,000, vested in the three per cents., and at present amounting to £31,486. 12. 2. There are now twenty-nine of these

highly useful establishments in South Wales, and nine in North Wales, periodically circulating from one parish to another: they are under the control of a committee of management, and subject to annual visitation: each schoolmaster receives £20 per annum, and the master of the central school at Newport, where the teachers are instructed in the National system, receives a salary of £40 per annum. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £76. 4.

LLANDRILLO (LLAN-DRILLO), a parish in the hundred of EDEYRNION, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (S. W. by S.) from Corwen, containing 806 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is beautifully situated on the banks of the river Dee, and near the rivulet Ceidio, which, after heavy rains, becomes a torrent. It extends more than four miles in length, and three and a half in breadth, through the rich and fertile vale of Edeyrnion, and is bounded on the south by the noble range of the Berwyn mountains, of which the highest point, called Cader Berwyn, is within the parish. About three-fourths of the lands are enclosed, and a great part is in a good state of cultivation. Peat is procured in great quantities for fuel; and on the Berwyn mountain there is a quarry of excellent slate. The village is pleasantly situated on the turnpike road from Corwen to Bala and Dinasmowddwy, and at the entrance of an extensive glen in the vale, terminated by the lofty range of mountains which forms the southern boundary of the parish. The surrounding scenery is finely diversified with features of sublimity and rich luxuriance, and the distant views are grand and extensive. From Cader Verwyn are seen the beautiful vales of Edeyrnion and Penllyn, in all their variety of scenery; and, in the distance, the principal mountains in North Wales, and in the counties of Chester, Salop, Denbigh, Worcester, Stafford, and Lancaster. Fairs are held annually on February 25th, May 3rd, June 29th, August 28th, and November 14th. The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph: the rectory, which is a sinecure annexed to the see of St. Asaph, is rated in the king's books at £15. 16. 3.; and the vicarage, which is discharged, at £7. 17. 1.: the latter is in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Trillo, is a small ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a square embattled tower at the western end. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, to all of which Sunday schools are attached; and it is in contemplation to establish a parochial school on the National system, for the gratuitous education of the poor children of the parish. Hugh Jones, in 1738, bequeathed £75, the interest of which is distributed among the poor according to the will of the testator. Bwlch y Maen Gwynedd, a pass in the Berwyn range, is memorable as the place where Roderic the Great appointed a meeting of the Princes of Gwynedd and Powys, in order to adjust any differences and settle any disputes which might arise between those chieftains; and on the same range, and within the limits of the parish, is a large flat stone, probably the table stone of a cromlech, called Bwrdd Arthur, or "Arthur's Table." In a field called Cae'r Bont is a circular intrenchment, surrounded with a fosse and defended by ramparts of considerable strength; and on the summit



of a hill immediately above it is a circle of stones, twelve yards in diameter, within which was formerly a circular cell, six feet in diameter: at the distance of one hundred yards are the remains of a large *carnedd*, eighteen yards in diameter, and about twenty yards from these the remains of two smaller *carneddau*. On a hill, a little above the village, are vestiges of another intrenchment, and on the hills in various parts of the parish are other remains of British antiquity. Fynnon Maen Milgi, "the spring of the greyhound stone," a remarkably fine stream, issues from the Berwyn mountains; and near the village is a spring, called Fynnon Trillo, to the waters of which miraculous efficacy in the cure of various diseases was anciently attributed, and which are still thought to be highly beneficial in several cases. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £450. 1.

**LLANDRILLO YN RHÔS (LLAN-DRILLO-YN-RHÔS)**, a parish, partly in the hundred of CREUDDYN, county of CARNARVON, but chiefly in the hundred of ISDULAS, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, on the shore of the Irish sea, 5 miles (N.E.) from Aberconway, containing 1133 inhabitants. The village of Llandrillo is composed of three houses only: the townships in that part of the parish which is in Denbighshire are united for the maintenance of their poor; while that of Eirias, which forms the Carnarvonshire portion of it, supports its poor separately. There are four weirs along the shore, where an immense quantity of fish, of various kinds, is taken during the season, particularly mackerel and salmon: one only of these, namely that which formerly belonged to the monks of Aberconway, pays tithe, the capture at every tenth tide being divided between the bishop, as rector, and the vicar, three-fourths to the former, and one-fourth to the latter. A considerable quantity of limestone is shipped hence to Liverpool. The living consists of a sinecure rectory and a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph: the former, rated in the king's books at £27. 1. 3., is held in commendam by the Bishop of St. Asaph, who is also patron of the latter, which is rated at £8. 15. 10. The church, dedicated to St. Trillo, is a large handsome structure, situated on a high rock of limestone, and consists of a nave, chancel, north aisle, and a lofty square modern tower: the east window is in the later style of English architecture, and contains some elegant specimens of ancient stained glass: in one compartment is a fine head of Marchudd, founder of one of the fifteen noble tribes of North Wales, above which are the arms of Ednyved Vychan, counsellor and leader of the armies of Llewelyn the Great, and a successful warrior against the English: in the others are figures in flowing drapery, representing the tribes of Wales. Ednyved Vychan obtained a license from the pope to build a chapel adjoining this church, the only remains of which are part of two old arches in the north wall. There are places of worship for Wesleyan and Calvinistic Methodists and Presbyterians. A large and handsome building of stone, roofed with slate, was erected in 1819, for a National school, at an expense of nearly £400, which was raised by subscription, aided by a grant of £50 from the National Society: it presents a singular appearance, from its situation in the midst of lofty limestone rocks: the school is supported by voluntary contributions, and

at present affords instruction to about one hundred and forty children of both sexes. The poor derive benefit from several small bequests, amounting in the whole to about £17 per annum, which is distributed among them on St. Thomas's day. On the shore, at the distance of a mile to the north-east of the church, stands a very small chapel with a vaulted roof, called St. Trillo's, of singular appearance, being of an oblong form, with a window on each side and at the end, and entered by a small door: it is built over a well. A quarter of a mile southward from the church is a strongly fortified hill, called Bryn Euryn, at the foot of which are the ruins of a large building, called Llŷs Bryn Euryn, erected by Ednyved Vychan, as a residence for himself and his descendants, who procured a license from the pope to build a chapel near it, with permission to give all his tithes and oblations to the officiating chaplain. It was burned down, in 1409, by Owain Glyndwr; but the remains were modernized, and occupied by some female members of that family, named Conway, (the descendants of Sir Tudwr ab Ednyved, who was one of the commissioners for negotiating terms of peace between Edward I. and Llewelyn, and resided here so late as the reign of Charles II.), who contributed largely towards defraying the expense of erecting the tower of the church. In the township of Eirias is the noted well called Fynnon Eilian, which, even in the present age, is annually visited by some hundreds of people, for the reprehensible purpose of invoking curses upon the heads of those who have grievously offended them. The ceremony is performed by the applicant standing upon a certain spot near the well, whilst the owner of it reads a few passages of the sacred scriptures, and then, taking a small quantity of water, gives it to the former to drink, and throws the residue over his head, which is repeated three times, the party continuing to mutter his imprecations in whatever terms his vengeance may dictate. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the entire parish amounts to £555. 8., of which sum, £441. 5. is raised for that portion in the county of Denbigh.

**LLANDRINDOD**, a parish in the hundred of KEVENLEECE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. by W.) from Penybont, containing 182 inhabitants. This place, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to the Holy Trinity, is celebrated for the variety and efficacy of its mineral springs, the virtue of which appears to have been discovered at a very remote period, most probably by the Romans, of whose occupation of this part of the country numerous vestiges are found in the immediate vicinity. The parish is bounded on the west by the river Ithon, a stream noted for its trout and graylings. The surface is generally hilly, with several extensive commons of lower elevation: the soil is for the most part of an inferior quality, and extensive tracts are allowed to remain uncultivated. The horizon is bounded by an entire amphitheatre of hills, the sides of some of which are agreeably diversified by small plantations; and although the prevailing aspect of the country is remarkably wild, it has in its more retired parts numerous specimens of picturesque beauty. The mineral waters to which this place owes its importance appear to have been used from time immemorial by the inhabitants of the immediate neighbourhood; but their



efficacy was not generally known till about the close of the seventeenth century, when their reputation being published at a distance, this place first became the resort of strangers. Its rise, notwithstanding, was very slow, and frequently interrupted; and it was not till about the year 1749 that it attained any note as a place of fashionable resort for invalids. About this period, Mr. Grosvenor, of Shrewsbury, took the leases of several houses in this parish, with a considerable tract of land: the houses he converted into a spacious hotel, capable of accommodating several hundred visitors; and among the alterations and additions which he made for this purpose was a suite of rooms for balls, concerts, and billiards, with shops for the supply of the visitors with the various articles of use or luxury for which they might have occasion during their residence at this place. The land he laid out in pleasure grounds, with plantations, shrubberies, and walks, tastefully disposed and ornamented: fishponds were formed in different parts of the grounds, and a portion of the land was appropriated for a race-course. This extensive and complete establishment, which formed one of the most fashionable places of resort in the principality, continued to flourish for nearly fifty years, when, becoming a rendezvous chiefly for fashionable gamblers and libertines, the then proprietor of the estate, from religious motives, caused the place to be taken down, and nothing now remains to remind the visitor of its former splendour but the sites of the fishponds, and a small farm-house erected upon the site of one of the old dining-rooms of "Llandrindod Hall."

Within the last twenty years, however, this place has been gradually recovering from the decay into which it had fallen: the reputation of its waters attracted the attention of numerous visitors; but the want of accommodation continued to be a subject of reiterated complaint, and a great obstacle to its prosperity, until remedied by the exertions of Mr. Owen, the lessee of the wells, and the present proprietor of the Pump-House Inn and Boarding-House, which he has adapted to the comfortable accommodation of from sixty to eighty guests. In addition to these is a respectable boarding establishment, called the Rock House, and in the parish are numerous farm-houses, in which private lodgings may be obtained. There are three different springs, called, respectively, the rock or chalybeate, the saline pump water, and the sulphureous spring: there is also a spring called the eye water, supposed to be efficacious in diseases of the eye. The rock, or chalybeate, water issues from a slaty rock, near the boarding-house to which it gives name: according to an analysis to which it has been subjected, a gallon of this water contains fifty-seven grains of muriate of lime, forty-eight grains and three-fourths of muriate of magnesia, two hundred and thirty-nine grains of muriate of soda, three grains and two-fifths of carbonate of lime, one grain and a third of silex, and nearly six grains and one-fifth of carbonate of iron. The saline spring is situated within the grounds of the pump-house: one gallon of this water contains sixty-seven grains of muriate of lime, twenty-five grains of muriate of magnesia, two hundred and forty-two grains of muriate of soda, five grains and one-fifth of vegetable matter, and three-fifths of a grain of carbonate of magnesia. The sulphureous spring is situated within a hundred

yards to the south of the saline spring: one gallon of the water contains fifty-four grains of muriate of lime, thirty-one grains and two-fifths of muriate of magnesia, two hundred and sixteen grains and three-tenths of muriate of soda, and six grains of vegetable matter: this water is best adapted for artificial baths, but, like the saline water, is also taken internally. The waters are recommended to be drunk in the morning, and upon an empty stomach, in moderate quantities, and, when used both internally and externally, have been found very beneficial in numerous chronic cases, among which may be enumerated, rheumatism, gout, inveterate ulcers, and scrofula. The saline and sulphureous springs, which are both situated within the grounds of the Pump-House Inn and Boarding-House, are particularly recommended by the most eminent physicians in London, and their efficacy is thoroughly established in the following disorders; namely, diseased livers, indigestion, gravel, cutaneous distempers, and general debility, whether arising from sedentary habits, or from too free a use of vinous and spirituous liquors. The rock water is only drunk in particular cases, and then after a course of the former. The sulphur water is considered to be the best adapted to external applications, and is therefore sometimes used as a bath. The air is remarkably salubrious, and the sequestered retirement of the situation is highly favourable to the purposes of health: the neighbourhood affords extensive and interesting equestrian excursions, and to sportsmen unlimited range for shooting and fishing; and in the vicinity of the village are numerous pleasant walks. These advantages, uniting with the powerful efficacy of the waters, have rendered this place a favourite resort of invalids; and the many comfortable accommodations which are provided for visitors, and the agreeable society to be found in this interesting but sequestered spot, attract to it during the season a large concourse of visitors. The season commences about the beginning of June, and generally continues till the middle or end of October, and is enlivened by occasional balls, under the arrangement of the parties living at the pump-rooms, and confined to the inmates of their respective houses. The turnpike road from Builth, in the county of Brecknock, to Newtown in that of Montgomery, passes through the parish, along which a coach from Bristol, Swansea, Merthyr-Tydvil, and Brecknock, runs three days in the week to the Pump-House: the inhabitants receive their letters from the post-office at Penybont.

This parish constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, rated in the king's books at £5. 8. 9., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is a plain ancient edifice, in decent repair, but presenting no architectural details of importance: it is situated at the edge of an extensive common, near the river Ithon. Two benefactions of £10 each, one of which was given to the parish by the Rev. Philip Lewis, and the other by Mr. John William Meredith, are now secured on lands, and the interest is annually divided



among decayed farmers of this parish. Within the limits of the parish are several remains of British and Roman antiquity. On the common, just below the church, is a quadrilateral intrenchment, nearly one hundred yards in circuit, defended by a vallum, the angles of which are all rounded off: the remains of the rampart are still visible on the south and west sides. At the eastern extremity of the common, above the village of Howey, are some tolerably perfect remains of an encampment, nearly circular in form, enclosing an area of about fifty yards in diameter, surrounded by an exterior vallum, and having entrances only on the east and west: it occupies the gentle declivity of an undulating surface, and, from its form and contiguity to other Roman works, has been supposed to be the remains of a circus or amphitheatre for the celebration of games; but the area is quite inadequate to that purpose, and its position and construction are ill adapted for the accommodation of spectators. Near it are some very faint traces of another encampment, nearly square, with two of the angles rounded, and having the appearance of projecting bastions. These various remains, which have been described in one of the volumes of the Transactions of the Society of Antiquaries as "*Campi Æstivi*," are placed at irregular distances along the common, contiguous to the track of an ancient paved road, which is supposed to have been a vicinal way from an encampment on the banks of the Ithon, in the parish of Llanvihangel-Helygen, on a farm called Cwm. The form of the camps is quadrilateral, with the angles rounded off, and each generally contains within the embankment an area twenty-five or thirty yards square: they have entrances on each of the four sides, and adjacent to those into a few of them may be distinguished a slightly elevated spot, supposed by some to have been the station of a centinel; but the valla, which in no instance are more than two feet in height above the ground, are very indistinct. The common on which they are situated is so deeply furrowed in every direction with the turf spade, and marked by embanked enclosures, that, except in some particular places, where the lines of the camps are very strongly defined, it is extremely difficult to ascertain their precise form, or to discover their origin. On the same common are the remains of seven barrows, five of which are near each other, and the other two at a small distance from them: they have been opened, and were found to contain some rudely formed urns, with ashes of human bones. Near the church is an ancient lead mine, which is said to have been originally worked by the Romans: the shaft is three feet square, and is said to be three hundred feet in depth, with a level three-quarters of a mile in length: it has been worked within the last few years, but it is not at present in operation. The foundations of an ancient chapel were discovered in a corn-field a few years since: it was called "*Capel Vaelon*," but nothing is known of its history. In a field belonging to the farm rented with the pump-rooms, many silver coins of the reigns of Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I. and II., have been dug up. The present venerable incumbent of this parish, now nearly eighty years of age, and equally respected for his talents and his virtues, has served the church of Llandrindod for the long period of fifty-one years, of which he has been

in the enjoyment of the benefice upwards of thirty years, and still continues zealously to perform the duties of his sacred office with punctuality. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £83. 16.

LLANDRINIO (LLAN-DRINIO), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of DEYTHUR, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 9 miles (N. E. by N.) from Welshpool, containing 863 inhabitants. This parish is situated at the eastern extremity of the county, on the road from Shrewsbury to Bala through Llan-vyllin, in an angle near the confluence of the rivers Severn and Vyrnwy, over the former of which, near the church, is a stone bridge of three arches. It is considered to be one of the most fertile in the principality, the lands contiguous to those rivers being covered, when they overflow their banks, with a rich slimy sediment, which contributes materially to increase their fertility. The waste lands were enclosed under an act of parliament passed in 1787, and are now in a good state of cultivation. The river Severn, which is here navigable, bounds the parish on the east and south-east; and the Montgomeryshire canal intersects the western part of it, through which also passes the road from Welshpool to Oswestry. The living is a rectory, with the perpetual curacy of New Chapel annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £24. 16. 10½., and held in commendam by the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Trinio, an ancient structure in the early style of English architecture, was thoroughly repaired and the steeple rebuilt in the year 1829, at which time thirty-eight additional sittings were formed, which, together with forty formerly appropriated, were made free, in consideration of a grant from the Incorporated Society for building, enlarging, and repairing churches and chapels: in the churchyard are thirteen fine yew trees of luxuriant growth. There is a place of worship for Independents. A National school, in which sixty children are at present instructed, is supported by subscription: the school-house was erected in 1827, partly by subscription and partly by a grant of £100 from the National School Society in London. Mrs. Margaret Pitts, in 1722, bequeathed £40 to the poor of Tredderwen Veibion Gwnas, in this parish; Mrs. Long bequeathed £20 to seven poor widows; and Mrs. Mary Derwas bequeathed £100, the interest of which she directed to be applied to the purchase of gowns for the poor: the interest of these sums, together with that of £15 bequeathed by Mrs. Aldersey, is annually distributed among the poor. Mr. Evans also bequeathed £100 to the poor of this parish, but his bequest was rendered invalid by the statute of mortmain. Offa's Dyke passes through the western part of the parish, and may be distinctly traced. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £397. 12.

LLANDRYGARN (LLAN-DRYGARN), a parish in the hundred of LLYVON, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S. W.) from Llanerchymedd, containing, with the chapelry of Gwyndy, 449 inhabitants. This parish is chiefly distinguished as having been the residence of Rhys ab Llewelyn ab Hwlkyn, who, for his services at the battle of Bosworth Field, was by mandate of Henry VII. permitted to assume the surname of Bôdychan, from his family mansion, and appointed first sheriff of Anglesey, which office he held till his



decease. Of this ancient mansion, one of the towers, of which there are still some remains, was formerly used as the county prison, and the other parts have been converted into a barn and farm-offices. The chapelry of Gwyndy appears to have derived that appellation from the White House, formerly the half-way hotel and posting-house between Bangor and Holyhead, but which, since the building of the bridge at Bangor, and the diversion of the road, has fallen into comparative disuse. A branch post-office is kept here, under the office at Bangor, for the accommodation of families resident in the neighbourhood. This parish formerly constituted part of the parish of Holyhead. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to that of Bôdwrog, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant. The church, dedicated to St. Trygan, is a small and very ancient structure. Dr. Wynne, chancellor of Llandaf, gave a portion of the tithes to the Principal and Fellows of Jesus' College, Oxford, in trust for the poor of this parish; and there are some other charitable donations and bequests, of which the produce is annually distributed according to the will of the benefactors. In the chapelry of Gwyndy, large hammers rudely formed of trap rock, and handmills of various sizes, made of chert, marble, and freestone, of which the smaller were rudely, and the larger well, formed, have at various times been found. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £197. 1.

LLANDUDNO (LLAN-DUDNO), a parish in the hundred of CREUDDYN, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N. by W.) from Aberconway, containing 662 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the shore of the Irish sea, and comprises the promontory called by the Welsh Gogarth, and by the English Great Orme's Head. It is bounded on the north and west by the Irish sea, and on the south by the æstuary of the river Conway; and is connected with the main land, on the east, by a narrow isthmus of sand, intersected by a small valley through which the tide formerly flowed, thus nearly insulating it. The bay of Llandudno is one of the finest on this coast, extending in the form of a crescent from the base of the promontory to the Lesser Orme's Head, without interruption, and affording excellent and secure shelter to shipping during heavy gales. The north side of Great Orme's Head is broken into craggy precipices of various elevation, which, during the breeding season, are the resort of various aquatic birds, among which are the gull, the razor-bill, the guillemot, the cormorant, the heron, and sometimes the falcon: these occupy respectively their several stations in the rocks, the gulls having the lowest and the herons the highest situations; and a small number of puffins is scattered indiscriminately in various places. The eggs of the razor-bill are esteemed a delicacy, and the sale of them, generally at two shillings per dozen, affords a livelihood to several families employed during the season in procuring them. The western side of the promontory is one vast precipice: the mountain extends into the plain above the village, forming a precipitous eminence, the summit of which is called Dinas, and is surrounded with a wall of loose stones, very rudely formed, within which are the foundations of numerous circular buildings, varying in diameter from twelve to thirty feet, and arranged

round the west and south sides of the mountain. In the centre is a rocking-stone, called Crÿd Tudno, or the "cradle of St. Tudno;" and upon the extreme northern point of the eminence are the ruins of a large square building, of which the walls, apparently constructed without mortar, lie scattered in various directions. On the highest point of the promontory, and near the Great Orme's Head, a signal staff has been erected, communicating with Llÿsvaen, on the east, and with the island of Priestholme on the west, and forming a post in the line of communication between Liverpool and Holyhead. In some parts the mountain, which is about five miles in circumference, affords good pasturage for sheep, and near the summit are some extensive copper mines, from which about three thousand tons of ore, of a very pure quality, are raised annually and sent to Swansea and to Cheadle, for the purpose of being smelted: the number of men employed in these mines is, on an average, about one hundred and twenty. The mountain consists of alternate beds of chert and limestone, uniformly dipping from every side to a common centre, where the great mass of ore is found. This parish is the head of the great manor granted by Edward I. to the see of Bangor, and is one of the four parishes in this county which are on the Denbighshire side of the river Conway. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £1600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Archdeacon of Merioneth, to whom the rectorial tithes are appropriated. The church, dedicated to St. Tudno, is a small structure, about two miles distant from the village, and situated on the summit of the cliffs, overhanging the sea. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A free school was established here at a very early period, in which twenty boys and ten girls are at present instructed; and a new school-house is now in progress of erection, the expense of which will be defrayed out of the accumulation of the surplus funds. The poor children of the parish are also entitled to receive gratuitous instruction in the National school founded by Mrs. Mostyn in the adjoining parish of Eglwys-Rhôs. Lewis Owen, Esq., in 1623, bequeathed one-eighth part of the tithes of the parish of Aberconway for clothing poor old men and women of this parish, above sixty years of age; and Mr. Richard ab Robert, prior to 1732, bequeathed £40, and Mr. Thomas Evans, about the same time, £20, the produce of which is annually distributed among the poor on St. Thomas's day. In the copper mines is found a great variety of mineral curiosities, such as beautiful specimens of malachite, or mammalated green carbonate of copper, &c. The average annual expenditure to maintain the poor is £140. 14.

LLANDUDWEN (LLAN-DUDWEN), a parish in the hundred of DINLLAEN, Lleyd division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (W. by N.) from Pwllheli, containing 85 inhabitants. The lands in this parish, consisting of about one thousand one hundred and sixty acres, and having for the most part a clayey, though in some places a peaty and gravelly, soil, are generally low and flat, and form the most fertile and best cultivated tract, in this part of the principality. The surrounding scenery is varied; and among the most striking of the objects which it com-



prehends is Carn Madrin, at the base of which, within the parish, and occupying a romantic situation, is Madrin, an ancient mansion, now the property and residence of T. P. J. Parry, Esq. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Rhiw, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Tudwen, is a small neat cruciform edifice, in good repair. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £51. 2.

LLANDUGWELL, a township in the parish of LLANVECHELL, hundred of TAL Y BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (W.) from Am-lwch. The population is included in the return for the parish. This township was anciently a distinct parish, but the church, dedicated to St. Dogvael, having been allowed to fall into ruins, many years since, it ceased to be parochial, and the rectorial tithes are now taken alternately by the rectors of this parish and that of Llanrhyddlad. There is a separate assessment for the support of its poor: the inhabitants do not pay any church rates to Llanvechell parish.

LLANDULAS (LLAN-DDULAS), a parish in the hundred of ISDULAS, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, on the road between Holyhead and Chester, 3 miles (W. by N.) from Abergele, containing 307 inhabitants. The village, which is of small size, is situated on the banks of the river Dulas, over which is a good stone bridge, and near its influx into the sea. The parish abounds with vast rocks of limestone, in which lead-ore is found; but the inhabitants are chiefly employed in procuring immense quantities of the limestone from the mountains, which is sent hence to Liverpool to be burned for mortar. The spacious bay of Llandulas is noted for the protection it affords to vessels in all states of the weather; and its security and convenience have been increased by the erection of a lofty pier, in 1822, projecting a considerable way into the sea, to which a rail-road extends from the limestone quarries, so that vessels can now receive their cargoes at all states of the tide. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £6. 1. 5½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Ceinbryd, a small plain structure, bearing evident marks of having been considerably enlarged, particularly in remains of the corner stones in the west front, and a handsome circular arch of great antiquity. In the village, situated near the bridge, are four almshouses, erected in 1767, by three brothers named Lloyd, but they are not endowed. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £34. 12.

LLANDURY, a chapelry in the parish of PEMBREY, hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 2½ miles (S. E. by E.) from Kidwelly. The population is included in the return for the parish. The chapel is spacious, and service is regularly performed in it in the afternoon.

LLANDWROG (LLAN-DUROG), a parish in the hundred of UCHGORVAI, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (S. by W.) from Carnarvon, on the road to Pwllheli, consisting of the Upper and Lower divisions, and containing 1923 inhabitants. This place is of considerable antiquity, and was, during the ninth century, the residence of Cilmin Troed Dû, one of the fifteen

tribes of North Wales, the remains of whose palace at Glynllivon were existing till within the last few years. From this chieftain descended the Glynnnes of Glynllivon, ancestors of the present Lord Newborough, who has a noble mansion near the spot, deeply embosomed in trees, and commanding extensive views over St. George's channel, the Menai strait, the Isle of Anglesey, and the country towards Carnarvon. The parish, which is extensive, though mountainous in some parts, and comprehending a considerable portion of sands, contains many large tracts of enclosed and well-cultivated land, of which the soil is rich and fertile. Morva Dinlle, a sandy marsh with some clay, comprising two thousand five hundred acres, and included partly in this parish, and partly in those of Llanwnda and Llanvagan, was enclosed under an act of parliament obtained in 1806. The village, which is large, is pleasantly situated; and several of the inhabitants are employed in the mines and quarries in the neighbourhood. On the coast of the Menai, in this parish, the late Lord Newborough, between the years 1770 and 1780, erected at his own expense, both in the grounds of Glynllivon, and also at Belan, near the entrance of the strait, commodious barracks for the county militia, of which, as lord-lieutenant of the county, he was Colonel-Commandant: these, which had become much dilapidated, have been restored and greatly improved by the present lord: the barracks at Glynllivon are called Fort Williamsburg, and those at Belan, Fort St. David: off the latter is situated his lordship's yacht dock. The mountainous parts of the parish are rich in mineral wealth, consisting principally of copper-ore and slate. The copper mines called Drws y Coed, supposed to have been originally worked by the Romans, are still very productive: the principal slate quarries are those of Cloddva'r lôn, Talysarn, Pen yr Orsedd, and Cilgwyn, the last of which has been worked for more than a century: these several works afford constant employment to more than seven hundred men. The Llanllyni, and Carnarvon rail-road, which passes through the upper division of the parish, was constructed under acts of parliament obtained in 1825, 1827, and 1828, by a company called the Nantle Railway Company: it commences at the Cloddva'r lôn slate quarries, near Nantle Pool, and pursues a westerly direction for some distance; it then takes a northerly course, and terminates at the shipping quay at Carnarvon.

The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £11. 11. 5½., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Twrog, by whom it is supposed to have been originally founded in the sixth century, is a spacious and ancient structure, neatly fitted up. There are several places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, and one each for Independents and Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school, founded by Lord Newborough, who also built the school-house at his own expense, is liberally supported by his lordship and the rector of the parish, and is open to poor children of this and the adjoining parishes. Mrs. Ellen Glynnne founded here almshouses for twelve aged and unmarried women, which she endowed with the farm of Plas Newydd, in the parish of Llangoed, county of Anglesey, and with other lands, now producing about £200 per annum: the almswomen are nominated by



Lord Newborough, and appointed by the Bishop of Bangor. Mrs. Glynné also bequeathed a rent-charge of £5, payable out of the Glynllivon estate, to the poor ; and there are several other charitable donations and bequests, the produce of which is annually distributed among them on St. Thomas's day. In the mountainous districts of this parish, at a place called Bala Deulyn, where two small lakes are united by a rivulet, is Nantle, an ancient mansion, in which Edward I. resided during the erection of Carnarvon castle, and from which many of his decrees were dated. Near this place, in 1827, two gold coins were found, one of which had on the obverse a figure of that monarch seated in a ship, and holding a sword, with the legend, in ancient characters, EDWARD. DEI. GRA. REX. ANGL. DNS. HYB. D. AQUI., and on the reverse four lions and four crowns, with the legend IPSE. AUTEM. TRANSIENS. PER. MEDIUM. ILLORUM. IBAT. At a short distance to the north of the church is Dinas Dinlle, a fortification occupying the summit of a circular artificial mount on the shore of the Menai strait, and on the confines of an extensive marsh. The enclosed area, four hundred feet in diameter, is surrounded by a vast rampart of earth, and defended in some parts by a second rampart and a deep fosse ; and on the side near the shore the eminence has, by the constant action of the waves, been formed into an abrupt and precipitous cliff. The entrance is on the opposite side, and within the enclosure are vestiges of buildings of an oblong form, constructed of loose stones, and also a tumulus. This strong post, obviously an outwork connected with the station *Segontium*, adjacent to the present town of Carnarvon, was probably constructed to afford facility in landing supplies for the garrison of that place, when, from adverse winds, the entrance to that port became difficult or dangerous. Its Roman origin, which has been inferred by Mr. Pennant and other antiquaries, from the discovery here of Roman coins, and the necessity for such an outwork, for the convenience of the principal station, is confirmed by vestiges of roads leading from *Segontium*, of which one, crossing the river Seiont, and pointing directly to this place, was discovered in a very perfect state, at a distance of several feet below the surface of the ground, in laying down the railway from Llanllyvni to Carnarvon. A further corroboration of the Roman origin assigned to this post is derived from the appellation of two ancient fords on a stream near the site, called "Y Foriad," which still respectively retain the semi-British and semi-Roman names of *Rhŷd Pedestre* and *Rhŷd Equestre*, implying "the passage for the infantry" and "the passage for the cavalry." The Roman road from Dinas Dinlle to *Segontium* may still be traced in various places, and especially on its approaching the river Gorvai, near which it is plainly discernible. On the Cilgwyn mountain, in this parish, is a Druidical circle, seventeen yards in diameter ; and at Plâs Newydd, a large upright stone points out the grave of an ancient British warrior. Bedd-Gwenan, and Carnedd Angharad, are also supposed to be the tombs of British chieftains. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £687. 1.

LLANDYGWYDD (LLAN-DYGWYDD), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N.W.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, containing 1131 inhabitants.

This parish is pleasantly situated in the south-western part of the county, on the banks of the river Teivy, and is intersected by the turnpike roads from Cardigan to Newcastle-Emlyn, only four miles distant from the former, though the latter is the post town. The lands are enclosed and in a high state of cultivation ; and the soil is tolerably fertile. The scenery of the southern portion of the parish, bordering on the vale of Teivy, is finely diversified, and highly enriched with groves of stately oaks and other majestic timber ; and the neighbourhood abounds with handsome seats and pleasing villas. Blaen pant, the residence of W. Owen Brigstocke, Esq., is a handsome mansion, beautifully embosomed in woods of majestic growth, and surrounded with flourishing plantations : in the house is an extensive and valuable library, principally collected by the ancestor of the present proprietor, Owen Brigstocke, Esq. ; and the grounds, which are judiciously and tastefully laid out, comprehend much pleasing and picturesque scenery. Stradmores Vale, an elegant modern mansion, the property of Dr. Sheriff, is finely situated on the banks of the Teivy : it is sheltered in the rear by a noble forest of oak, rising from the margin of the river, and forming an interesting and prominent feature in the scenery of this portion of the vale : the prospect from the house, though confined, is extremely beautiful. Noyadd Trêvawr, once a place of great importance, and at present the property and residence of Captain Parry, R. N., C. B., G. C. S., is a good family house, pleasantly situated, and comprehending within the grounds some pleasing scenery ; and Penllan, the residence of the Rev. John Jones, commands a rich and extensive prospect over the high grounds on the opposite side of the river. Park Gors, Cilluch, and Dôl, all within the parish, are also handsome residences on a smaller scale. The manor and lordship of Llandygwydd formerly belonged to the Bishop of St. David's, but were sold to the Rev. Thos. Griffith, together with the estate of Llwynduris, under an act of parliament for the redemption of the land tax, on which, near the site of the old episcopal palace, he subsequently erected the mansion now the property and residence of his son, John Griffiths, Esq. This parish constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, to which it was transferred, at the dissolution, from Aberguilly : it is valued in the king's books at £10. 12. 8½., and is in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £400 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Prebendary of Llandygwydd. The church, dedicated to St. Dygwidd, is a neat modern edifice, rebuilt about the commencement of the present century. There were formerly two chapels of ease, one at Noyadd, of which some vestiges may still be traced in a field called Parc y Capel, and the other near Cenarth bridge, which has totally disappeared, the site having been levelled in the formation of the turnpike road. Here are National schools for the gratuitous instruction of children of both sexes, supported by subscription. To the east of the church are the remains of a small camp, called "Gaer," of which no historical particulars are recorded ; and within a quarter of a mile to the south of it



is a barrow: there are also two barrows on an eminence in this parish, called "Pen y Bryn Bwa." The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £354. 4.

**LLANDYRNOG (LLAN-DYRNOG)**, a parish in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (E. by S.) from Denbigh, containing 708 inhabitants. This parish is beautifully situated in the fertile and picturesque Vale of Clwyd, and in the earlier periods of Welsh history must have been a place of some importance, being connected with a chain of ancient British posts established both as exploratory stations, to watch the approach of an invading enemy, and as strong holds to which, in cases of imminent danger, the families of the neighbouring districts retreated with their flocks and herds for security. Fairs are held on February 11th and November 20th. The living is a rectory, in the diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £19. 19. 7., and held in commendam by the Bishop, to whom it was given at the Reformation, in lieu of mortuaries, which were previously paid throughout the deanery of Dyfryn Clwyd, in which the parish is situated. The church is dedicated to St. Tynnog, from which circumstance the parish derives its name. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, is supported by subscription. Mr. Henry Powell, in 1748, bequeathed £100 to be applied to the apprenticing of one or two poor boys of this parish annually, who should be appointed by the heir of the Glanywern estate. Mr. Foulke Parry bequeathed £40, Mr. Thomas Powell £20, Mrs. Jane Salusbury £20, the produce of which, together with that of other smaller sums by various benefactors, is annually distributed among the poor. The principal and most extensive of the military posts above-mentioned occupies the summit of one of the Clwydian mountains, and from its strong fortifications was called Bryn y Cloddiau, or "the hill of ditches:" the line of circumvallation conforms to the shape of the hill, and the enclosed area is one mile and three-quarters in circumference, and defended, according to the facility or difficulty of access, by single, double, triple, and quadruple intrenchments: the principal entrance is on the west side, where is only a single fosse, and on the north, where it was more easily accessible, are five fosses. Within the enclosure are several hollows, as if designed for lodgements of men on guard, or probably as places of greater security, which are now filled with pools of water; and in the centre of the camp is a large tumulus. Vron Iw, the ancient mansion of the family of Williams, has been converted into a farm-house: a memorial of its former magnificence is preserved in some lofty pillars among the ruins, which anciently formed a splendid portico: in the grounds is a strongly impregnated chalybeate spring. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £751. 11.

**LLANDYSILIO-GOGO (LLAN-DYSILIO-GOGOV)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 18 miles (W. N. W.) from Lampeter, containing 1430 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the shore of Cardigan bay, and is intersected by the turnpike road from Cardigan to Aberystwith, derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Tysilio, and

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its adjunct "Gogo," or more properly "Gogovau," from the numerous caverns worn by the sea in the rocks which line this part of the coast. The Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., was entertained by Davydd ab Ievan at his mansion of Llwyn Davydd, in this parish, on the first night after his arrival in Cardiganshire, on his route to Bosworth Field; and to this circumstance has been attributed the origin of the family of Parry, or ab Harry, in consequence of an illicit intercourse which is reported to have then taken place between the earl and the daughter of his host. There is a small haven formed on the bay, at a place called Cwm Tydwr, in this parish, where two or three small vessels are regularly engaged in conveying limestone and culm from their respective districts: the former is burnt into lime for manure, and in that state sold to the farmers. The living is a discharged vicarage, with that of Llan-granog annexed, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 18. 1½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, and consists of a nave, chancel, and south aisle; the nave is separated from the chancel by a stone screen of good character; the font, which is octangular, is supported on a pillar of the same form; and near the western entrance is an ancient piscina. Chapel Cynin, in this parish, was a chapel originally in the patronage of the Vicar of Llandysilio-Gogo, but was suffered to fall into decay. It was afterwards rebuilt by the parishioners, in the year 1820, and was subsequently endowed by Major Parry of Gernos, the proprietor of the Cwm Cynin estate, with the sum of £200, to which has been added £2000 by parliamentary grant: the living is now a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of Major Parry. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, and Presbyterians. A small Sunday school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported by subscription. The ancient family mansion of the estate of Cwm Cynin is now a farm-house. In Cwm Tydwr are the foundations of some ancient buildings, which, according to tradition, are the remains of the ancient castellated mansion of the Tudors. Llwyn Davydd, the ancient residence of Davydd ab Ievan, is now become a considerable village; and not far from it are the remains of an ancient fortress, called Castell Llwyn Davydd, comprising a circular area, nearly two hundred feet in diameter, strongly defended by moats and ramparts. Within the area it has the appearance of a large tumulus, but nothing is positively known of its origin or history: by some it has been thought to have been the castle of Mâb Wynion, which was taken by Rhys ab Gruffydd, in 1164. On a farm called Ciliau, in this neighbourhood, is Garn Wen, or "the white heap," a circular enclosure about two hundred feet in diameter, surrounded by a rampart of loose stones, and divided into three compartments: to the south-west of it is a space of three acres, which appears to have been defended by a mound of earth. It must have been a place of great strength, and appears to have furnished materials for building most of the stone walls in its immediate vicinity. The history of this work has not been satisfactorily ascertained; a hill to the west of it still retains the appellation of Cwen y Cwrt, or "the



hill of the court," from which circumstance it has been supposed to have been originally a station for the administration of justice to the inhabitants of the district, during the earlier periods of the principality. About thirty years since, a curious vessel was dug up in this parish, made of bell metal, and resembling a flagon in its form; it is supposed to have been used for holding the sacramental wine, and from its having been found in a turbary, near the remains of a dilapidated chapel, the probability of that conjecture derives additional strength. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £545. 13.

LLANDYSILLIO (LLAN-DYSILIO), a parish in the hundred of TYNDAETHWY, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (W. S. W.) from Bangor, containing 479 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the shores of the Menai strait, and at the northern extremity of the Menai bridge, which, over an embankment of considerable length, forms an approach to the village. It is in the grand route from London to Holyhead; and since the construction of the suspension bridge, for an account of which see the article on BANGOR, a new line of road has been formed from this place, communicating with the road to Beaumaris. Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, while carrying on his desolating warfare against the Welsh, landed his forces at Cadnant, in this parish, in 1096, and, having encamped on the summit of an eminence called Dinas, at the upper extremity of the vale, commenced a series of violent and rapacious devastations, which were characterized by the most barbarous and atrocious outrages. Cadnant was the most ancient ferry across this part of the Menai, and, having become a source of very considerable revenue prior to the time of Edward I., was granted by that monarch to Einian Bishop of Bangor, who had performed the ceremony of baptism on the young prince Edward, in Carnarvon castle. During the civil war of the seventeenth century, this place, from its central situation and other local advantages, was selected, as the line of his march, by General Mytton, who landed his forces here in 1648, and, having encamped at Orsedd Migyn, marched from that place for the reduction of Beaumaris, which surrendered to him upon honourable terms. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llanvair-Pwllgwngyll, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church is dedicated to St. Tysilio, son of the ancient warrior Brochvael, who fought against the Saxons at the time of the massacre of the monks of Bangor, and was founded by him in 630: it is a small edifice, remarkable for the bleakness of its situation on a rocky peninsula stretching into the strait, by the waters of which it is completely insulated at every tide; and during spring tides, and the prevalence of a north-west wind, it is altogether inaccessible. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. The produce arising from several inconsiderable charitable donations and bequests is annually distributed among the poor of the parish, according to the intention of the several benefactors. Some vestiges of the camp constructed by Hugh Lupus at Cadnant are still visible, and near them are the remains of a small circular building. Within the last few years, a very large hammer, rudely formed of hard stone, and of very ancient appearance, was found in the immediate neighbour-

hood, and has been preserved at Cadnant; and in the course of some subsequent researches, an immense rock of similar stone, equally hard and compact, has been discovered, extending across the parish, of which it is thought the very few ancient hammers of this kind, which are found in some of the choicest collections of antiquaries, were in all probability made. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £54. 16.

LLANDYSSIL (LLAN-DYSUL), a parish, partly in the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, and partly in that of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (E.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, on the road to Lampeter, containing 2724 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Tysilio, an eminent British saint who flourished during the earlier part of the sixth century. It is situated in the southern part of the county, bordering upon Carmarthenshire, and comprises nearly twenty-five thousand acres of land, forming two principal divisions, called respectively Llandyssil Is Cerdin and Llandyssil Uwch Cerdin, of which the former is in the hundred of Troedyrour, and the latter in that of Moythen. The parish is bounded on the south by the river Teivy, which separates it from the parish of Llanvihangel-ar-Arth, in the county of Carmarthen, and is intersected by the Clettwr stream, which falls into that river, and likewise by several smaller streams, which are tributary to both. It is divided into seven hamlets, which, however, maintain their poor collectively, and in each of which, with the exception only of that in which the parish church is situated, was formerly a chapel of ease, all of which have fallen to ruins. The surface is what is usually termed, in this part of the country, mountainous, the ground in some instances rising into conical hills of considerable elevation, and is intersected by numerous narrow valleys: the soil is in general stony and shallow, but is well adapted for the culture of barley and oats, which are the principal kinds of grain raised here: near Waun Ivor are some large bogs. The village, which is of considerable extent and of interesting appearance, is pleasantly situated on a beautiful reach of the river Teivy, the vale bordering upon which is here enclosed by a succession of bold and richly wooded eminences, alternating with obtruding masses of barren rock, and lofty precipices of rugged character, forming scenery of great beauty and grandeur: the views from the higher grounds embrace some pleasing and extensive prospects over the surrounding country and the fine Vale of the Teivy. Among the numerous interesting objects which enrich the scenery in this part of the vale are, a venerable bridge over the Teivy, the tower of the church rising above the trees in which it is embosomed, an elegant little mansion on the right bank of the river, and Gilvâch Wen, in the midst of luxuriant plantations, backed by hanging woods, which reach to the summit of the impending heights. Alltyrodin, the seat of John Lloyd, Esq., is an elegant modern mansion, built on the declivity of a steep hill rising from the bank of the river Clettwr, and sheltered from the keen winds, which at times rush through the dingle, by the thriving plantations in which it is enclosed: the library is enriched with a valuable collection of Welsh genealogical manuscripts. The grounds on the opposite bank of the river



are tastefully and judiciously laid out. The family of Lloyd were originally of Castle Hywel, an ancient mansion which has been for some time deserted by its proprietor, and is now a farm-house. Waun Ivor, the residence of the Rev. D. Bowen, is a genteel house, delightfully situated on the bank of the river Teivy, and commanding from its park-like grounds a beautiful and picturesque view of the bridge of Llanvihangel-ar-Arth, and the church of that parish, situated on the summit of a richly wooded height overhanging the river. Gilvâch Wen, the seat of the Rev. Thomas Lloyd, is a small but elegant mansion, forming one of the most pleasing objects on the banks of the Teivy: it is beautifully situated in the midst of thick groves, and backed by luxuriant and extensive woods; but from the judicious disposition of the trees, the house, with the river winding beneath it, forms a conspicuous and beautiful feature in the landscape. A weekly market is held on Thursday; and the fairs are on February 11th, the Thursday before Palm-Sunday, June 21st, September 19th, and November 11th.

The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's: the rectory, which is a sinecure annexed to the headship of Jesus' College, Oxford, is rated in the king's books at £12. 16. 8.; the vicarage, which is discharged, is rated at £10, endowed with £2000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Tysilio, is an ancient structure, displaying portions in the successive styles of English architecture, with a square tower at the west end: it consists of a nave and aisles, and from its situation forms an interesting feature in the village. On a stone forming the entrance into the churchyard is an ancient inscription. There are places of worship for Independents, Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, and Unitarians. Thirty shillings per annum, charged on a farm called Cwmoidw, are annually distributed among the poor of this parish, at the discretion of the proprietor of Gilvâch Wen. There are many interesting remains of antiquity within the parish, among which are several *carneddau*, or sepulchral heaps of stones: four of these are nearly contiguous, and on opening one of them, within the last few years, three rude earthen vases and the ashes of human bones were found. A Welsh manuscript of the sixteenth century contains the following notice, which may perhaps throw some light upon the origin of these remains: "A.D. 1131, 5th of April, a desperate battle was fought in this parish, between Llewelyn ab Iorwerth and Davydd ab Owain, in which the former was successful, who buried the slain below the road, where the marks appear to this day." According to the same manuscript, another battle was fought here, in 1250, between the men of Bangor, in North Wales, and Davydd ab Cadivor: the former passed the ford of Rhÿd Owain at day-break on the 8th of March, and encountered Einon, who had come to the assistance of Davydd, with between six and seven thousand infantry and six hundred cavalry: these two chieftains caused a deep trench to be dug for their defence; but the abrupt termination of the manuscript in this place leaves the issue of the battle unknown. There are, in various parts of the parish, several artificial mounds, which appear to have been anciently crowned with small forts: one of these, at a place called Cil y graig, is said to mark the

site of Castell Aberinion, noticed in the Welsh annals, and said to have been erected by Maelgwyn, about the year 1205. Another, near the river Clettwr, is supposed to point out the site of a castle called Humphrey's Castle, probably from some Norman adventurer, who had obtained possession of the territory, and built the fortress, which was afterwards strengthened and improved, in 1150, by Hywel ab Owain Gwynedd, from whom it subsequently derived the name of Castell Hywel. A little below the Alltyrodin Arms, in the village, is the ford called Rhÿd Owain, which, according to the tradition of the country, derived that name from Owain Gwynedd's having forded the river at this place, in one of his invasions of South Wales; and near it is a barrow, called Tommen Rhÿd Owain, where probably some chieftain of celebrity was interred. On a hill above the church are some small remains of an ancient castle, with a moated tumulus, on which probably stood the keep: this castle, of which no account is preserved either in history or tradition, is supposed to have been the baronial residence of the lords of Gwynionydd, and to have been the head of that lordship. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor of the whole parish amounts to £993. 14., of which sum, £476. 2. is raised on the Is Cerdin portion of it.

LLANDYSSIL (LLAN-DYSSUL), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of NEWTOWN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (W. by S.) from Montgomery, containing 914 inhabitants. The village is pleasantly situated on the left of the road from Montgomery to Newtown, and the neighbourhood commands some interesting views and varied and extensive prospects. From the Goronddû hill the rich Vale of Severn is seen to great advantage, with the windings of the river, which forms the northern boundary of the parish. The manufacture of flannel is here carried on upon a limited scale. The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, united by an act of parliament in the 29th and 30th of the reign of Charles II.: the former, which was a sinecure, is rated in the king's books at £14, and the latter at £7. 10. 10.: it is in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Tysul, is an ancient structure. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. A Sunday school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is principally supported by the rector, by whom it was originally established. Jeremiah and Anne Reynolds, in 1711, bequeathed certain lands producing about £4 per annum; Mr. Hugh Lewis gave a rent-charge of £2; and Charles Jones and John Griffiths bequeathed rent-charges of ten shillings each, the produce of all which benefactions is annually distributed among the poor. On the lofty hill of Goronddû, and on the banks of the Severn opposite to Glânhaven, are remains of several ancient British encampments in a greater or less degree of preservation. This is one of the eighteen parishes and townships forming the united district of Montgomery and Pool, incorporated for the joint maintenance of their poor in the house of industry at Forden, under acts of the 32nd and 36th of George III.: the average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of Llandyssil amounts to £312. 7.

LLANDYSSIL UWCH CERDIN (LLAN DYSUL UWCH CERDDIN), a division in that part of the parish



of LLANDYSSIL which is in the lower division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. E. by E.) from Newcastle-Emlyn. The population is included in the return for the parish. It contains the vestiges of two or three chapels, which formerly existed here. The road from Lampeter to Newcastle-Emlyn passes, and the river Clettwr flows, through it, the latter joining the river Teivy, which bounds this division on the south. Alltyrodin and Waun Ivor are two beautiful and ornamental seats situated here; and Castell Hywel, an ancient fortified mansion, is now occupied by a farmer: there are also various remains of antiquity. Several of the inhabitants are employed in various branches of manufacture. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment; the average annual expenditure amounting to £517. 12.

LLANDYVODOG (LLAN-DYVODWG), a parish in the hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.E. by N.) from Bridgend, containing 309 inhabitants. The soil is various, in some parts affording rich pasturage, and in others being less fertile; and the lands, which, with the exception of the wooded and mountainous parts, have been all enclosed for a very long period, are in a good state of cultivation. In this parish, which is within the mineral basin of South Wales, the coal is principally worked for the supply of the immediate neighbourhood; and numerous chalybeate springs of great efficacy are found, deriving their mineral impregnation from ores of iron, which abound throughout the vicinity. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £8. 13. 4., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Richard Turbervill Turbervill, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Tyvodwg. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. In 1685, the sum of £10 was given to the parish by an unknown benefactor, the interest of which is annually distributed among the poor. The existence of some remarkable caverns in this parish has given rise to numerous conjectures: by some they are supposed to be exhausted mines, wrought either by the Romans or by the ancient Britons, before the force of gunpowder was applied to the blasting of the rocks; by others they are thought to be either natural, or formed for the purpose of concealment during the intestine and sanguinary contests which anciently disturbed the peace of the principality. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £159. 14.

LLANDYVRIOG (LLAN-DYVRIOG), a parish in the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (E.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, containing 854 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Tyvriog, an eminent British saint who lived towards the close of the sixth century, is pleasantly situated on the northern bank of the river Teivy, and on the turnpike road from Newcastle-Emlyn to Lampeter. The ancient borough of Atpar, which was formerly contributory with Aberystwith and Lampeter, in returning a representative to parliament for the county town of Cardigan, of which privilege it was deprived for misconduct in the election of a member in 1742, and invested with it again by the late act for amending the representation, is within its limits, and forms a suburb to the

market town of Newcastle-Emlyn, constituting that portion of it which is in the county of Cardigan. The lands are enclosed and in a good state of cultivation, and the soil is generally fertile. The surrounding scenery is of a pleasing character, and in many parts is enriched with thriving plantations, and diversified with well-wooded eminences. Atpar Hill, the seat of John Beynon, Esq., is an elegant villa, beautifully situated on an eminence commanding a pleasing view of the town and the banks of the Teivy. This parish constitutes a prebend in the cathedral church of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £18, and annexed to the archdeaconry of Cardigan. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the rectory of Llanvair Trêlygon annexed, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Tyvriog, is an ancient edifice, not distinguished by any architectural features of importance. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £170. 9.

LLANDYVRYDOG (LLAN-DYVRYDOG), a parish in the hundred of TWRCELYN, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N.E.) from Llanerchymedd, containing 853 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, and comprises about two thousand acres of level and well-cultivated land, is situated near the road from Beaumaris to Llanerchymedd. The soil is generally argillaceous, and the parish is watered by numerous rivulets, by some of which a few acres are occasionally inundated. Peat earth is found in the marshy land upon the banks of a rivulet descending from the Parys mountain; and from this earth, after burning it for that purpose, a considerable quantity of copper-ore is obtained. The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacy of Llanvihangel Tre'r Beirdd annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £14. 9. 7., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Tyvrydog, great-grandson of Cunedda Wledig, by whom it was originally founded, about the year 450, is a spacious, lofty, and venerable structure, in excellent repair, having a remarkably large chancel: it is sixty feet in length, and twenty-five in breadth. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists: to the former of these is attached a burial-ground. A National school, in which fifty poor children of this parish and of the adjoining one of Llanvihangel Tre'r Beirdd receive gratuitous instruction, was erected in 1816, and is supported by subscription. Dr. Wynne bequeathed a house in the borough of Carnarvon, which is at present let for £12 per annum, £6 of which, together with the produce arising from several small charitable donations and bequests, is annually distributed among the poor of the parish at Christmas, according to the intention of the several benefactors. About a mile from the village is a large upright stone, called Lleidr Dyvrydog, or the "Thief of Dyvrydog," the origin of which is by tradition attributed to the conversion into stone of a man who had stolen the church bible, and was carrying it away on his shoulder. Near this stone, on a farm called Clorach, are two copious springs, called Fynnon Cybi and Fynnon Seiriol, deriving their names respectively from

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St. Cybi, patron of *Caer Cybi*, or *Holyhead*, and St. Seiriol, patron of *Ynys Seiriol*, or the island of *Priestholme*, who were in the habit of meeting at this place, which was about half-way between their respective abodes, to consult about the religious affairs of this part of the principality: the fame of these springs anciently extended to distant places, and they are still held in high estimation. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £242. 16.

**LLANEDARN (LLAN-EDEYRN)**, a parish in the hundred of *KIBBOR*, county of *GLAMORGAN*, *SOUTH WALES*, on the banks of the *Romney*, 4 miles (N. E. by N.) from *Cardiff*, containing 315 inhabitants. This parish, which comprises about two thousand five hundred and fifty acres of land, partly arable and partly pasture, lies on the eastern confine of the county, and the surface, though in general low, presents some pleasing scenery: it gradually rises to the north into an elevated ridge, in some parts richly wooded, and the whole is embellished with several genteel mansions, the principal of which are, *New House*, the seat of the *Rev. Mr. Lewis*; *Ruperra*, that of *Charles Morgan, Esq.*; and *Cevn Mably*, that of *Col. Kemeys Kemeys Tynte*. To the west the venerable cathedral of *Llandaf*, and southward *Cardiff* and the *Bristol channel*, are included in the prospect. The living is a discharged vicarage, united to that of *St. Mellon's*, in the county of *Monmouth*, in the archdeaconry and diocese of *Llandaf*, rated in the king's books at £5. 8. 11½. The church, dedicated to *St. Edeyrn*, is a small simple structure. It is stated that *St. Edeyrn* established a *Christian Society* here, amounting in number to three hundred persons, but there are no remains of their residence. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £254. 10.

**LLANEDWEN (LLAN-EDWEN)**, a parish in the hundred of *MENAI*, county of *ANGLESEY*, *NORTH WALES*, 5 miles (N. E. by N.) from *Carnarvon*, containing 294 inhabitants. This parish has been said to derive its name from the dedication of its church to *King Edwin*, by whose daughter or niece it was founded, in the year 640; but *Dr. Owen Pughe*, in his "*Cambrian Biography*," says that *Edwen* was a female saint of *Saxon* descent, and seems to consider her the tutelary saint of this church. It is situated on the western shore of the *Menai strait*, and, with the adjoining parishes of *Llanidan* and *Llandeiniol*, anciently formed a district which was the principal seat of the *Druidical* priesthood, and in which the arch-druid is supposed to have had for ages his chief residence. There are still within the district, and particularly within this parish, considerable remains of those deeply shaded groves so well adapted to the performance of the sanguinary rites of the *Druidical* religion, which obtained for this island the ancient appellation of *Ynys Dywell*, or "*the Shady Island*;" and amid them are numerous remains of *Druidical* temples, altars, circles, and cromlechs. *Porthamel*, or *Porth-Aml*, the only ferry between the *Menai* bridge and *Carnarvon*, is celebrated as the place where *Suetonius Paulinus*, in the reign of the Emperor *Nero*, crossed the strait for the invasion of *Mona*, in which attempt he was opposed by the *Druids*, who, having assembled an army of men and women arranged in all the mystic terrors of their idolatrous superstition, and brandishing lighted

torches, drew up on the western shore to oppose their progress. But after spreading a momentary panic through the Roman ranks, they were quickly repulsed by the rallying troops, and many of them consigned to perish in their own sacrificial fires. The sacred groves in which their rites were solemnized were cut down, and the reign of *Druidism*, which had for ages been established in this isle, as its principal seat, was finally destroyed. At a short distance from this place is a field still called *Maes Mawr Gâd*, or "*the plain of the great army*," supposed to have been occupied by the Roman forces under *Julius Agricola*, in his successful expedition to regain possession of the island, which *Suetonius*, by a general revolt of the British states in his rear, that necessarily caused him to withdraw his forces, had been compelled to relinquish. Opposite to *Moel y Don*, or "*the hill of the wave*," in this parish, the English suffered a signal defeat in the reign of *Edward I.* Having landed in the island, in 1282, under the command of *Luke de Tany*, a *Gascon*, after reducing to obedience such of the inhabitants as had not previously sworn allegiance to that monarch, they constructed a bridge of boats across the strait, near the spot where *Agricola* had landed, in order to effect an entrance into the country on the opposite shore. The Welsh, having hastily thrown up an intrenchment, to defend the pass into the mountains, placed themselves in ambush, and quietly awaited the result. *De Tany*, having, with a detachment of his troops, rashly ventured at low water to pass the bridge before it was completed, his retreat was intercepted by the return of the tide; and the Welsh at this moment rushing from their ambuscade, and impetuously assaulting his detachment, killed the greater number, and drove the rest into the strait: of this force, which consisted of more than two hundred soldiers, seventeen gentlemen, and thirteen knights, one only escaped, whose horse swam with him to the bridge.

The parish, which is small, though generally destitute of wood, of which it is difficult to raise any plantations of considerable extent, is nevertheless in some parts richly ornamented with timber of ancient growth: these instances, however, are not common, and are probably the remains of the ancient groves which escaped destruction by the Romans. The shores of the *Menai* are rocky and precipitous; the scenery is bold, striking, and in some places beautifully picturesque; and in the parish and its immediate vicinity are several gentlemen's seats, some of which display elegant specimens both of ancient and modern architecture. *Plás Newydd*, the seat of the *Marquis of Anglesey*, is a splendid mansion of modern erection, built upon the site of an ancient house, which once belonged to the celebrated *Gwenllian*, a descendant of *Cadrod Hardd*, and is beautifully situated in a portion of the ancient *Druidical* groves, on ground rising gently from the margin of the *Menai*. The building consists of a semicircular centre and two semi-octagonal wings: the façade is relieved by octagonal turrets on each side of the centre, and the respective wings, rising from the base above the parapet, which is embattled; and the entire edifice, as seen from the water, to which it is open in front, forms a conspicuous and interesting object. It contains a noble suite of apartments, a handsome library, and a beautiful chapel: the latter is lighted on each side by a fine range of pointed windows, enriched with tracery of elegant



design, and embellished with stained glass: the roof is delicately and elaborately groined, and the altar, which has a receding canopy, is beautifully enriched with tabernacle-work. The whole of this elegant mansion is built of Mona marble from the quarries of Moelvre, near Red Wharf bay, and displays, both in its design and execution, a high degree of taste and judicious arrangement. The grounds are extensive and pleasingly laid out: in front of the house is a spacious lawn, sloping to the margin of the strait, from the waves of which it is protected by a strong parapet wall, on which is a noble terrace; while each side, and the rising ground behind, are sheltered by groves of venerable oak and ash of luxuriant growth. Plâs Côch, another seat in this parish, the property and residence of Sir William Bulkeley Hughes, was originally built by Hugh Hughes, attorney-general in the reign of Elizabeth: it is a noble antique mansion, presenting a fine specimen of the architecture of that age; and over the entrance are the arms of the family of Hughes, with the date 1569. The soil of this parish is fertile, and the land for the most part is enclosed and cultivated. Limestone of excellent quality is found in great abundance within its limits, and some very extensive quarries are worked, affording employment to a considerable number of the inhabitants: great quantities of this limestone, both for building and for the purpose of manure, are raised from these quarries, which extend along the shore of the Menai, and shipped to Liverpool and other places, in numerous vessels. Through the park of Plâs Newydd runs a bed of granite, in a state of decomposition, and so soft that it crumbles upon the slightest touch.

The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Llanidan, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church is a small but neat edifice of great antiquity; and the churchyard is one of the most beautiful in North Wales, and remarkable as containing the remains of the Rev. Henry Rowland, the eminent antiquary. A parochial school, in which forty-five girls receive gratuitous instruction, was founded by the Marchioness of Anglesey, by whom it is principally supported. Bishop Rowland, in 1616, bequeathed £6 per annum, charged on his estate at Plâs Gwŷn; Lady Bailey bequeathed a small annual sum, derived from the estate of Plâs Newydd; Mr. Bagnal bequeathed a small rent-charge; and Mrs. Rowland, in 1740, gave £100 in money, the three former of which, together with the produce of the latter, are annually distributed among the poor during the winter. The estate of Llŷllew, in this parish, now producing £200 per annum, was given by Bishop Rowland, as an endowment to the free grammar school which he had founded at Bottwnog. Within the limits of the park of Plâs Newydd is one of the largest cromlechs in the island, supported on five upright stones, which have been stated by some writers to be six feet in height, but at present do not rise more than two feet above the ground: the tabular stone is about twelve feet in length, about the same in breadth, and four feet in thickness. Adjoining this is a smaller cromlech; and at no great distance, in the woods, is a large carnedd, which was opened a few years ago, and found to contain a vault, seven feet in length and four in breadth, but, after a diligent search, no other relics were discovered. Near Maes Mawr Gâd, in making a

fence in the year 1829, several Roman coins, fibulæ, buckles, and other vestiges of Roman antiquity were discovered; and near Porthamel is a large mount, supposed by Mr. Rowland to mark the scene of Suetonius' sanguinary victory. Plâs Gwŷn, in this parish, was the birthplace and residence of the Rev. Henry Rowland, the learned author of the *Mona Antiqua Restaurata*: that elaborate and interesting production was composed by the author at this his patrimonial estate, and the old oak chair in which he sat while writing it is still preserved in the house: he died here, and was buried in the churchyard, in 1725, as appears by the Latin inscription on his tomb, though his biographers state his death to have occurred in the year 1723, in which his work first appeared. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £162. 7.

LLANEDY (LLAN-EDI), a parish in the hundred of CARNWALLON, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 10 miles (S.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 1001 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the river Loughor, by which it is separated from the county of Glamorgan, and is intersected by the turnpike road from Swansea to Llandilo-Vawr: it extends nearly six miles in length, and is about a mile in breadth, and contains a considerable tract of fertile land. Coal is found here, but it is worked only for the supply of the immediate neighbourhood. An annual fair is held in the village on the 8th of November. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Edith, has recently received an addition of one hundred and twenty free sittings, towards the erection of which the Society for the enlargement of churches and chapels contributed the sum of £100. There are places of worship for Baptists and Presbyterians. At a cottage near Forest Hall, a deserted mansion in this parish, was born, in 1721, the Rev. John Walters, M. A., the learned author of *Dissertations on the Welsh Language*, a *Welsh and English Dictionary*, and other works. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £259. 15.

LLANEGRIN (LLAN-EGRYN), a parish in the hundred of TALYBONT, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N.) from Towyn, containing 764 inhabitants. It is about five miles in length and two in breadth, and comprises about ten thousand acres, part of which is mountainous land, while some is so low as to be subject to occasional inundation. The beautiful little river Dyssynny, which has its source at the foot of the lofty Cader Idris, meanders through it, and, on the southern side of the parish, pours its waters into the spacious bay of Cardigan. The village is pleasantly situated near the northern bank of the Dyssynny, which is navigable for vessels of ten or twelve tons' burden from the sea to beyond Peniarth Weir, near which stands the ancient mansion of Peniarth, the property of William Wynne, Esq. The higher grounds command extensive and varied prospects, embracing a fine view of the vale of Cardigan bay, and of the lofty hills on this part of the coast. About three-fifths of the land are unenclosed and uncultivated: in this portion, considerable quantities of peat are dug for fuel: the remainder is comparatively fertile and in a good state of cultivation: the prevailing soil is a strong clay. Slate abounds in the pa-



rish, and is quarried to supply the immediate neighbourhood; but the quality is not sufficiently good to make it an object of general demand, nor is any of it exported. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £400 royal bounty, which has been invested in the purchase of a tenement in Montgomeryshire, and £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Mr. Titley, who pays the curate an additional annual stipend of £10. The church, dedicated to St. Egryn, and situated about a mile from the village, on an eminence commanding a fine and extensive prospect, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture: the chancel is separated from the nave by an elaborately carved screen and rood-loft, which are said to have been brought hither from Cymmer abbey, near Dôlgeley. Among the sepulchral monuments in the church are several to the memory of different members of the family of Owen of Peniarth. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The free school was founded in 1650, by Hugh Owen, Esq., of Talybont, who bequeathed £400 for its foundation and endowment: the latter was augmented by Griffith Owen, Esq., who, in 1668, bequeathed £400 to be invested in the purchase of land, of which the produce was to be appropriated to the salary of a writing-master, the catechising of poor children of the parish, and the apprenticing of scholars from the school. The last bequest was laid out in the purchase of the tenements of Bryn Nant Ceiriog and Nant y Pool: the whole income arising from the endowment is about £80 per annum: seventy children are gratuitously instructed, and as many as the funds will allow are apprenticed, according to the will of the testators. Talybont, in this parish, is supposed to have been anciently a mansion of the princes of North Wales, and the residence of Llewelyn, who dated one of his charters from this place: on the farm belonging to this estate is a large artificial mound, on which a watch-tower is said to have formerly stood; and on the opposite bank of the river, in the parish of Towyn, is a similar station. On the Peniarth Mill farm, at the foot of a hill called Cwm ych, is a chalybeate spring; and there is also a spring called Vron Well, the water of which is in high repute for its efficacy in the cure of rheumatic complaints. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £496. 4.

LLANEGWAD (LLAN-EGWAD), a parish partly in the lower division of the hundred of CATHINOG, and partly in the higher division of that of ELVET, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. by S.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 2214 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Egwad, who is said to have lived here in seclusion and devotional retirement, probably near the spot still called "Eisteddva-Egwad," where there are the ruins of an ancient and very extensive mansion. The parish extends for nearly seven miles from north to south, and about four miles from east to west, and is intersected by the river Cothy, which falls into the Tywi at this place. The lands, which, with the exception of a very small portion, are enclosed, are fertile and in a good state of cultivation: the village is pleasantly situated. Search was made by N. B. Jones, Esq., within the last few years, for copper-

ore, of which a vein was discovered, but it dipped so considerably below the bed of the river, as to render the working of it altogether impracticable. The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Welsh and Wesleyan Methodists: a second place of worship for Independents is now in progress of erection. There is a bequest of £4. 2. per annum for teaching poor children of the joint hamlets of Llanegwad and Hirnan. The late Rev. John Francis, of Bath, charged an estate in the parish of Llandeveylog, in this county, with the payment of £25 per annum, in addition to which is £60 per annum arising from bequests of various benefactors, the whole of which sums are annually distributed among the poor of the parish, according to the will of the testators. Near Cothy bridge are the remains of an ancient dilapidated edifice, formerly a chapel of ease to the mother church, but now converted into a stable: there were anciently several other chapels in the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £903. 18.

LLANEILIAN (LLAN-ELIAN), a parish in the hundred of TWRCelyn, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (E.) from Amlwch, containing 1438 inhabitants. This parish is of considerable antiquity, and early in the fifth century was the residence of Caswallon Law-Hîr, Prince of North Wales, who had a palace on the summit of Llaneilian mountain, the site of which is at present occupied by a small cottage, called from that circumstance "Llŷs Caswallon." It derives its name from St. Eilian, who, in 450, founded a church here, which was munificently endowed by Caswallon, and adjoining to which that prince erected a chapel; and these edifices, with the exception only of Llanbadrig church, were the earliest places of Christian worship erected in the principality. St. Eilian, who was bishop of Lindisfarne, was celebrated for the sanctity of his life; and the high veneration in which his memory was held drew multitudes from the remotest parts of Britain to this place, in which he had resided, in order to obtain, by their pilgrimage and votive offerings, the highly appreciated benefit of his favour and protection. The offerings of the pilgrims upon these occasions amounted annually to a large sum, and were received in a chest kept in the church for that purpose, and called *Cyff Eilian*, from the contents of which the church of St. Eilian and the chapel of Caswallon were elegantly rebuilt, and two farms purchased, the rents of which, till within a very recent period, were applied to keeping them in repair. It was the custom of the devotees to visit a well called *Fynnon Eilian*, situated in a barren part of the parish, among wild and broken rocks, on the eve of the saint's festival, and, after drinking the water, to kneel for some time before the altar of a small chapel erected over it: they afterwards repaired to the parish church, where they performed other ceremonies, concluding with an offering to the saint. This custom even at present prevails to a small extent, and though the spring is nearly dried up and the chapel in ruins, many persons still annually resort to this place, for the purpose of imploring the intercession of the saint



for persons labouring under grievous sickness ; and their offerings upon these occasions are annually distributed among the poor. The parish, which is extensive, is situated at the northern extremity of the island, upon the shore of the Irish sea, into which a part of it considerably projects, forming a headland, called by Caswallon, in honour of his tutor, Hilary's Point, a name which it still bears ; and off the coast is good anchorage for coasting vessels, of which many are employed in conveying copper-ore and other mineral produce from the Parys mountain, which is partly in this parish. The surface is varied, and, with the exception of the mountainous portion, and several acres of turbary and moor land, is generally enclosed and cultivated. Several attempts have been made at various times, on Llanelian mountain, to discover copper-ore, of which a considerable vein has recently been found on Rhôs Myneich, and several men are at present employed in working it for a Cornish mining company.

The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacies of Coedanna and Rhôspeirio annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £14. 1. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Eilian, is an elegant structure, partly in the early and partly in the decorated style of English architecture, with a tower surmounted by a spire : the entire edifice, which is embattled, is handsomely and substantially built of grit-stone, with quoins and cornices of freestone. It comprises a nave and chancel, the roofs of which are internally of ancient carved oak, that of the latter resting upon finely sculptured corbels of angels playing on musical instruments. A splendid screen of richly carved oak, ornamented with a portrait of St. Eilian, but much defaced with paint, separates the chancel from the nave, in the former of which are four stalls of tabernacle-work, with the date 1533, and an altar-piece of carved oak, of inferior execution. The east window, of three lights, enriched with tracery, and surmounted by an elegant ogee canopy, contains some portions of ancient stained glass. Within a few yards of the church, and now communicating with the chancel by means of a covered passage, which greatly disfigures the appearance of the building, is the small chapel of Caswallon, a beautiful structure, containing an altar-piece of oak, richly and elaborately carved, and ornamented with an east window of elegant design : in this chapel is kept the oak chest, called *Cyff Eilian*, in which are still deposited the offerings of the devotees at the shrine of this saint. About the middle of the seventeenth century, a considerable sum of money was expended for oil paintings of the Apostles and St. Eilian, of which that of the latter is the only one now remaining. In digging a grave in the churchyard, many years ago, a deep trench was discovered, extending about twenty yards in length, and containing a great quantity of human bones, supposed to be the place of interment of a number of sailors, who at some remote period perished upon this coast in a storm. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. The village wakes, commonly called Gwyl Mâb Saint, formerly continued for three weeks, and, though now lasting only for about half that time, are still very numerous attended. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £237.

LLANELHAIARN, or LLANHAIRN (LLAN-AELHAIARN), a parish in the hundred of UWCHGORVAI, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (N.) from Pwllheli, containing 660 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the shore of Carnarvon bay, and in an extensive mountainous district, comprehends the lofty range of mountains called Yr Eivl, the conical summits of which are conspicuous from every elevated point in this part of the principality. These mountains, which are three in number, the central one having an elevation of one thousand eight hundred and sixty feet above the level of high water, rise abruptly from the shore of St. George's channel, in which they form boldly projecting promontories, separating the districts of Arvon and Lleyn. The village, which is small, is pleasantly situated on the turnpike road from Carnarvon to Pwllheli : the surrounding scenery is boldly varied, and some parts of the parish command extensive prospects over the surrounding country, which abounds with features of picturesque beauty. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £6. 15. 4., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Aelhaiarn, is a spacious and venerable cruciform structure, in the later style of English architecture : the interior, which is appropriately arranged for the performance of divine service, possesses some interesting architectural details, and the building is kept in excellent repair. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school, in which poor children are gratuitously instructed in the Welsh language, is supported partly by a small endowment, and partly by subscription. A bequest of £100 in money, and another of a certain portion of land, both by unknown benefactors, were originally assigned to the relief of the poor. Through the Yr Eivl mountains is the celebrated pass into Vortigern's Valley, across which extends an immense rampart of stones ; and on the southernmost are the remains of one of the strongest and most extensive British fortifications in Wales, called Tre'r Caeri, or "the town of the fortresses." This strong military post is defended on the side on which alone it is accessible by triple ramparts, of which the two innermost are nearly entire. The foundations of buildings, of various forms and dimensions, are scattered over the whole of the summit of the mountain, which is almost level, and also on the declivities. Within the walls of defence are the foundations of several circular buildings, about thirty-two feet in diameter : the upper wall is about twelve feet in height, and, in some places, fourteen in thickness at the top. Nearly the whole of the enclosed area is filled with cells of various forms, round, oval, oblong, and square. Several other mountains in the neighbourhood are fortified in a similar manner, though not with equal strength, from which circumstance it is supposed that Tre'r Caeri was the principal of a chain of military stations, and most probably the principal strong hold of the native Britons driven into this part of the country by the victorious arms of the Saxons. The mountains abound with copper-ore and manganese, but no mines of either have yet been opened. Under the Yr Eivl mountains, and about a quarter of a mile from the church, is a very copious spring, called Fynnon Aelhaiarn, contained in a square



enclosure, surrounded by a wall: the water of this spring, which was anciently in high estimation for its sanctity, is still in some repute for cold bathing. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £136. 8.

LLANELIDAN (LLAN-ELIDAN), a parish in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.) from Ruthin, containing 749 inhabitants. It is situated in the upper part of the Vale of Clwyd, where the mountains assume a bolder and more rugged character than in the lower section of that pleasing valley. A fair is held on the Thursday before Palm-Sunday. The living is a rectory, in the diocese of Bangor, and subject to the consistorial court of the Bishop: it consists of two compositions, each rated in the king's books at £8, one in the patronage of the Bishop, and the other appropriated by letters patent of the 32nd of Elizabeth to the grammar school at Ruthin. The church, dedicated to St. Elidan, is an ancient and spacious structure, enriched with some elaborate carving in oak, and having the east window embellished with some fine specimens of stained glass: it contains several handsome monuments, among which are some to the memory of the Thelwalls, the Kenricks, and the Lloyds. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. All boys born in this parish are entitled to gratuitous instruction in the free grammar school at Ruthin. Several charitable donations and bequests, amounting in the aggregate to £340, were, in 1764, invested in the purchase of a farm, called Garth y Groes, now producing £25 per annum, which sum, together with the interest of £34, secured upon the Ruthin turnpike trust, is annually distributed at Christmas among the poor of the parish, according to the will of the several testators. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £509. 5.

LLANELIEU (LLAN-ELIEU), a parish in the hundred of TALGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. W. by S.) from Hay, containing 115 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Ellyw, granddaughter of Brychan, Prince of Brycheiniog, who ruled over this territory about the commencement of the fifth century, and was distinguished chiefly for the number and the piety of his children. The surface of the ground is extremely uneven and irregular, and the soil consequently various: a considerable proportion of the parish is mountain land, which affords only pasturage for sheep, cattle, and small horses; these tracts are in some parts intersected by deep narrow glens or valleys, in which corn is grown; but the farmer depends more for his support upon his flocks and live stock than upon the agricultural produce of his lands. The surrounding scenery is bold, and in some parts romantic; and the view of the mountains by which the parish is bounded, and of those in the distance, is strikingly grand and beautiful. Here were formerly several ancient mansions, but they have been all abandoned as family residences by their proprietors, and are at present occupied as farm-houses. One of these is situated close to the church: on the sides of the entrance gateway to it are the following inscriptions,—“*Exitus acta probat*, 1676;” “*Sic hora sic vita*,” “*Deus nobis hæc otia fecit*, R. A. W. M. Anno Domini —;” “*Noctua II vola*, 1676, W. A.

H. I;” “*Non Jupiter quidem omnibus placet*,” “*Spēs alit exules*.” The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Earl of Ashburnham. The church is a small ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel: it is situated in a mountain dell, sheltered on the south-east by the Black Mountains, to the base of which the cultivated portion of the lands extends. From the churchyard is obtained a beautiful and extensive view of the chain of mountains comprising the Brecknockshire and Carmarthenshire Beacons, with the fertile tract intervening between it and the Black Mountains. Attached to the parsonage-house, which is in very bad repair, are about thirty acres of glebe land. Within a cairn in a field on the Porthaml estate, the property of the Earl of Ashburnham, in this parish, was found, some years ago, a spearhead of flint, nearly seven inches in length, and two inches broad in the widest part, which had been rudely chipped into its artificial form, and appears to have been made before the use of iron was known in this country. In the same cairn was found a coarse earthen vessel, which, in the eagerness of the workmen to discover the treasure it was supposed to contain, was broken. Walter Watkins, of Cwm, in the parish of Glâsbury, by will in 1775, charged certain lands called Tŷr Jenkin Perrot, in this parish, with the payment of the annual sum of ten shillings to two of the poorest legitimate children in it. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £55. 12.

LLANELLIAN YN RHÔS (LLAN-ELIAN), a parish in the Uchdulas division of the hundred of ISDULAS, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, near the road from Liverpool to Holyhead, 6 miles (W. by S.) from Abergele, containing 604 inhabitants. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £11. 1. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church is dedicated to St. Hilary. Divers small benefactions, amounting in the whole to about £150, have been made for the benefit of the poor, the interest of which is distributed among the most deserving objects annually on St. Thomas' day. Fynnon St. Elian, a well notorious as being resorted to for the execrable practise of invoking vengeance upon the heads of such as have given grievous offence, is situated near this place, but in the parish of LLANDRILLO, the article on which contains an account of the ceremonies observed on these occasions. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £291. 10.

LLANELITYD (LLAN-ELITYD), a parish in the hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. W.) from Dôlgelley, on the road to Barmouth, containing 416 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the eastern banks of the river Maw, or Mawddach, near its confluence with the Wnion, extends for nearly five miles in various directions from the church, and comprises some fine tracts of meadow and arable land. An act of parliament was obtained, in 1809, for enclosing the common and waste lands, under the provisions of which four thousand one hundred and sixty-four acres have been subsequently enclosed. The river Eden falls into the Mawddach about three miles above the village, and the scenery throughout the parish



is richly diversified: the views along the banks of the rivers are beautifully picturesque, in some places even highly romantic, and have acquired much additional beauty from the extensive and flourishing plantations of G. H. Vaughan, Esq., recently made. There are several ancient mansions in the neighbourhood, inhabited by opulent families; and the venerable remains of the abbey of Cymmer, nearly opposite to the church, on the other side of the river, form an interesting feature in the village. Within three miles and a half of the village, near the road to Trawsvynydd, is the celebrated waterfall of Rhaiadr Dû, more generally called Dôl y Mellynlyn, from its proximity to a house of that name, and of which a description is given in the article on Dôl-gelley. The principal of the neighbouring seats are, Hengwrt, the property of G. H. Vaughan, Esq.; and Dôl-uwch-Eogryd, which was built by one of the family of Nanney of Nannau: on an eminence within the grounds of the latter, commanding a fine view of the vale, is a spacious banqueting-room, called the Apollo; and on a wall adjoining the house is the inscription "*Non Domus Dominum, sed Dominus Domum*," which was removed from the house to its present situation. Copper-ore abounds in the parish, and a mine is now being worked with considerable success at Cain Mawr. Peat is found here in abundance, affording an ample supply of fuel. The river Mawddach is navigable for vessels not exceeding twenty tons as far as the bridge of Llanelltyd, to which the tide flows, and several small craft come up to this place from Barmouth: vessels of small burden are occasionally built here. The road from Dôl-gelley divides into two branches at the village, one on the left leading down the vale along the river side to Barmouth, and another on the right towards Trawsvynydd and Tan y Bwlch. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of G. H. Vaughan, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Illtyd, is an ancient structure, and contains some good monuments, among which is one to the memory of Robert Howel Vaughan, Esq., of Hengwrt and Nannau. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, to which is attached a Sunday school. Mr. Richard David, in 1770, bequeathed a small portion of land, the rent of which he directed to be paid to his nearest relative in the first degree, legally settled in this parish.

Cymmer abbey, or, as it is called by the Welsh, Y Vaner, and Yr-hên-Vonachlog, was founded in 1198, by Meredydd and his brother Gruffydd, sons of Cynan ab Owain Gwynedd, for monks of the Cistercian order, and dedicated to St. Mary. Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, who was a great benefactor to this establishment, augmented its endowments and gave to the abbot Esau and his brethren an ample charter, confirming all preceding grants, and conferring additional and very extensive privileges. From this period it continued to flourish until the dissolution, at which time its revenue was £58. 15. 4. The site remained in the possession of the crown till the reign of Elizabeth, who granted it to her favourite, Robert Earl of Leicester. The present remains of the conventual buildings consist principally of the abbey church, of which the roofless walls are yet standing: at the east end are three lofty, narrow, and sharply pointed windows, above which are three of smaller dimensions,

thickly overspread with ivy: on the south side of the east end are several niches, in which were anciently statues. The great hall and part of the other buildings have been converted into a farm-house, and the approach is formed by a noble avenue of stately lime trees. These remains form an interesting and picturesque ruin, and, as seen from the parish church, and from many points on the opposite side of the river, have a truly venerable and romantic appearance. On a small circular eminence, near a place called Pentre, and within a short distance of the abbey, stood the ancient castle of Cymmer, erected by the sons of Uchtryd ab Edwin, and demolished, in 1113, by the sons of Cadwgan ab Bleddyn, between whom and the founders hostilities had arisen. There are no remains of this fortress, except the site, which is still called Tommen, or "the Tumulus." Hengwrt was formerly the seat of Robert Vaughan, Esq., an eminent antiquary, who published various works on British antiquities, and collected and transcribed a vast number of Welsh manuscripts, which are still carefully preserved at this ancient mansion, and which were augmented by a large collection made by Mr. Jones, of Gelli Lydy, according to a mutual agreement between those gentlemen, that the survivor should possess both. Mr. Vaughan was a correspondent of the learned Usher, Selden, Sir Simon D'Ewes, and other eminent men of his time: he died in 1666, and was buried in the parish church. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £202. 18.

LLANELLY, a parish in the hundred of CRICK-HOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (W. by N.) from Abergavenny, on the road to Merthyr-Tydvil, composed of the hamlets of Aberbaidon and Maesgwartha, each of which separately supports its own poor, and containing 4041 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is pleasantly situated on the river Usk, and is divided into two nearly equal parts by the river Clydach, a mountain torrent, which, descending with impetuosity through a deep channel obstructed by rocks, forms many picturesque falls in its course through the parish. The surrounding scenery is strikingly and richly diversified, combining features of romantic grandeur and enchanting beauty. The scenery on the banks of the Clydach, in particular, though seldom visited by the tourist, and consequently little known, is remarkably picturesque and beautiful. The banks of this rapid stream rise precipitously to an immense height, and are richly clothed with wood, and in some parts with timber of majestic growth, forming, in the luxuriance and variety of the foliage, a pleasingly striking contrast to the rugged and barren summits of the mountains which rise above them. The Clydach, in its progress through the narrow *cwm*, or vale, which they enclose, forms two interesting falls, and there was formerly a third, called Pistyll Mawr, which, however, has been destroyed by the sinking of a coal mine, within the last few years, at the head of the rock from which the water was precipitated, when the channel of the river was bored some distance higher up, and the stream, which is carried through a tunnel, now emerges at the bottom of the rock. Of the two others, called respectively Pwll Crochan and Pwll Cŵn, the latter is by far the more picturesque, being formed by the precipitation of the river from a considerable height into a basin worn in



the rock by the continual action of the water, from which it descends with great force from an elevation of thirty feet into a pool encircled with impending rocks and thick underwood, over which a few aged yew trees cast a sombre shade. The parish abounds with mineral wealth of various kinds, in procuring and manufacturing which the inhabitants are principally employed. In the mountains which enclose the small but picturesque vale of Clydach, coal, iron-ore, limestone, and fire clay are found in great profusion. The Clydach collieries, which are very extensive, belong to the Brecknock Boat Company, and supply the town of Brecknock and the surrounding country to a great distance with bituminous coal. An immense quantity of coal is also raised here by the Clydach Iron Company, for the supply of their extensive works: it is all worked by levels, brought down the mountain steep by means of inclined planes, and conveyed in trams by the rail-road belonging to the canal company, either for the supply of the iron-works, or to the Brecknock and Abergavenny canal, for conveyance to Brecknock and its vicinity. The Clydach iron-works, now belonging to Messrs. E. Frere and Co., were originally established about two hundred years ago, by a member of the family of Hanbury, of Pontypool, in the county of Monmouth. These works, which are conducted upon a very extensive scale, comprise three blast furnaces for smelting the ore, worked by a steam-engine of seventy horse power, and by a water-wheel forty feet in diameter: the forges, in which charcoal is employed, are supplied with air by a steam-engine of smaller power, and by a water-wheel of the same diameter; and the rolling-mills for converting the pig iron into bars are set in motion by the water-wheel alone. Notwithstanding the general depression of the iron trade, these works are in full operation, and afford employment to about one thousand men: the quantity of iron produced at the Clydach works, in the year 1831, was ten thousand tons of pig iron and six thousand tons of bar iron, in the manufacture of which fifty thousand tons of coal, and a proportionate quantity of limestone and ore were consumed. Great facilities of communication between the mineral and manufacturing districts of this parish and other parts of the kingdom are afforded by the Brecknock and Abergavenny canal, and by a rail-road from the aqueduct below Aber Clydach to the Beaufort iron-works, in the parish of Llangattock. This rail-road, which is the property of the canal company, and about eight miles in length, winds up Cwm Clydach and communicates along its whole course with tram-roads from the different works in the neighbourhood. The Brecknock and Abergavenny canal, after traversing a distance of sixteen miles from the town of Brecknock, with a fall of sixty-eight feet, by means of six locks, is here conveyed over the valley and stream of the Clydach, at an elevation of little less than a hundred feet above the bed of the river, by a strong aqueduct of stone, supported by a prodigious embankment raised upon an arch, twenty-two feet in the span, built over the Clydach in 1799; the whole forming a prominent feature in the scenery of the vale. The living is a perpetual curacy, united, with that of Llangeney, to the rectory of Llangattock, in the arch-deaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to Ellyw, is a small ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a low

massive tower, and consists of a nave and one aisle, separated by a series of pointed arches. It is situated on an exposed eminence, about a mile south of the Usk, and a little westward of the Clydach; and the churchyard, which is small, is enclosed by yew trees of ancient growth, and commands a charming prospect over the Vale of Usk, which abounds with richly varied and highly picturesque scenery. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and for Calvinistic and English and Welsh Wesleyan Methodists. Parochial schools for the gratuitous instruction of the poor are supported by subscription. Edward Lewis of Aberclydach, Esq., in 1713, bequeathed a rent-charge of £3, payable out of the produce of his estate of Pant Dreiniog, for six Welsh sermons to be preached annually in the church of Llanelly, by some clergyman other than the incumbent and his curate, "as long as the church of England shall continue in this country." Mr. William Lewis, of Llanelly, in 1760, bequeathed £2 per annum, charged on a tenement called Llandewi Ysgŷryd, in the county of Monmouth, to such poor persons not receiving parochial relief as may be thought most deserving. Harry William, or Harry William Jenkin, of Llanelly, in 1687, bequeathed to the poor of this parish certain lands, called Tŷr yr Hooper, which are supposed to be now let considerably below their value. On a hill called the Gaer, overlooking the Vale of Clydach, are the remains of an ancient encampment, supposed to be of British construction; and on a rock opposite to it are some vestiges of another military post, called Dinas. Mr. Edward Llwyd, who examined the coal and iron mines throughout the county of Brecknock, more than a century ago, discovered near the mines, in this parish, a singular fossil production, consisting of a cylindrical piece of limestone, about eight inches in length and three inches in diameter, having the surface ornamented with narrow and equidistant circular cavities, in each of which was a circle of small diameter, with a small stud in the centre: various spars are also frequently found among the iron-ores in this neighbourhood. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor of the whole parish amounts to £375. 4.

LLANELLY (LLANELLI), an incorporated seaport and market town, and a parish, in the hundred of CARNWALLON, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 15 miles (S. E. by S.) from Carmarthen, and 216 (W. by N.) from London, containing 7646 inhabitants, of which number, 4173 are in the borough hamlet. This place, which appears to be of great antiquity, derives its name from its church being dedicated to St. Elliw. It was probably an ancient British town of some importance, and remains of British fortifications may be distinctly traced in the immediate neighbourhood. The town is situated on the northern bank of the Burry river, which forms the expansive æstuary of the river Loughor, and constitutes the boundary between the counties of Carmarthen and Glamorgan; and though formerly described as a small and insignificant place, inhabited chiefly by sailors and persons employed in the neighbouring coal mines, it has, from the convenience of its situation on a navigable river, and from the richness of the mineral productions of its neighbourhood in iron, coal, and limestone, risen into manufacturing and commercial importance, and is still rapidly increasing in population and extent. An act of parliament was obtained



in 1813, by which a partial enclosure of that portion of the parish immediately dependent on the town was effected, and the land vested in trustees, to be let on lease, and the proceeds applied to the improvement of the town and harbour: this property now produces £600 per annum, and is capable of being much increased in value. Small houses of genteel appearance have been erected in almost every direction; as also have numerous others of inferior character, which are occupied as soon as they can be completed. The town has been recently paved, and is amply supplied with water from the river Lliedi, which flows through it. Its prosperity will be further increased by the formation of the intended turnpike road from Loughor to Carmarthen, under an act recently obtained, which will pass through it, and, as the Swansea Road Trust are also empowered to make a road from that town to Loughor, will most probably become the mail coach road to Carmarthen.

Llanelly is supposed to be situated in or near the centre of the mineral basin of South Wales, which is calculated to contain no fewer than forty-two beds of coal, incumbent upon each other, with intervening strata of stone, &c.: upon these beds are found numerous fossil remains. The abundance of excellent coal in the vicinity has already caused the establishment here of two extensive copper-works, called the Llanelly Copper-Works and the Cambrian Copper-Works, and of two large iron-foundries, which are in active operation. The Cambrian Copper-Works are remarkable for having only one chimney, of the extraordinary height of two hundred and thirty-one feet: it is of a pyramidal shape, and, from its loftiness, forms a conspicuous and imposing object in the view of the town. Several extensive collieries are here in full operation, and are equally distinguished for the quantity and the superior quality of their produce, consisting of coal and culm of both the coking and stone species. The port, which exercises paramount jurisdiction over those of Carmarthen, St. Clear's, Laugharne, Kidwelly, and Pembrey, as dependent members, has been greatly improved under the provisions of the act of parliament above mentioned, prior to the passing of which it was only open beach. In 1812, an act was obtained, sanctioning the formation of a navigable canal, called the Llanelly canal, to connect this port and town with the Kidwelly canal, at Spudder's Bridge, and of a line of railway from the upper end of the Kidwelly canal to the coal and limestone works in the Great Mountain, with several other branches of canal or railway, which designs were accordingly carried into execution. Under an act obtained in 1829 the construction of a railway, more than two miles in length, is authorized, from the interior of this parish to the coast at Machynis Pool, where it is to terminate in a wet dock, calculated to accommodate twenty-one vessels, each of three hundred tons' burden. These works will greatly facilitate the conveyance of the mineral produce of the interior to this place, either for the supply of the works established in the town, or for the purpose of being shipped from the port. The principal article of import is copper-ore, the produce of which, after having been here manufactured, is shipped off to the value of £200,000 per annum: not less than one hundred thousand tons of coal and culm are also annually exported, some of the coal, owing to its peculiarly fine

quality, being shipped to France, and to the Mediterranean for the use of the steam-boats. Besides the large dock connected with the railway now in progress, there are three other docks, one of which is a floating basin, capable of admitting vessels of one hundred and eighty tons' burden. During the last five years vessels of an aggregate burden of fifty-three thousand nine hundred and ninety-six tons have cleared out annually on an average. The improvement of the navigation of the rivers Burry, Loughor, and Lliedi, is regulated by the act obtained in 1812, by which commissioners are empowered to scour, enlarge, and deepen the same, to erect buoys and lights, and to regulate the pilotage and mooring of vessels, for which a small tonnage rate is paid by such vessels as enter the river Burry. The markets, which are abundantly supplied with provisions of every kind, and with hardware and other articles of merchandise, are held on Thursday and Saturday, and are much frequented: the fairs, which are principally for horses, cattle, and pigs, are on Holy Thursday and September 30th, and are in general numerous attended. Llanelly is a borough by prescription, and most probably received its corporate privileges from its ancient lords, though no evidence of any regular charter having been granted to it has yet been discovered. The government is vested in a portreeve and an indefinite number of burgesses: the former is chosen annually at the court leet of the lord of the manor, and the latter are elected by a jury of burgesses at the same court, which is the only mode of obtaining the freedom. By the late act for amending the representation of the people it has been united with Carmarthen in the return of a member to parliament: the right of voting is vested in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of at least ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the number of tenements of this value, within the limits of the borough, which are minutely defined in the Appendix to this work, is about one hundred and ninety-eight, or upwards. A court for the lordship is held every alternate Monday, before the lord's officers, for the recovery of debts under forty shillings, contracted within the liberty. By the late Boundary Act Llanelly has been made a polling-place in the election of the knights for the shire.

The parish contains about eighteen thousand acres, and is divided into five hamlets, called the Borough, Berwick, Glyn, Hengoed, and Westvae hamlets. The living, which is rated in the king's books at £6. 6. 8., as a discharged vicarage, is strictly a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £200 royal bounty, and £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Rees Goring Thomas, Esq., who is impropiator of both the great and small tithes. Previously to the Reformation, at which time the tithes were alienated from the church, there was a chapel in each of the five hamlets into which the parish is divided: of these, the chapel in the borough is the only one remaining entire, and at present forms the chancel of the parish church, to which two transepts have been added, and other additions made; the whole constituting an irregular edifice, having a tower surmounted by an embattled parapet. It is said to be the intention of



the patron, Mr. Thomas, to rebuild those of St. John and St. Dewi, or St. David, and to endow them for the maintenance of a clergyman. There are three places of worship for Baptists, and one each for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Several free schools are supported by subscription, in which about two hundred boys and eighty girls receive gratuitous instruction. The sum of £5 per annum was bequeathed by Mr. Allen of this parish, to be expended in the purchase of bibles, for the poor, which was for some years regularly paid and applied to that purpose; but the payment of it has latterly been discontinued, under the operation of the Mortmain act. On a small promontory projecting into the Burry river, a little below the town, which was formerly insulated, a monastery is supposed to have been erected by St. Peiro, about the year 513: this saint constituted himself first abbot, and was succeeded by Samson, a disciple of St. Illtyd: the farm-house of Machynis, the name of which is supposed to be a contraction of Mynach Ynys, or "Monk Island," is conjectured to occupy the site of this ancient religious house. Pen Castell, in the immediate neighbourhood of the town, is thought to be the vestige of an ancient British fortification. Near the church is a fine old mansion, formerly belonging to Sir John Stepney, Bart., who for many years, during the reign of George III., was ambassador at the courts of Berlin and Dresden: after being for more than sixty years deserted by the family, during which time it was let out in different tenements, and the conservatory converted into a market-house, it came into the possession of William Chambers, of Bicknor, in the county of Kent, Esq., who, at considerable expense, has succeeded in restoring the interior to its legitimate use, and has since erected a market-place for the accommodation of the town. Strady, the seat of D. Lewes, Esq., and Glanmôr, the residence of R. I. Nevill, Esq., are also situated in this parish: the former, prior to its becoming the property of the father of the present owner, belonged to the ancient family of the Mansels, who had extensive possessions in this and the adjoining parishes: two of this family were created baronets in 1621, but one of the titles is extinct, the other being enjoyed by the present Sir William Mansel, Bart. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor of the entire parish amounts to £1300. 2.

LLANELWETH (LLAN-ELWEDD), a parish in the hundred of COLWYN, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, nearly 1 mile (N.E.) from Builth, containing 182 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the river Wye, by which it is separated on the south and south-west from the parish of Builth, in the county of Brecknock, and is intersected by the turnpike road from that place to Newtown in Montgomeryshire, from which, soon after it enters this parish, branches a road up the eastern bank of the Wye to Rhaiadr. The surface is generally undulating, with some abrupt eminences of considerable elevation: the lands, with the exception of some elevated commons and a small rocky district, are enclosed and in an excellent state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied; and the views from the higher grounds, and especially from the rocks beyond Wellfield, are extensive and extremely rich. In the neighbourhood are a few gentlemen's seats. Llanelweth Hall, the ancient residence of the

Gwynnes of Garth, in the county of Brecknock, (of which family was Marmaduke Gwynne, a judge on the North Wales circuit, who died in 1712,) has been deserted by its proprietor, and is now in the occupation of a tenant. Wellfield House, erected in 1787, by David Thomas, Esq., of London, descended from a branch of the family of Thomas of Llwyn Madoc, in the county of Brecknock, and now the property of his nephew, Edward Thomas, Esq., is a spacious and handsome mansion, with a portico of the Tuscan order, finely situated on a lofty eminence, and embosomed in flourishing plantations, forming a prominent and pleasing object from every point of view, and strikingly contrasting with the rugged barrenness of some of the surrounding heights. The grounds are pleasingly ornamented with shrubberies and walks, and command an extensive and richly varied prospect, embracing a fine view of the rivers Wye and Irvon winding through their respective vales, with the town of Builth and the adjacent country. From the summit of an eminence on this estate is one of the most extensive and magnificent panoramic views in any part of the principality: it comprehends a circle of more than twelve miles in the radius, entirely enclosed with lofty hills, and embraces a vast number of interesting objects, and a rich variety of beautiful and picturesque scenery. To the east are the Black Mountains, of dreary and rugged appearance, with the acclivities of others of more softened aspect; and to the west are the mountains of Tregarn and Garn Wen, the former said to be the highest ridge, next to the Beacons, in this part of South Wales, and the latter remarkable for its conical form, and the cairn which crowns its summit. About a mile to the north of Wellfield is Penkerrig House, formerly the seat of the family of Jones, and now, by marriage with the heiress of that family, the property of Thomas Thomas, Esq., of Ystrad, near Caerphilly, in Glamorganshire: the house has been recently enlarged and partly rebuilt, and embellished with a new front in the Elizabethan style: it is pleasingly ornamented with a rich plantation of evergreens, and is sheltered in the rear by a hill of considerable elevation, covered with stately timber. In the grounds, which are laid out with great taste, is a fine sheet of water, covering about six acres; and the view from the house, though not extensive, is picturesque.

This parish constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, rated in the king's books at £6. 10., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Edward David Thomas, Esq., as lessee of the tithes under the prebendary of Llanelweth. The church, dedicated to St. Matthew, a small edifice not distinguished by any remarkable architectural details, is situated on an eminence near the high road, and on the bank of the river Wye. Lady Hartstrye, Hartstrong, or Hartstongue, bequeathed a small farm in the parish of St. Harmon, in this county, now producing £16. 12. per annum, for the gratuitous education of poor children of this parish: from this fund is supported a small charity school, which is now held in a room hired for that purpose, but for which it is intended to erect a suitable building by subscription. One poor child is



annually apprenticed from the funds of the Boughrood charity, this being one of the sixteen parishes which are entitled to partake of that benefaction. On the summit of the eminence near Wellfield House are the imperfect remains of a semicircular intrenchment, once defended by a rampart of loose stones, and to which a walk has been constructed from the grounds of that seat; and on the confines of this parish and of that of Disserth, where the desperate battle between Rhys ab Tewdwr and the three sons of Bleddyn ab Cynvyn is supposed by some to have been fought, may be seen, from this eminence, the square moat of Cwrt Llêchryd, so called, perhaps, from a monument erected there to the memory of Riryd ab Bleddyn, who was slain in that battle. At a short distance is a tumulus, called by the Welsh "Castell," of which nothing historical is with certainty known: by some it is supposed to have been surmounted by an *arx speculatoria*, and by others to be only sepulchral. There are also some remains of a fortification on the hill behind Penkerrig House, but they are in a very imperfect state. On the farm belonging to the Wellfield estate are two remarkable quarries; in one is obtained a kind of transitional clay slate, which displays some curious marine impressions of a species of the Trilobite: the other produces a hard kind of clay, or stone, perforated with small holes emitting a fine black powder: the external appearance of the substance indicates the action of fire, and in the clay are found some fine specimens of crystals, some of them very beautiful and perfect. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £83. 16.

LLANENDDWYN (LLAN-ENDDWYN), a parish in the hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N.N.W.) from Barmouth, on the road to Harlech, containing 798 inhabitants. The village is pleasantly situated, and the inhabitants are partly engaged in the manufacture of webs, partly in the working of mines of manganese, which metal is found in the parish, and the rest in agriculture. An act of parliament was obtained, in 1810, for the enclosure of the waste lands, under the provisions of which two thousand three hundred and seven acres were allotted; and a considerable portion of this tract has been brought into a good state of cultivation. The living is a rectory, with the perpetual curacy of Llanddwywau annexed, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £10. 18. 1½., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Enddwyn, is an ancient structure. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The poor children of this parish are gratuitously instructed in the parochial school of Llanddwywau. Near the high road is a great stone, called Coeten Arthur, or "Arthur's Quoit." The waters of a spring called St. Enddwyn's well, are thought to be efficacious in the cure of rheumatic affections. The distinguished Archdeacon Prÿs was for some years rector of this parish; and Colonel Jones, one of the judges who passed sentence of death on Charles I., was buried in the churchyard. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £178. 18.

LLANENGAN (LLAN-EINGION), a parish chiefly in the hundred of COMMITMAEN, but partly in that of GAFLOGION, Lleyl division of the county of CARNAR-

VON, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (S.W.) from Pwllheli containing 1016 inhabitants. This parish, which comprises the headland, or promontory, of Penrhÿn Dû, extending into St. Tudwal's Roads in St. George's channel, is pleasantly situated at the southern extremity of the county; it is about four miles in length and three in breadth, and contains three thousand nine hundred and eighty acres. The surface is varied, much of the parish being hilly, while some ground near the river Sôch is so low and flat as to be subject to frequent inundation: the stream above-mentioned is the only one by which the parish is watered. At a small distance from the shore are two islands, upon the larger of which are the remains of an ancient chapel, now converted into a barn, which was dedicated to St. Tudwal, from whom the extensive roads off this coast derive their name. St. Tudwal's Roads afford good anchorage for the largest ships, and are so extensive and secure that the whole of the British navy might ride here in perfect safety during the heaviest gales. The bay, which is the finest and the most secure in the channel, affords an asylum for vessels which put in here when in danger of being driven into the adjoining exposed bay, called "Hell's Mouth," or upon the extensive ridge of sand called Sarn Badrig, or "Patrick's Causeway," which stretches from the shore of Merionethshire nearly into this bay. The soil of the parish is of various qualities: in some places it consists of clay, in others of sand, and in others again of fine loamy soils, or rocky land. Extensive veins of lead-ore have been discovered in some parts of the parish, and several attempts have been made to work them; but the influx of water into the mines is so great that the expense in many instances has exceeded the profits, and they are consequently worked only upon a very limited scale. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £17. 6. 5½., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Einion, is a spacious structure, newly pewed, principally in the later style of English architecture, with some portions of a much earlier date: it consists of a nave, chancel, and north and south aisles, and is remarkable as the only parish church in the county having a tower and a peal of bells: the tower is square, lofty, and situated at the western end of the edifice; the bells are four in number. According to an inscription, now nearly obliterated, it appears to have been built by Einion, King of Lleyl, who flourished about the commencement of the sixth century, and who is said to have founded a college at Penmon, which he placed under the superintendence of his nephew Seiriol, and to which the Scandinavian wanderers on the neighbouring coasts are said to have resorted for instruction in the Christian faith. The rectory-house stands in an enclosure called the "Prior's Field." There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The produce of several small charitable donations and bequests, of which some are invested in land, is annually distributed among the most necessitous of the poor during the winter. Upon the sea-coast are two tumuli, or barrows, called by the inhabitants Castellau, or small forts, but which are probably the graves of some warriors of remote times. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £263. 4.



**LLANENGHENEDL (LLANENGHENEL)**, a parish in the hundred of **LLYVON**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**, 2 miles (E.) from **Bôdederu**, containing 412 inhabitants. This parish forms a level and fertile district, watered by numerous rivulets, and comprises a considerable extent of enclosed and well-cultivated land. The village is pleasantly situated on the old Holyhead road, and the new line of road to that place passes through a considerable portion of the parish. The surrounding scenery, though not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature, is generally pleasing, and the adjacent country is finely varied. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of **Llanvâchreth**, in the archdeaconry of **Anglesey**, and diocese of **Bangor**. The church, dedicated to **St. Enghenel**, commander of the British forces under **Cadvan**, in the memorable battle of **Chester**, in 603, and said to have been erected about the commencement of the seventh century, is a small but lofty edifice, situated on a rock, close to the road leading from **Llangevni** to **Holyhead**: several parts of the present structure display marks of very great antiquity. There is a place of worship for **Wesleyan Methodists**. Several small charitable donations and bequests have been made by various benefactors for the relief of the poor of this parish, the produce of which is principally appropriated to the reduction of the poor's rate. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £164. 10.

**LLANERCHILA (LLANERCH-ILA)**, a township in that part of the parish of **LLANSANTFRAID YN MECHAN** which is in the upper division of the hundred of **DEYTHUR**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 8 miles (W. by N.) from **Llanvyllin**, containing 141 inhabitants.

**LLANERCHLLWYDOG (LLANERCH-LWYDOG)**, a parish in the hundred of **KEMMES**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 4 miles (E. S. E.) from **Fishguard**, containing 169 inhabitants. This place derives its name from **Clydawc**, one of the reguli of the county, by whom, according to **Mr. Fenton**, the church was originally founded, and who, while pursuing the diversion of the chase in this vicinity, was treacherously murdered, and afterwards interred in the churchyard. The parish is romantically situated on the river **Gwynn**, which, after pursuing a north-westerly course, falls into **Fishguard bay**: it comprises a large tract of land, which, with the exception of a mountainous district, is wholly enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surface is finely undulated, and the surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified and in some parts highly picturesque. The living is a discharged rectory, with that of **Llanllawer** annexed, in the archdeaconry of **Cardigan**, and diocese of **Bangor**, rated in the king's books at £8, and in the patronage of **Thomas Lloyd, Esq.** The church, dedicated to **St. David**, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance: in the churchyard are two upright stones of great antiquity, which are supposed to mark the grave of **Clydawc**. There are places of worship for **Baptists** and **Calvinistic Methodists**. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £56. 1.

**LLANERCHROCHWELL (LLANERCH-VROCHWEL)**, a township in the parish of **GUILSFIELD**, lower division of the hundred of **POOL**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 2½ miles (N. W.) from **Welsh-**

**pool**. The population is returned with the parish. It lies near the road from **GUILSFIELD** to **Llanvair**, which is here crossed by another from **Welshpool** to **Meivod**. Many respectable residences are situated in this township, and there are a few houses of singular appearance in a pass between the mountains, termed **Bwlch Aeddau**, from having been anciently fortified by the chieftain whose name it bears. The ground in the vicinity, though hilly, is well cultivated: the township is within the liberties of the borough of **Welshpool**.

**LLANERCHYMEDD**, a market town and chapelry, chiefly in the parish of **AMLWCH**, but partly in those of **LLANBEULAN**, **LLÊHCYNVARWYDD**, and **CEIDIO**, in the hundreds of **LLYVON**, **MENAI**, and **TWRCELYN**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**, 14 miles (W. N. W.) from **Beaumaris**, and 263 (N. W. by W.) from **London**. The population is returned with the respective parishes. This town, of which two-thirds are situated within the parish of **Amlwch**, is, in respect of population, the second in the **Isle of Anglesey**, and appears to have derived its progressive increase in extent and importance from its central situation. Previously to the commencement of the parliamentary war, it had become a very populous village, and as such it is set forth in a petition which, during the protectorate of **Cromwell**, was presented for the establishment of a market, which was granted in 1657, and confirmed by **Charles II.**, in 1665. This market, with the exception of that of **Beaumaris**, was the only one in the whole island, and constituted a chief source of the prosperity of the town until the year 1785, when a market was granted to **Llangevni**, the still more central situation of which renders it more convenient for the general resort of the inhabitants of the island. **Llanerchymedd** is pleasantly situated on the high road from **Bangor** to **Amlwch**. The making of shoes is carried on to a very considerable extent, affording employment to more than two hundred and fifty men; and the manufacture of a high dried **Welsh snuff**, closely resembling in its quality the celebrated **Irish snuff**, commonly called **Lundy Foote's**, for which it has partially become a substitute, has recently been established upon an extensive scale: the business, however, is not conducted upon a plan calculated to ensure to the inventors all the advantages of which, under better management, it might be made productive. The market, which is well attended, is on **Wednesday**; and five annual fairs are held under the same letters patent by which the market was granted, but the days are not fixed with certainty, being frequently changed to suit the convenience of the dealers, who are thus enabled to drive the cattle to the **English fairs**: the nominal days are, **January 1st**, **March 10th**, **April 4th**, **May 6th**, **June 23rd**, the three **Wednesdays** before **August 7th**, and the **14th** of that month, **October 2nd**, **November 13th**, and the three first **Wednesdays** after the last-mentioned day. The vill of **Llanerchymedd**, forming that portion of the town which is in the parish of **Llanbeulan**, now deemed extra-parochial, and containing fifty-seven inhabitants, maintains its own poor, but has neither churchwardens nor any other parish officers, the whole consisting only of six acres of glebe land, which, together with the houses built on them, belong to the rector: the rest of the parish is eight miles distant, being separated from this detached por-



tion by no fewer than five intervening parishes. The poor of the other parts of the town are maintained with those of the several parishes in which they are respectively situated. The living is a curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llanbeulan, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, is a spacious structure, with a lofty square tower at the western end, and is the joint property of the families of Lluidiarth and Bodelwyddan, who have always kept it in repair without any charge to the inhabitants of the town. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school, capable of receiving about a hundred and sixty children, and in which fifty-four boys and sixty girls are gratuitously instructed, was built in 1824, and is liberally supported by subscription. Children of the adjoining parishes of Coed-anna and Ceidio are eligible to this school.

LLANERVUL (LLAN-ERVUL), a parish in two divisions, Lower and Upper, in the upper division of the hundred of MATHRAVAL, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (W.N.W.) from Llanvair, containing 989 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Ervul, appears to have been a place of some importance at a very early period, and abounds with vestiges of British and Roman antiquity: it extends nearly eight miles in length and three in breadth, and is pleasantly situated in the vale of the river Banwy, the whole of which, with its encircling hills, is included in this and the adjoining parishes of Llangadfan and Garthbeibio. The surface is boldly undulating: the lands are but partially enclosed and cultivated, the hilly parts affording only pasturage for sheep and young cattle during the summer. The soil of the lower grounds is tolerably fertile, but that of the upper is poor, resting chiefly on a stiff clay or brittle slate, requiring the process of paring and burning, with an unusual quantity of manure, to render it capable of producing grain of any kind. By far the greater portion of the parish, having a boggy surface, forms an uncultivated waste, and is claimed as sheepwalks by the several farmers whose lands are contiguous. On the Drûm are three pools, of which one is called Llŷn y grinwydden, or "the pool of the withered tree," situated on a rocky hill, and said to be of unfathomable depth: it is about seventy yards in length, and contains no fish but eels and carp. Llŷn Hir, or "the long pool," is about three hundred yards in length, and one hundred and fifty in breadth: the upper end of it is so firmly crusted over with the slough brought down by the floods from the turbaries above it, that sheep and men can walk upon the surface; but what it loses in extent, from this circumstance, it gains at the opposite extremity by the violent action of its waters, driven by the west winds, against the banks, which are of peat earth: this pool contains excellent red trout, but in very hot summers it is nearly dried up: on the north side is a stone inscribed MET. II. 1430; it is at present seven feet distant from the bank, which space is supposed to have been gained by the receding of the water since that date. Llŷn y Bugail, or "the shepherd's pool," abounds with eels, but is not distinguished by any peculiar characteristics. Within this parish, on the border of that of Llanbrŷnmair, is a pool, called Llŷn Gwyddior, or Cadivor, of remarkably

clear water, which formerly contained great numbers of fine trout, but these have been extirpated by the introduction of pike. This pool, which is about a mile in circumference, is situated on an eminence extending in a direction from north to south: to the west of this ridge are some very deep hollows, open to the south-west and north-west, within which the collected winds burst impetuously through an opening in the ridge parallel with the direction of the pool, and agitate its water with great violence. The wool produced here is generally coarse, especially on the higher hills, on which the hardest breed of sheep in the principality is fed: these hills are covered with heath, and among them are found extensive turbaries, sufficient for the supply of the surrounding district. In 1797, a company of adventurers began to sink for coal at Cyvylchau, in this parish, but their enterprise was not attended with success, and the attempt was discontinued: about the same time a few specimens of copper-ore were dug up in the township of Coed-Talog, but no regular works have been established. The turnpike road from Welshpool to Machynlleth and Dôlgeley passes through the village, in which an annual fair takes place on the 7th of May, and the petty sessions for the upper division of the hundred of Mathraval are held occasionally.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £9.2.11., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Ervul, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture: in the churchyard is an ancient monument, commonly supposed to have been erected in memory of the patron saint, bearing a mutilated inscription, which, however, as far as it is legible, does not at all support this conjecture. There was formerly an ancient chapel at Dôlwen, in the township of Cevnllŷs Uchâv. There are places of worship for Independents and Wesleyan Methodists. Mrs. Priscilla Forster, a descendant of the family of the Herberts of Llŷsyn, bequeathed £300 for the instruction of poor children of this parish: this sum has been invested in the purchase of a farm, now producing £35 per annum, which is appropriated agreeably to the intentions of the benevolent testatrix. The produce arising from several charitable donations and bequests is annually distributed among the poor. On the summit of an eminence called Moelddolwen, in the township of Cevnllŷs Uchâv, are the remains of a strongly fortified camp, including an irregular quadrilateral area, about a hundred yards in length, and guarded on the west, on which side is the entrance, by an advanced work about twenty yards in diameter: the camp is defended, on the sides where it is most easily accessible, by fosses of greater depth, the earth having been thrown up to form a breastwork. In the same township is a fortified eminence called Gardden, having a circular rampart, which encloses an area seventy yards in diameter. The entrances of these strong holds, both of which are of ancient British construction, are on the most accessible sides of the hill, and, from their breadth, appear to have been contrived for the admission of the chariots armed with scythes, which were in use among the ancient Britons. A ditch and rampart, equal in dimensions to Offa's Dyke, may still be traced crossing the vale of the Banwy near Rhôs y gall. The Roman road from Caer-Sws to the present Chester, or from Caerlleon, in the



modern county of Monmouth, to the same city, enters this parish on the hills of the Drûm, passes through a bog called Corsyvisog, now impenetrable from the accumulation of slough descending from the turbaries on the hills, and, traversing the moors in a direct line to Bwlch y Drûm, thence descends through Cynniwyll, crosses the Banwy below Neuadd wên, passes over Craig y Go, and enters the parish of Llanvihangel at Rhÿd pont y Styllod. Though concealed by long grass in the moorish grounds of the Drûm, this road may be easily discerned at a distance, in the recently ploughed lands in various parts of the parish, in which it forms a bold and conspicuous ridge, and in which the materials of its construction may be found a little below the surface. On the common of Craig y Go are vestiges of ancient mines, which are supposed to have been originally worked by the Romans; and at the foot of the declivity of the hill on which the common is situated is a cavern called Ogov Dôlanog, of which the entrance is so narrow as to prevent any person from penetrating far into it. There are two large tumuli and several carneddau in the parish, but no particulars of their origin are recorded. Neuadd wên, now a farm-house, was anciently the mansion of Meredydd ab Cynan ab Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, and appears, from the few remains of the ancient building which have been found among some rubbish at the back of the present farm-house, to have been erected about the eleventh or twelfth century: among these vestiges were the ruins of an arched window, with mouldings of freestone, in the style of that age. This mansion was anciently called Llÿs Wgan, from a rivulet near the spot; and adjoining it is the farm of Llÿsyn, which appears to have derived its name, a diminutive of Llÿs, "a palace," from its vicinity to this residence. Near the church is a fine well, dedicated to the patron saint, the water of which was formerly in great repute for its efficacy in the cure of various diseases. The Rev. Joseph Thomas, who married the daughter of Parkhurst, the Hebrew and Greek lexicographer, and who assisted him in the execution of his literary labours, was born at Llÿsyn. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £396. 18.

**LLANEUGRAD (LLAN-EIGRAD)**, a parish in the hundred of TWRCelyn, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (E.) from Llanerchymedd, containing 323 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the coast of the Irish sea, by which it is bounded on the east, was anciently much more extensive than at present; and not far from the church, upon the site of a farm called Park, are distinct traces of a town or large village, of which the foundations of the buildings alone remain. In the year 873, a memorable battle was fought at Bryngola, within its limits, in which the Danes, who at that time made frequent descents on the coast of Anglesey, were defeated with great slaughter by Roderic the Great, who, after a sanguinary contest, obtained a signal victory over the invaders, and drove them to their ships. The soil of this parish is fertile, and the lands are enclosed and cultivated. The substratum is limestone, of which there are immense rocks in the parish; and extensive quarries of black and grey marble afford employment to a considerable number of the labouring poor: the situation of the place upon the coast affords a facility of exporting the pro-

duce of these quarries, and great quantities are shipped to various parts of Great Britain. The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacy of Llanallgo annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £9. 11. 10½., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Eugarad, is supposed to have been originally founded, about the year 605, by Eugarad, son of Caw-o-Frydain, and brother of St. Alltgo, who, about the same time, founded the church of Llanallgo: it is a small but somewhat stately edifice, of lofty proportions and venerable appearance: adjoining it is a small antique chapel. On the farm of Llugwy, in this parish, formerly stood a chapel of ease to the neighbouring church of Llanallgo; the small existing remains of which are called Capel Llugwy. The poor are entitled to one-third of the rent of a farm in the parish of Llanvair-Mathavarneithâv, now let for £75 per annum, which is annually distributed among them at Christmas. There are also some small benefactions in land, the produce of which is similarly appropriated. Adjoining the ancient town above noticed are the remains of an extensive and well-fortified camp, in which Roderic is supposed to have stationed his forces in his conflict with the Danes; and on the highest eastern point are some remains, consisting principally of a gateway and some portions of ruined walls, of an ancient building, in which that sovereign is thought to have held his court while engaged in repelling the Danes from this part of his dominions. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £97. 2.

**LLANFINNAN (LLAN-FINAN)**, a parish in the hundred of MENAI, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (W.) from Beaumaris, containing 163 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Finnan, by whom it was originally founded in the early part of the seventh century, is pleasantly situated on the old line of road from London to Holyhead. It comprises a considerable portion of elevated ground, the substratum of which is limestone; and the lower lands, which are fertile and productive, are enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, though not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature; and the views from the higher grounds extend over a large tract of country, abounding with interesting objects. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to that of Llanvihangel-Ysceiviog, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, and in the patronage of the Dean of Bangor. The church is a small plain edifice, and contains several monuments to the memory of deceased members of the family of Lloyd. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. Six poor children of this parish are taught gratuitously in the parochial school of Llanvihangel-Ysceiviog, under an endowment of the Rev. Dr. John Jones, Dean of Bangor, who was for some years curate of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £71. 9.

**LLANGADOCK (LLAN-GADOG)**, a market town and parish, comprising the hamlets of Above-Sawdde, Dyfryn-Cydrich, and Gwynve, in the lower division of the hundred of PERVETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 21 miles (E. N. E.) from Carmarthen, and 188 (W. by N.) from London, and containing 2476 inhabitants.



This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cadog, is of very remote antiquity; and the town, which was formerly of much greater importance than at present, was anciently distinguished for its castle, of which frequent notice occurs in the Welsh annals. By whom, or at what period, this fortress was originally erected, is not known; but in the various struggles of the native chieftains of South Wales, for the extension of their territories, and in the frequent dissensions which arose among them, it was invariably an object of the greatest importance, and the occupation of it was eagerly contended for by the adverse parties. In 1204, the castle of Llangadock was strongly fortified by Rhys ab Gruffydd, from whom, however, it was soon taken by his uncle Maelgwyn, assisted by Gwenwynwyn, Prince of Powys: but these chieftains did not long remain in possession of it, as it was recovered in a successful assault by Rhys, who continued to hold it for some time. About the year 1208, Rhys Vychan, otherwise Rhys Grŷg, brother of Maelgwyn, having quarrelled with his nephews Rhys and Owain, turned his arms against them, and dispossessed them of this fortress, in which he placed a strong garrison; but the latter chieftains, on being apprized of the circumstance, marched against it with all their forces, and, putting the garrison to the sword, levelled it with the ground. The town suffered materially from the ravages of the English vassals, during the continuance of hostilities between them and the native inhabitants of this part of South Wales. The Welsh prince Llewelyn, having made his submission to Edward I., expectations were fondly entertained that the country would have enjoyed a respite from the continual depredations committed by the English who had settled in this part of the principality; but soon after the accession of that monarch to the throne, the oppressive tyranny of his officers at Aberystwith drove the inhabitants once more into open rebellion; and the brave Llewelyn again had recourse to arms. On this occasion, the archbishop of Canterbury endeavoured to adjust the differences which had arisen between the natives and the English; and to this prelate Rhys Vychan complained that, among other excesses, the English had attacked and plundered the church of Llangadock, wounded the priest, whom they left expiring before the high altar, converted that sacred edifice into stabling for their horses, and burned the houses in the town. After the entire subjugation of Wales by Edward, and the dispersion of the family of Dynevor, to whom the castle of Llangadock belonged, that fortress was most probably neglected, and suffered to fall into decay, no vestiges of it being now visible.

The town is beautifully situated between the rivers Brân and Sawdde, over the former of which it has a neat stone bridge of three arches, and near its confluence with the river Towy, by which the parish is bounded on the west: it consists principally of one spacious street, containing several well-built houses of respectable appearance, and is abundantly supplied with water, but neither paved nor lighted. Within the last few years Llangadock has been constituted a post town; and a new line of road, over the Black Mountain, has been recently completed, connecting it with the coal and limestone works in that district, and with the Swansea canal at Pont Ar Dawy. The road from Llan-

dilo to Llandovery also passes through it; and among other improvements, which have here taken place, may be mentioned the erection of an elegant stone bridge of five arches over the river Towy, which was completed in 1819, at an expense of £2300, defrayed by this parish and those of Llandilo, Llansadwrn, Llanthoysaint, and Mothvey, adjoining. The parish contains coal, limestone, and lead and iron ores: the two former are worked on a moderate scale, employing from fifty to sixty persons each during the summer months; and coal is conveyed by the new road to the Swansea canal, by which it is forwarded to the port of Swansea, where it is shipped to various parts of the kingdom: the lime is carried in waggons to Cardiganshire, the upper parts of this county, and to Brecknockshire: the lead and iron ores are not worked at present. The market is on Thursday; and fairs are held annually on January 16th, March 12th, the last Thursday in May, July 9th, the first Thursday after September 11th, the second Thursday after Old Michaelmas-day, and December 11th. The town is under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates; and at the court leet of the lord of the manor a portreeve is annually chosen and sworn into office, whose duties consist in collecting the tolls of the market and fairs, the mortuaries of freeholders, deodands, and other dues.

The living is a vicarage, with Llanthoysaint annexed, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church is an ancient and venerable structure, containing a good organ built by the late David Jones, watchmaker of this town, in 1804, at the expense of the parish: in 1283 it was designed to be made collegiate, in honour of St. Maurice and his companions, and St. Thomas the Martyr, by Dr. Thomas Beck, Bishop of St. David's, for a precentor and twenty-one canons or prebendaries, of whom seven were to be priests, seven deacons, and seven subdeacons, together with five clerks; but this design was frustrated by that prelate's death. In the hamlet of Gwynve is an endowed chapel, in the gift of the Vicar of Llangadock. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The ancient castle of Llangadock was built on a solid rock, near the banks of the small river Sawdde, at a short distance to the east of the town, which is by some writers supposed to have been the site of an *ars speculatoria*, or Roman watch-tower. The Roman road called the *Via Julia Montana* took its course through this parish, or its immediate vicinity, in which it is thought there was probably a Roman station; but no traces of such a work are now discernible. To the south-east of the parish is a hill, called Tri Chrŷg, or the "Three Hillocks," from three large carneddau, or heaps of stones, on its summit, which form conspicuous objects in the distant view of this place, and are supposed to be the graves of some ancient British chieftains, or of numerous warriors that may have fallen in some unrecorded battle fought near the spot. Near this eminence are some remains of an ancient British encampment, called Garn gôch, enclosing a circular area of considerable extent, defended by a rude rampart of loose stones, in some places ten feet high; and in both the town and the immediate neighbourhood are the ruins of several mansions of superior dimensions and style of architec-



ture, evidences of the former grandeur and importance of this place, in which is thought anciently to have been situated a mansion called Llŷs Brychan, or "Brychan's Palace." On the banks of the Towy, in this neighbourhood, are numerous gentlemen's seats of pleasing aspect. Within two miles of the town, and within the limits of the parish, are Glânsevin and Mandinnam, both the property of Edward Pryse Lloyd, Esq. The former, which is the family seat, is beautifully situated in grounds tastefully laid out; and on the spacious lawn in front of the mansion is a stately and venerable oak, the trunk of which is twenty-four feet in circumference. Mandinnam, which is usually occupied by the eldest son of the actual possessor of these estates, is at present the residence of Mrs. Lloyd, relict of the late — Lloyd, Esq., of Glânsevin, and mother of the present proprietor. In the hamlet of Gwynve is a seat of that name, the property of L. Lewis, Esq.; and near the town is Dan yr Allt, belonging to J. W. Lloyd, Esq. New Golden Grove, near Llandilo, the seat of Earl Cawdor, is a handsome mansion built of limestone mostly brought from the Black Mountain. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £1025. 12.

LLANGADVAN (LLAN-GADVAN), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of MATHRAVAL, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (W.N.W.) from Llanvair, containing 1067 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cadvan, son of Eneas Lledewig of Armorica, who flourished in the sixth century, and was regarded as the tutelar saint of warriors. It is pleasantly situated on the turnpike road from Welshpool to Machynlleth, which passes by the noted posting-house called Cann Office, about three-quarters of a mile from the church; and comprehends a tract of nearly seven thousand acres, of which about five thousand are enclosed and cultivated. The surface is boldly undulated, and the surrounding scenery is strikingly varied, combining portions of cultivation and verdure with features of rugged sterility. At Moel Achles, in the township of Cowny, a vein of lead-ore was discovered, and mines of that metal were for some time worked with considerable success; but these works have been discontinued. Peat is dug in the parish, and forms the principal fuel of the inhabitants. A branch of the river Vyrnwy flows through the village, and unites with the river Banwy, near the church. In the neighbourhood are some handsome mansions, of which the principal within the parish is Llwydiarth House, formerly the seat of the family of Vaughan, descended from Aleth Hên, King of Dyved, and now the property of Sir W. W. Wynne, Bart. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £9. 5., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church is a small venerable structure, in the ancient style of English architecture, and is appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service. It is supposed that there were formerly chapels in the townships of Cyfin, Cowny, and Maesllymysten, which were served by monks from the adjoining monastery of Cyfin; and, according to tradition, the inhabitants of these townships had no sittings in the parish church, the smallness of which appears to corroborate the account. The churchyard is extremely small, and the soil so shallow that the

want of a more spacious cemetery is much felt by the inhabitants. The parsonage-house was burnt down in 1645, when Vavasor Powel was sent by the parliament to sequester the livings of the clergy in the county of Montgomery. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children of the parish, and for which a suitable building is now in progress of erection, is supported by subscription; and there are several small charitable donations and bequests for distribution among the poor. In the township of Cyfin, in this parish, was a small monastery, probably dependent on the Cistercian abbey of Strata Marcella: among its endowments were the hamlet of Cevnllŷs Uchâ, in the parish of Llanervul, and that of Tŷr y Mynach, in the parish of Llanbrynmair, which, on its dissolution, became the property of the Vaughans of Llwydiarth. There are no remains of the building; but the site which it occupied is still called Cae 'r Mynach, and below it is a ford over the river Owddyn, a branch of the Vyrnwy, called Rhŷd y byddê, which is by some thought to be a corruption of Rhŷd yr Abadan, "the ford of the abbots," or of Rhŷd y badan, "the ford of the boats," from a pool adjoining, in which boats were formerly kept. At Cann Office are the remains of a British encampment, the area enclosed by the defences of which is partly occupied by the present posting-house: a mound of earth, about seventy yards in circumference, extending along the bottom of the moat by which it was surrounded, is still remaining. Near Pont y llogel, in the township of Cyfin, and near the bank of the river Vyrnwy, are two cairns, the larger of which is nearly sixty yards in circuit, and has its outer circumference composed of upright stones, four feet in height, with the interior piled up to the height of five feet in the centre. In removing the stones to furnish materials for the wall of Llwydiarth Park, a stone coffin was discovered in the centre, containing two skeletons, the head of one being placed by the feet of the other, and an urn, in which were some burnt bones and ashes. There are numerous carneddau in this and the adjoining parishes of Garthbeibio and Llanervul, varying in diameter from ten to twenty yards, and a great number of smaller dimensions. In the centre of each of these, when opened, is found a kistvaen, or stone coffin, over which the cairn is always more protuberant: the outer circumference, like that of the large one above-mentioned, is generally formed of large upright stones, and those contained within are piled loosely in circles around the tomb, the interstices being filled up with stones of a smaller size. Besides these, which are undoubtedly the sepulchres of native British chieftains, there is, on the neighbouring hills, and more especially on that called Pen Coed, a great number of barrows, supposed to be the graves of their followers: they all exhibit evident marks of fire, and in some the heat appears to have been so intense, that the stones were partly vitrified. In the township of Moelveliarth are the remains of a small fort with intrenchments; and in Maesllymysten is a small camp, on the summit of a precipitous eminence, defended on the only side on which it is accessible by a deep ditch. On the summit of an opposite hill, called Mopart, and running completely across it, is a ditch as large as Offa's Dyke, probably intended to prevent incursions from the mountains above. A pair of



ancient millstones was found in digging for turf in the township of Cyfin, in the year 1828, at a depth of nearly two feet below the surface. Fynnon Gadvan, or "St. Cadvan's Well," was formerly in great repute for the marvellous efficacy attributed to its water, and was anciently covered with some building, of which the stones, of remarkably large size, were remaining within the last few years. There is a chalybeate spring in the township of Cyfin; but it is not much resorted to. William Jones, an eminent poet and critic, was born in this parish, in 1729, and was interred here in 1795: the Cambrian Register contains a sketch of his life, and some notice of a history which he published of this and the adjoining parishes of Garthbeibio and Llanervul. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £312. 6.

**LLANGADWALADR (LLAN - GADWALADR),** or **EGLWYSAEL**, a parish in the hundred of **MALDRAETH**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**, 8 miles (S. W.) from **Llangevni**, containing 573 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to **St. Cadwaladr**, is situated on the **Maldraeth Sands**, in **Carnarvon bay**, and on the turnpike road leading from **Llangevni** to **Aberfraw**. It is of considerable extent, and is bounded on the south-east by those sands, on the south-west by the bay of **Carnarvon**, on the north-west by **Aberfraw**, and on the north-east by **Trêvdraeth**. The surrounding scenery is finely varied, and the distant views embrace some pleasing prospects over the adjacent country, and an extended view of the open bay. The surface is boldly undulated; and the soil, though varying in different parts of the parish, is for the most part fertile. The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacy of **Talyllŷn** annexed, in the archdeaconry of **Anglesey**, and diocese of **Bangor**, rated in the king's books at £16. 7. 11., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of **Wales**. The church, dedicated to **St. Cadwaladr**, was founded or built by **Cadwaladr**, the last of the **Welsh kings of Britain**, in 650: it is an elegant structure, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a north and south transept, called respectively the **Bôdorgan** and **Bôdowen** chapels, of more recent erection than the rest of the edifice, and in the purest character of the later style of **English architecture**. The **Bôdorgan** chapel, forming the north transept, was originally built by **Richard Meyrick, Esq.**, in 1640, and rebuilt in 1801, in a style of inferior beauty, which forms a striking contrast to that of **Bôdowen**, constituting the south transept, which was erected by **Anne**, widow of **William Owen** of **Bôdowen**, in 1661. This last, in the beauty of its style and the richness of its details, is one of the most elegant specimens of ecclesiastical architecture in **North Wales**: the windows, though partly divested of the richly stained glass with which they were originally embellished, are still strikingly beautiful. The window of the chancel is of elegant design, and was formerly enriched with brilliant stained glass, inserted at the expense of **Meyric ab Llewelyn ab Hwlkyn**, in 1535, as appears by an inscription below the figures; though greatly mutilated, there is still enough of the original glass remaining to bear testimony to its pristine beauty. On the lintel of the south door of the church is a rude inscription, which has been decyphered thus:—CATAMANVS REX SAPIENTISSIMVS OPINATISSIMVS OMNIVM

**REGVM**. **Catamanus** was grandfather of **Cadwaladr**, and is said to have been buried in **Bardsey Island**; but the learned author of the "*Mona Antiqua Restaurata*," is of opinion that his remains were finally deposited here by **Cadwaladr**, who, perhaps, erected the church over his grave, and on that account invested it with the privilege of sanctuary. About three-quarters of a mile to the south of the church are the ruins of the ancient chapel of **Llanveirian**, which appears to have been originally a parish church, and afterwards a chapel, having been finally suffered to fall into decay, about the year 1775. The present rector has caused the cemetery to be enclosed with a stone wall, and some yew trees to be planted within the area, marking the site of the ancient edifice. There is a place of worship for Independents. A National school has been established in the adjoining parish of **Trêvdraeth**, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, into which those of this parish also are admissible. A suitable building, capable of receiving one hundred and fifty children, was erected for its use in 1828; and there are at present seventy-five children in the school, which is supported by the gentry and clergy of the two parishes. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £177. 17.

**LLANGAFO (LLAN - GAFFO)**, a parish in the hundred of **MENAI**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**, 6 miles (N. W. by N.) from **Carnarvon**, containing 137 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to **St. Caffo**, who flourished in this part of **Wales** about the middle of the sixth century. It comprehends an extensive tract of land, of which a large portion is marshy, some part hilly, and the remainder enclosed and in a fair state of cultivation. In 1790, an act of parliament was obtained for more effectually embanking the marshes called **Maldraeth** and **Corsddeugae**, under the provisions of which two hundred and thirty acres were allotted to the several proprietors of land in this parish. The soil is in general fertile, and the lower grounds afford excellent pasturage for cattle. The surrounding scenery, though pleasingly varied, is not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature, but the higher grounds afford some fine views over the adjacent country. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of **Llangeinwen**, in the archdeaconry of **Anglesey**, and diocese of **Bangor**. The church is a small ancient edifice, situated on an eminence overlooking the **Maldraeth marsh**: it is appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service, but is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. There are places of worship for Independents and Wesleyan Methodists. Several small charitable donations and bequests have been made at various times, of which the greater part has been lost; the interest of the remainder is annually distributed among the poor. Two gold coins of the Emperor **Constantine**, in a good state of preservation, were found near the church, in the year 1829, and several silver and copper coins of that and other emperors have been found in the parish.

**LLANGAIN (LLAN - GAIN)**, a parish in the higher division of the hundred of **DERLLŷs**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 4 miles (S. S. W.) from **Carmarthen**, containing 423 inhabitants. This parish is beautifully situated on the north bank of the river



Towy, which is here navigable for ships of large burden, and comprises a large extent of good arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The soil is extremely favourable to the growth of corn, of which great quantities are raised of a quality not surpassed by that of any other part of the principality. The surrounding scenery is richly diversified, the views comprehending a portion of the beautiful Vale of Towy, with the ivy-mantled ruins of Green Castle overhanging the river, and other picturesque and pleasing features. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of F. Bludworth, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Synin, is a neat edifice, occupying the summit of a lofty eminence above the Vale of Towy, which commands varied and extensive views over the surrounding country and the bay of Carmarthen. Leland, describing the remains of Green Castle, says, "four miles from Llanstephan, on the same ripe, is a place or cliffe called Green Castle, where ships used to lie at anchor;" to which Camden adds, "it is also called Castle Mole, and supposed to be the Humphreys Castle of Dr. Powel, and built by Uchtred Prince of Merioneth, A.D. 1138." The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £282. 6.

LLANGAMMARCH (LLAN-GAMMARCH), a parish in the hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (W. S. W.) from Builth, on the road to Llandovery, comprising the hamlets of Penbyallt and Trêvllŷs, each of which is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, and containing 1105 inhabitants. The western and southern parts of this parish are mountainous, and in some places the soil is boggy; but the country adjacent is, notwithstanding, far from being unproductive; and much stately and valuable timber is found in the vicinity. On descending into the Vale of Llangammarch from the Eppynt Hills, the north side of which is steep, and in some places even precipitous, the prospect is both luxuriant and picturesque, commanding a view of the Irvon from Llancaiddwr to the influx of the river Dulas, throughout which part of its course its banks are finely wooded. The village is situated on the river Irvon, a powerful stream which flows into the Wye near Builth, and on the turnpike road from that town to Llandovery. A small manufacture of fine flannel, employing only about a dozen persons, is carried on here. Llangammarch forms a prebend in the collegiate church of Christ at Brecknock, rated in the king's books at £27, and belonging to the Bishop, as Treasurer of the College, to which office the great tithes are appropriated. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacies of Llanwrtyd and Llanddewi-Abergwessin annexed, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8. 14. 5., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Cammarch, is situated on a projecting rock between the rivers Irvon and Cammarch, and consists only of a nave and chancel, in a very dilapidated condition: it was formerly much larger, even within the memory of man, having an aisle, which, becoming dilapidated, was taken down and never rebuilt. The Welsh Calvinistic Methodists have two places of worship, one of which, situated at

Cevn Llanddewi, is endowed with a tenement called Pen-llêch-vâch, in this parish, purchased by subscription among the congregation, and now let for £5 per annum to one of their own sect. Margaret Jones, by will dated May 22nd, 1782, bequeathed the reversion of £400 Bank stock, on the death of Harriet Robotham, wife of John Robotham, of Hampstead, in the county of Middlesex, then upwards of sixty years of age, to the curate, churchwardens, and overseers of Llangammarch, in trust for the establishment and endowment of a free school in this parish, and also the reversion, on the death of the same party, of £200 Bank stock, the interest to be applied in clothing old people; £50, the interest to be employed in clothing young people; and £50, the interest to be appropriated for an annual feast to the trustees. Mr. Hugh Perry, of Brecknock, in 1730, charged a tenement in this parish with the payment of twenty shillings annually, after the decease of his daughter, to be distributed among the poor of the parish; but it is not now paid. Near the ancient mansion of Caerau is a circular artificial mount, two hundred and forty feet in circumference, and eighteen feet high, supposed to have been the site either of an ancient British or a Roman fortress; but, as there are neither any remains of the walls nor of the fosse, it is impossible to ascertain its exact origin: no Roman coins, nor any antiquities of that people, have ever been discovered here; but, from its situation, it is not unlikely to have been the site of a watch-tower on the Roman road from Carmarthen to the station at Cwm, in the county of Radnor. James Howel, a voluminous writer and eccentric wanderer, author of the "Epistolæ Hoelianaë," the "Lexicon Tetraglotton," "Londinopolis," "Dodona's Grove," and other works, was born at Cevn-Brŷn, in this parish, as was also his elder brother, Dr. Thomas Howel, Bishop of Bristol: their father was curate of Llangammarch from 1576 to 1631. Theophilus Evans, author of several theological and other works, resided in this parish, of which he was vicar for many years: his first publication, entitled "Pwyll y Pader," appeared in 1739, and contained a comment on the Lord's Prayer, in several sermons written in the Welsh language; in the same year he published his "Drych y Prif oesoedd," a brief history of the Britons, a work more read and admired in South Wales than any published in the vernacular language; and in 1752 he published, in the English language, a "History of the Modern Enthusiasm." He was a learned antiquary, and a man of great piety and benevolence, and devoted to study all the time which was not employed in the performance of his pastoral duties: being for many years afflicted with a scrophulous complaint, he was the first to discover the medicinal virtues, in such disorders, of the mineral waters in the neighbouring parish of Llanwrtyd, an account of which he published. In 1763, he resigned the living of Llangammarch in favour of his son-in-law, the father of the late Theophilus Jones, Esq., the historian of the county of Brecknock, who was born in this parish: this gentleman's History of his native county evinces extensive acquisitions and great industry and perseverance: he died at Brecknock, but was buried at Llangammarch. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £395. 14.



**LLANGAN (LLAN-GAN)**, a parish, chiefly in the lower division of the hundred of **DERLLŷs**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, but partly in the hundred of **DUNGLEDY**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 16 miles (W.) from Carmarthen, containing 733 inhabitants, of which number, 710 are in the Carmarthenshire, and the remainder in the Pembrokeshire, portion of it. On the banks of the **Tâf**, in this parish, anciently stood the famous **Tŷ Gwŷn ar Dâf**, or "the White House on the **Tâf**," an occasional residence of **Hywel Dda**, sovereign of all Wales, who, about the year 940, convoked at this place a grand national council, for the purpose of compiling and enacting the code of laws which has given so much celebrity to his reign, and which are still known as "the laws of **Hywel the Good**." In order to give greater solemnity to this convocation, and to implore the divine wisdom to assist their counsels, the king remained here with his whole court during Lent, in the constant exercise of prayer and other acts of devotion. Soon after the destruction of the monastery of **Bangor-Iscoed**, in North Wales, and the slaughter and dispersion of the brethren of that extensive establishment by the Northumbrian Saxons, a religious society was settled at this place under the auspices of **Paulinus**, son of **Urien Reged**, a disciple of **St. Germanus**, in which originated the abbey of **Albalanda**, or **Whitland**, afterwards erected near the site, and called by the Welsh, after the name of the former establishment, **Tŷ Gwŷn ar Tâf**, "the White House on the **Tâf**." According to some historians, this establishment, which was for brethren of the Cistercian order, was founded by **Rhŷs ab Tewdwr**, Prince of South Wales, in the reign of **William the Conqueror**; but **Bishop Tanner**, with more probability, ascribes it to **Bernard Bishop of St. David's**, who presided over that see from 1115 to 1147. It is related in the Welsh annals that **Cadwaladr**, brother of **Owain Gwynedd**, Prince of North Wales, during the disputes which arose between him and his nephews, the sons of **Owain**, entrusted the custody of his newly erected castle of **Cynvael** to the abbot of **Tŷ Gwŷn ar Tâf**, who defended it with obstinate valour against the assaults of the young princes by whom it was besieged. After a determined resistance, protracted till the walls of the castle were beaten down, and the whole of the garrison either slain or wounded, the abbot effected his escape from the ruins, through the assistance of some friends in the camp of the enemy, and retired into his monastery. The monastery, which was dedicated to **St. Mary**, and had an establishment of eight monks, continued to flourish till the dissolution, at which time its revenue was estimated at £153. 17. 2.; and its site was granted, in the 36th of **Henry VIII.**, to **Henry Audley** and **John Cordel**.

The parish is pleasantly situated on the river **Tâf**, and is intersected by the old **Whitland** road from **Carmarthen** to **Haverfordwest**: it comprehends a large tract of good arable and pasture land, the whole of which, with a very small exception, is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The soil is fertile, and the surrounding scenery is agreeably diversified, and in many parts highly picturesque. This place constitutes a prebend in the cathedral church of **St. David's**, rated in the king's books at £7, and in the patronage of the **Bishop of St. David's**. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of **Carmarthen**, and dio-

cese of **St. David's**, rated in the king's books at £3, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the **Bishop of St. David's**. The tithes of the parish are divided between the prebendary and the vicar, the former of whom has two-thirds, and the latter one-third: a part of it, which anciently belonged to the abbey, is tithe-free. The church, dedicated to **St. Canna**, is a neat modern edifice, rebuilt in the year 1820, and consisting of a nave and chancel, the former erected by a parochial rate, and the latter at the expense of the lessee of the prebendal tithes. A school-house has been erected in the churchyard, but no school has yet been established in the parish. The existing remains of the abbey are very inconsiderable, serving only to point out the site, in a sequestered valley sheltered by groves of stately growth, to the right of the present turnpike road from **St. Clear's** to **Narberth**. Of the royal palace of **Tŷ Gwŷn**, which was comparatively a small building, designed chiefly for a hunting seat, no vestiges at present are discernible. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £282. 6.

**LLANGAN (LLAN-GANNA)**, a parish in the hundred of **OGMORE**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. W. by W.) from **Cowbridge**, containing 261 inhabitants. It is of small extent, comprising only about eight hundred acres: on the north it is separated by the river **Ewenny** from the adjacent parish of **Coychurch**, and on the north-east by a rivulet, called the **Canna**, from that of **St. Mary Hill**: at the western end of it is situated the village of **Treos**. Its surface is rather flat, and its northern boundary is subject to inundation: the soil is fertile, and in some parts argillaceous, and intermingled with fragments of the limestone, which forms the substratum: the entire parish consists of rich arable and pasture land. The limestone is worked to a considerable extent, as also was formerly the lead-ore found imbedded in it; but the latter is now neglected. The valuable mine of **Tewgoed**, now exhausted, was on an east and west vein, called, from the colour of its contents, "the red vein," which was joined obliquely from the north-west by three others, called "blue veins:" at the junction of each of the latter with the former was a body of rich steel-grained ore, but that of the blue veins was galena, or laminar potters' ore. The court leet of the manor is held by the **Earl of Clarendon** and the **Earl of Dunraven** alternately. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of **Llandaf**, rated in the king's books at £12. 16. 0½., and in the alternate patronage of the **Earl of Clarendon** and the **Earl of Dunraven**. The church, a small neat edifice, is dedicated to **St. Canna**, the mother of **St. Crallo**: the latter founded **Coychurch**, and was nephew of **St. Illtyd**, the founder of **Lantwit-Major**. In the churchyard is the stone head of a cross, sculptured, like those at **Coychurch** and **Lantwit**, within a circle, and which, although it bears no legible inscription, is considered, from those upon the latter, to have been erected in the fifth century, by **Samson**, pupil and successor of **St. Illtutus** in the college of **Lantwit**, to the honour of his patron and master. In front of the church is a fine cross, in the early style of English architecture, with an elegant shaft rising from a pedestal which is ascended by four steps, and ornamented in the capital with finely

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sculptured representations of the Nativity, Baptism, Transfiguration, Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension, of our Saviour: this cross escaped the destruction to which, during the usurpation of Cromwell, these relics of the religion of our ancestors were commonly devoted, as monuments of superstition, by the parliamentary commissioners, both in the principality and in England. There is a place of worship for Presbyterians. Mrs. Gwenllian Williams gave £5, Mr. Lewis Thomas £10, and Mr. Edward Thomas bequeathed half the annual rent of a house and croft in the parish of St. Mary Hill, now producing £4 per annum, for distribution among the poor of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £74. 4.

LLANGANTEN (LLAN-GANTEN), a parish in the hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (W.) from Builth, containing 179 inhabitants. This place has obtained a melancholy celebrity from the death of the gallant Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, and the last independent sovereign of that country, who, after the brilliant success which attended his arms at the straits of Menai, came to his castle at Aberedwy, near Builth, to hold a conference with the chieftains of this district. While at this place, he was surprised by the unexpected arrival of an English army under the command of Sir Edmund Mortimer and John Giffard, who had obtained intelligence of his movements, and was compelled to make a hasty retreat to Builth, in the hope of finding security in the castle of that place till he could organize his forces to repulse the enemy. But being denied entrance into the castle by the garrison, he advanced westward for nearly three miles up the vale of the Irvon, and crossed the river a little below the church of Llanynis, by a bridge called Pont y Coed, intending either to return into North Wales through Llanganten, Llanavan-Vawr, and Llanwrthwl, and thence into Montgomeryshire, or probably to join his friends in the counties of Carmarthen and Pembroke, against whom Edward had sent an army under Oliver de Dyneham. Having passed the Irvon, he stationed the few troops that accompanied him on the north bank of the river, where the ground being higher and more precipitous than on the opposite side, and also covered with wood, a few men might defend the bridge against very superior numbers. In this situation he preserved a communication with the whole of Brecknockshire, and, relying upon the impracticability of passing the river during the winter season, he waited for reinforcements from the west. The English forces, who, in consequence of this delay, came up with Llewelyn, having made some fruitless attempts to obtain possession of the bridge, would probably have been compelled to abandon the pursuit, had not Sir Elias Walwyn discovered a place where the river was fordable, at some little distance, where a detachment of the English army, having crossed the river, unexpectedly attacked Llewelyn's forces in the rear, and easily defeated them. Llewelyn, either during the pursuit, or while watching the movements of the main body of the English army, which still remained on the opposite bank of the river, was attacked and slain in a small dell in this parish, about two hundred yards from the scene of action, by Adam de Francton, who plunged a spear into his body, and immediately joined in pursuit of the fleeing enemy. On his return from the pursuit, probably

in search of plunder, he discovered that the person whom he had wounded, and who was still alive, was the Prince of Wales, and, on stripping him, found a letter in cypher and his privy seal concealed upon his person. Elated with this discovery, Francton immediately cut off his head, and sent it as an acceptable present to the English king, then at Aberconway. The body of the unfortunate prince was dragged by the soldiers to the spot where the road from Builth now divides into two branches, one leading to Llanavan, and the other to Llangammarch, and there interred. The dell in which he was killed is to this day called Cwm Llewelyn, or "Llewelyn's dingle," and the spot where he was interred, Cevn Bedd Llewelyn, or "the ridge of the grave of Llewelyn," by which name the village at that place is known.

The parish is bounded on the south by the river Irvon, and on the north by the Whevri, and comprises but a moderate portion of arable and pasture land, which is all enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and, though not distinguished by any striking peculiarity of feature, is agreeably enlivened by the streams which nearly circumscribe the parish, and the banks of which are in many places richly clothed with wood. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the lessee of the tithes under the Prebendary of Llandarog, in the Collegiate Church of Brecknock. About four acres of glebe land are attached to the living, but there is no parsonage-house. The church, dedicated, according to some authorities, to St. Catherine, and to others, to St. Canten, from which latter the parish is supposed to derive its name, is a small edifice, situated in a narrow dell near the south bank of the river Whevri: it contains no monuments, and is distinguished by no architectural details of importance. A Sunday school for the gratuitous instruction of the poor is supported by subscription. The sums of £2. 10. to the poor, and ten shillings to the minister for preaching a sermon, are paid annually at Christmas, arising either from the estates of Rees Price, Esq., of Climeri, or from those of William Price, Esq., who died in 1718. Mrs. Parry, in 1721, bequeathed a rent-charge of twenty shillings, issuing from a tenement in the parish of Llanthetty, to be paid to the poor of this parish on the Thursday before Easter, with power to distrain in the event of non-payment. Occupying a strong situation on the bank of the Irvon is a mound of earth, surrounded by a moat, and nearly circumscribed by the winding of the river: this fortification is called Castell Caerberis, but there are no records either of its origin or its history. A mineral spring, of which the water is strongly impregnated with sulphur, was discovered in 1831, on the banks of the Whevri: it is covered when the water of the river is high, which circumstance may account for its having remained so long unnoticed. The soil in its immediate vicinity is clayey, and the substratum is composed of rotten clay slate, which, on the banks of the river, contains nodules or balls nearly circular, varying from four to twelve inches in diameter, in which, when broken, are found specimens of spar. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £88. 16.



**LLANGAR**, or **LLANGAER** (**LLAN-GAR**), a parish in the hundred of **EDEYRNION**, county of **MERIONETH**, **NORTH WALES**, 1 mile (S. W.) from **Corwen**, containing 229 inhabitants. The name of this place, signifying "the church of the camp," is most probably derived from an ancient fortification which formerly occupied the summit of a hill called **Caer Wern**, in the immediate vicinity of the church, and of which there are still some vestiges, though nothing is known of its origin or history. The parish is pleasantly situated near the confluence of the rivers **Dee** and **Alwen**, and on the turnpike road from **Corwen** to **Bala**: it comprises about thirteen hundred acres of enclosed arable and pasture land, and an extensive tract of common and waste land, producing abundance of peat, which is the principal fuel of the inhabitants. The surrounding scenery is agreeably diversified with lofty hills and pleasing vales. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of **St. Asaph**, rated in the king's books at £5. 7. 11., and in the patronage of the Bishop of **St. Asaph**. The church, dedicated to **All Saints**, is a neat ancient edifice, in the early style of English architecture. A Sunday school, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, is held in the church: the children of this parish are also eligible for gratuitous instruction in the school at the village of **Cynwyd**, in the parish of **Gwyddelwern**, under the will of **Hugh Roberts**, who bequeathed a sum of money for the support of that school, in 1807. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £153. 11.

**LLANGASTY TALYLLŶN** (**LLAN-GASTY-TAL-Y-LLŶNN**), a parish in the hundred of **PENCELLY**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5½ miles (E. S. E.) from **Brecknock**, containing 175 inhabitants. The name of this parish is derived from the dedication of its church to **St. Gasty**, or **Gastayn**, an eminent British saint, who flourished in the fifth century, and is said to have been preceptor to **Cynog**, son of **Brychan**, who was murdered on the **Van** mountain, in the parish of **Merthyr-Cynog**; and its distinguishing adjunct is descriptive of its situation in front of the beautiful lake called **Llyn Savaddan**, on the banks of which the church is agreeably placed. The manor was granted by **Bernard Newmarch** to **Reginald Walbeoffe**, and, after successively passing to the several families of **Williams**, **Parry**, and **Davies**, was, with the exception of the advowson of the living, sold by the last to **Philip Champion Crespigny, Esq.**, whose descendant, — **Crespigny, Esq.**, is the present proprietor. The surface of the parish, which comprises about one thousand five hundred acres, is partly hilly and partly flat: the only river is the small stream of the **Llynvi**, but within the parish is included a considerable portion of **Llyn Savaddan**. From the summit of a long dorsal eminence, called **Allt yr Esgair**, partly in this parish and partly in that of **Llansantfraid**, and which, from the imperfect remains of fortification still visible, appears to have been occupied as a military post, is obtained a most magnificent prospect, which, though less extensive than that from the **Beacons**, is infinitely more pleasing, and combines a richer variety of beautiful features. On the south it embraces the picturesque **Vale of Usk**, with the frequent windings of the river, of which the banks are richly clothed with verdure; on the west the town of **Brecknock**, with the adjacent country, skirted in the distance by **Bwlch Aberbrân**;

on the north the mansions and grounds of **Pont y wall** and **Trephilip**, and the country about **Talgarth**, with the **Radnorshire hills** in the back ground; and at the foot of the eminence is the beautiful lake of **Llyn Savaddan**, or **Llangorse Mere**, on the banks of which are the church and village of **Llangorse**, the church of **Cathedine**, the church of **Langasty Tallyllŷn**, and the picturesque ruins of **Blaenllyvni castle**, and at the distance of rather more than half a mile from the western extremity of the lake is the beautiful village of **Llanvihangel Tallyllŷn**. The parish formerly contained several gentlemen's seats, which have been converted into good farm-houses: the soil is generally light and gravelly, except near the margin of the lake, where it is rather wet and heavy. The high road from **London** to **Brecknock**, through **Crickhowel**, passes close by the south-western extremity of the parish. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of **Brecknock**, and diocese of **St. David's**, rated in the king's books at £4. 18. 9., and in the patronage of the **Rev. Richard Davies**. The church is a dark, ancient, and decayed edifice, with a tower of more modern erection, containing four bells, beautifully situated on the margin of the lake: the interior is particularly well pewed, and the steps leading to the ancient rood-loft are still remaining. A school for the gratuitous instruction of the children of the parish has been recently established, and is supported by the **Rev. Mr. Davies**. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £76. 15.

**LLANGATHEN** (**LLAN-GATHAN**), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of **CATHINOG**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 3¼ miles (W. by S.) from **Llandilo-Vawr**, containing 1182 inhabitants. This parish is delightfully situated in a fertile district of considerable extent, celebrated for the richness and the diversity of its scenery, and is bounded on the south by the river **Towy**, which winds gracefully through the beautiful vale to which it gives its name. This enchanting vale extends for upwards of thirty miles in length, comprehending every variety of scenery, and embracing some of the most interesting and magnificent views which are to be found in the principality. The village is situated on the turnpike road from **Carmarthen** through **Aberguilly** to **Llandilo-Vawr**, and derives an appearance of cheerful activity from the number of travellers passing through it. The environs abound with richly wooded eminences and luxuriant plantations, belonging to numerous elegant villas and noble mansions, which derive from their situation a pleasingly picturesque appearance. Near the margin of the **Towy**, which is the finest river in **South Wales**, is **Grongar Hill**, celebrated by the poet **Dyer**, and one of the most interesting objects in the vale, out of which it rises to a very considerable elevation: under the shelter of a black thorn, which is still remaining on its summit, **Dyer** is said to have composed his beautifully descriptive poem. From this spot is obtained the most enchanting prospect over the whole vale, through which the river is sometimes seen boldly sweeping round the base of some of the abrupt eminences for which the scenery is distinguished, and at others intercepted from the view by the projection of similar elevations, which rise in various parts of the vale. The hills on both sides are richly clothed with thriving plantations, ornamented with stately mansions,



and pleasingly varied with scattered villages of rural and picturesque appearance. This beautiful spot comprises two valuable farms, the property of Walter Phillips, Esq., of Aberglâsney, one of the most ancient and spacious seats in this part of the principality, and memorable as the early residence, if not the birthplace, of the poet, who, in his poem of the "Country Walk," alludes to its pleasant situation beneath "Grongar Hill." Sir Rice Rudd, Bart., formerly proprietor of this estate, conveyed by deed to the proprietor of Aberglâsney £25 per annum, in trust for a charity founded in the town of Carmarthen by Bishop Rudd and his widow; and in the event of the proprietor of Aberglâsney refusing to act, the proprietor of the Golden Grove estate, the Bishop and Chancellor of the diocese of St. David's, and the mayor and recorder of Carmarthen, are appointed trustees. In this parish also is Court Henry, the property and residence of the Rev. Henry Wade Green, who has enlarged and greatly improved the mansion, which derived its name, according to some writers, from its having been the residence of Henry VII., who, while Earl of Richmond, is said occasionally to have held his court here, but with greater probability from Henry ab Gwilym, whose daughter married Sir Rhys ab Thomas. It is pleasantly situated, the adjacent grounds partaking of the general character of the scenery which prevails throughout this highly interesting part of South Wales. The present proprietor of Aberglâsney has recently erected a neat and comfortable inn for the accommodation of visitors, who are attracted by the luxuriant and magnificent prospects for which the situation is celebrated, or by the remains of antiquity which are found in the vicinity. Limestone exists in great abundance, and lead-ore is frequently obtained in small quantities. Fairs are held here on April 16th and September 22nd, and at Dryslwyn on July 1st and August 13th. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., endowed with £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Chester. The church, which is dedicated to St. Cathan, stands on a lofty eminence, and contains a stately monument to the memory of Bishop Rudd and his lady, whose effigies are finely sculptured. There are two places of worship in the parish for Calvinistic Methodists. On Grongar Hill is a very perfect encampment, comprising about eight acres, within a quadrilateral area, having two entrances in the shorter sides of the parallelogram; and not far from it, to the west, are the ruins of Dryslwyn castle, crowning the summit of an abrupt hill in the vale: the remains of this castle, which was erected by the ancient princes of South Wales, and derived its name from its difficulty of access, are very inconsiderable, but nevertheless form an interesting and a picturesque feature in the landscape. Near the church are some very slight vestiges of the ancient Cappel Pen Arw; and within a short distance is a spring, the water of which was formerly in high reputation for its efficacy in the cure of rheumatism and diseases of the eye. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £534. 9.

**LLANGATTOCK (LLAN-GATWG)**, a parish in the hundred of CRICKHOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (S. S. W.) from Crickhowel, containing 2690 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from

the dedication of its church to St. Catwg, or Cadoc the Wise, an eminent British saint, who flourished in the sixth century. It is pleasantly situated on the southern bank of the river Usk, and immediately opposite to the town of Crickhowel, with which it is connected by a handsome stone bridge of thirteen arches, in the centre of which is the point of division between the two parishes. On this side of the Usk is a turnpike road leading down the vale to Llanelly, where, crossing the Brecknock and Abergavenny railway, it is continued over the river Clydach by a bridge, and afterwards joins the turnpike road from Abergavenny to Merthyr: the same road is continued up the vale, through Llangynider, Llanthetty, and the adjoining parishes, to Brecknock. The surrounding scenery is beautifully diversified, and the views from the high grounds extend over the picturesque Vale of Usk and the adjacent country, abounding with objects of interest, and with features of romantic beauty. In the immediate environs are several gentlemen's seats, of which some are within the parish. Glanusk Villa, now the residence of John Hotchkis, Esq., is a handsome house, built under the superintendence of Mr. Nash, by the late Admiral Gell, who, after his retirement from the naval service, passed the remainder of his days at this place. Llangattock Place, now the residence of Mrs. Morgan, was formerly the property of Dr. Ford, an eminent physician, and accoucheur to Queen Charlotte, consort of George III., who, on discontinuing his practice, retired to this parish, in which he purchased an estate. Glanusk Park is the property of Joseph Baily, Esq., who has built a handsome mansion on the estate for his residence, in the later style of English architecture. The parish is rich in mineral treasure, abounding with iron-ore, coal, and limestone of excellent quality. On the bank of the river Ebwy-Vawr, which separates this parish from that of Bedwellty, in the county of Monmouth, are the Beaufort iron-works, so called from their being established on lands let on lease for ninety-nine years by the Duke of Beaufort. At this place a furnace for smelting iron-ore was erected, by Messrs. Kendall, in the year 1780, since which time two other furnaces, a forge, and other works have been erected by the same company. Both the ore and the pit coal for working it, the latter of which is charred into coke upon the spot, are obtained contiguous to the works; and limestone is found within a short distance. These extensive works are now conducted under the firm of Kendall, West, and Bevan, and afford employment to more than one thousand persons, though, from the fluctuation which prevails during the present unsettled state of the iron trade, it is not easy to ascertain the precise number. The machinery employed in them is set in motion by steam-engines of considerable power, and the mountains in this vicinity are intersected in all directions by railways and tram-roads, communicating with the several departments of the works. The Brecknock and Abergavenny canal, which passes through the parish in its course from Llanelly to Llangynider, is continued to Brecknock, near which town it communicates with the Hay railway, and extends in the opposite direction to Pont y Moyle, near Pontypool, in the county of Monmouth, where it joins the Monmouthshire canal. There is also a tram-road and inclined plane for the conveyance of limestone from the Darren rocks to the



canal; and Messrs. Joseph and Crawshay Baily have recently established a steam-carriage and tram-road for the conveyance of coal from their mines in Monmouthshire to the wharf near the village of Llangattock, which it is supposed they will extend so as to comprehend a much wider range.

The living is a rectory, with the perpetual curacies of Llanelly and Llangeney united, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £31. 13. 9., and in the patronage of the Duke of Beaufort. The church is an ancient structure, in the decorated style of English architecture, with a remarkably strong embattled tower at the west end: it consists of a chancel, and of two aisles separated from each other by a range of columns and arches, and having originally distinct arched roofs of timber, which, being decayed, were, about forty years ago, replaced by one plain flat ceiling, by which alteration the internal beauty of the church is greatly impaired, and its external appearance rendered heavy by the substitution of a single covering in place of the original double roof. From the "*Liber Llandavensis*" it appears that a church was consecrated here, about the close of the eleventh century, by Herewald, Bishop of Llandaf, of which probably the tower of the present church, apparently of more ancient date than the other parts of the edifice, is the only portion remaining. In the body of the church is a plain stone, inscribed to the memory of Dr. Ford, who died in 1795, aged 78. There is a place of worship for Independents. On the mountains in this parish are evident traces of the manufacture of iron at a very early period, most probably by the Romans: the sites of ancient blomeries may be easily distinguished by the heaps of cinders which are still remaining; and a vicinal Roman road leading through the iron mines of Bryn Oer, probably to some Roman forges anciently situated at Llanvrynach, in the Vale of Usk, may be traced at no great distance. The mountain called Carno is noticed by Dr. Powell as the scene of a sanguinary conflict which took place, in the year 728, between Ethelbald King of Mercia and Roderic Molwynog, Prince of North Wales, in commemoration of which two large heaps of stones, or "carnau," were raised, from which this eminence derived its name. One of these cairns was opened by the late Archdeacon Payne, some few years ago, when a sepulchral kist was found, in which there was no deposit: the other had been previously opened by some workmen employed to build a lodge for a gamekeeper under the lord of the manor. The ancient park of Cile-Lan, in this parish, was originally of great extent, and formed an appendage to the castle of Crickhowel, with the lands of which, on the opposite side of the Usk, it was connected by a private bridge, which has been long demolished: a great flood which happened here, about fifty years ago, by carrying away the soil, exposed to view the abutments of this bridge: in the upper part of the park are some very small remains of a moated building, indicating the site of the lodge occupied by the park-keeper. In a recess of the mountain called Darren y Cile, within the limestone rock, is a cavern of considerable dimensions, but of no very singular appearance, called by the country people Eglwys Vaen, or "the stone church." Among the

incumbents of this parish were two successive Bishops of Llandaf, namely, Dr. Hugh Lloyd and Dr. Francis Davies. Dr. Lloyd, a native of Cardiganshire, and fellow of Jesus' College, Oxford, having become archdeacon of St. David's prior to the breaking out of the civil commotions of the seventeenth century, was ejected, for his attachment to the royal cause, from all his preferments by the parliamentarians, who, in 1645, seized upon the revenue of the church of St. David's; but in 1660 he was promoted to the see of Llandaf, and restored to his archdeaconry of St. David's, which he was allowed to hold in commendam: in 1661, he was presented to the rectory of this parish, by Henry Lord Herbert of Raglan, Chepstow, and Gower, which he also held in commendam: he died in 1667. Dr. Davies, a native of Glamorganshire, and likewise fellow of Jesus' College, held, at the commencement of the civil war, the rectory of Llangan in Glamorganshire, from which he was ejected by the parliamentarians; but his piety and exemplary conduct recommended him so far to some of the leading men of the age, that he was allowed to retain a fourth part of the revenue of his rectory for a few years: he was afterwards appointed chaplain to the Countess of Peterborough, and at the Restoration was replaced in his former preferment, and subsequently promoted to the archdeaconry of Llandaf, of which see he was made bishop on the death of Dr. Lloyd, whom he also succeeded in the rectory of Llangattock, which he was allowed to hold in commendam: he died in 1674. The late Rev. H. T. Payne, A. M., Archdeacon of Carmarthen, and for upwards of thirty years rector of the adjoining parish of Llanbedr, was a native of this place: he was no less distinguished for the strict discharge of the duties of his pastoral office than eminent for his literary attainments, with which he united the most polished and engaging manners; he chiefly devoted his leisure time to antiquarian researches, and was ever ready to impart the result of his studies, for the promotion of science, or the propagation of knowledge: indeed, although he never concentrated the powers of his highly cultivated mind with a view to pecuniary emolument from the publication of literary productions, there has been scarcely any work on the antiquities and topography of Wales, published within the present century, which has not been largely indebted to his pen: he died on Easter Sunday, 1832, and was interred in the churchyard of Llanbedr, in the vault which contained the remains of his wife, who died in 1828. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the parish is £319. 1.

LLANGEDWIN (LLAN-GEDWYN), a parish in the Cynlleth and Mochnant division of the hundred of CHIRK, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 10 miles (W. S. W.) from Oswestry, on the road from Shrewsbury to Bala, containing 323 inhabitants. This parish was formerly a chapelry to Llanrhaiadr yn Mochnant, but was separated from that parish by act of parliament, and formed into a parish of itself. The village is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Tanat; the neighbourhood abounds with pleasingly varied scenery; and in the environs are some good mansions, the residences of respectable families. Llangedwin Hall, the property and occasional residence of Sir W. W. Wynne, Bart., is



a handsome mansion with ample grounds tastefully laid out. Slate of good quality has been recently discovered within the parish, and quarries are now about to be opened, which it is expected will be found productive of benefit to the adventurers, and afford employment to the poorer inhabitants of this place. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £400 private benefaction, and £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Sir W. W. Wynne, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Cedwyn, is a small neat edifice, surmounted by a cupola, containing one bell. A National school was erected in the year 1824, and is supported by subscription: in this establishment about forty poor children receive gratuitous instruction. The sum of £12 per annum, being the interest of charitable donations and bequests, principally of the Wynne family, is annually distributed among the poor of the parish, according to the will of the benefactors. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £143. 1.

LLANGEINOR (LLAN-GEINWYR), a parish in the hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N. by E.) from Bridgend, containing 292 inhabitants. The rivers Ogmor and Garw run through the parish, which contains iron-ore and coal, but the latter only is worked, and that merely for local consumption. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of C. R. M. Talbot, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Gwinewr. There is a place of worship for Baptists. Robert Jenkins, Esq., in 1766, and his widow, Anne Jenkins, in 1771, left £20 each, and the late Dr. Hoare, Principal of Jesus' College, Oxford, gave £127. 10., for the benefit of the poor, among such of whom as do not receive parochial relief the interest of these sums is periodically distributed. In this parish is one of the ancient court-houses, now generally called church-houses, which is appropriated to the residence of paupers. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £85. 15.

LLANGEINWEN (LLAN-GEINWEN), a parish composed of an Upper and a Lower division, in the hundred of MENAI, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N. W. by W.) from Carnarvon, containing 776 inhabitants. This parish, which is of very considerable extent, derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Ceinwen, a female who was distinguished for the sanctity of her life, about the middle of the fifth century. It is pleasantly situated on the western shore of the Menai strait, which is here a mile and a half in breadth, and opposite to the town of Carnarvon, to which there is a ferry from this place, called Tâl y Voel. The surface is varied, being in some parts composed of hills of considerable elevation, and the surrounding scenery is finely diversified. The higher grounds afford extensive and interesting views over the Menai strait, the bay of Carnarvon, and the adjacent country. The parish abounds with limestone of excellent quality, of which extensive quarries are worked at Guirt, Gelleniog-wen, Rhŷdgâr, and Penrhŷn bâch, affording employment to a considerable number of men: the produce of these quarries is partly burnt into manure

for the supply of the surrounding districts, and great quantities are exported by the Menai to different places on the coast. The living is a rectory, not in charge, with the perpetual curacy of Llangafo annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, and in the patronage of the Rev. Wynne Williams. The church, dedicated to St. Ceinwen, was originally built about the close of the sixth century, and, having fallen into decay, was rebuilt in the year 1812. The present church is a neat edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, the latter of which is decorated with a handsome east window. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. The amount of several charitable bequests to the poor of this parish in money and land, of which last a certain portion was appropriated to the apprenticing of a poor boy, is annually distributed at Christmas, according to the wishes of the respective donors. At Guirt are the remains of a chapel, for many years used as a stable, and now converted into a dairy. Previously to its application to its present use, the figures of the apostles painted on the walls were remaining, and over the east window are still preserved allegorical figures of Time and Death. Near the boundary of the parish is a rude upright stone, with the inscription FILIVS. VLRICI. EREXIT. HVNC. LAPIDEM., supposed to be a monument to the memory of some chieftain interred beneath it. In the quarries at Gelleniog-wen great numbers of human bones are frequently found, which are supposed to be the remains of native inhabitants who at some period fell at this place in defending their country against the Danes. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £280. 5.

LLANGEITHO (LLAN-GEITHO), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8½ miles (N. by E.) from Lampeter, containing 377 inhabitants. This parish is beautifully situated on the river Aëron, by which it is bounded on the south, and comprehends an extensive tract of country, abounding with richly diversified scenery, combining almost every variety of rural and picturesque beauty. The village is sheltered nearly on all sides by hills of varied aspect, of which the declivities and summits are in some parts richly clothed with wood of luxuriant growth, and in others covered with verdure; and that part of it which is not shut in by the surrounding hills commands a fine prospect of the beautiful Vale of the Aëron. The ancient mansions of Glyn Aëron and Court Mawr, formerly the residences of families of distinction, are at present in the occupation of farmers. The lands are enclosed and in a good state of cultivation, and the soil is fertile and productive. Fairs are held on March 14th, May 7th, August 4th, October 9th, and the first Monday after November 12th. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Ceitho, and rebuilt in the year 1821, is a neat edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, and is romantically situated on an isolated and richly wooded spot, separated from the village by the river Aëron: it is appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service, but is not distin-



guished by any architectural details of importance. In the centre of the village is a large place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. The Rev. Daniel Rowland was for some years rector of this parish, and was greatly esteemed as a popular preacher; but, from teaching particular tenets, he was suspended from the exercise of his pastoral functions, and became the founder of a sect called after him "Rowlandists," which is still numerous in this part of the principality: he died on the 10th of October, 1790, aged seventy-seven, and was interred in the churchyard of this parish: a plain stone monument to his memory is affixed to the wall of the church, on the outside. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £41. 19.

LLANGELER (LLAN-GELER), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of ELVET, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (E. by S.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, containing 1713 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the north-western extremity of the county, bordering on Cardiganshire, and upon the turnpike road from Carmarthen to Cardigan, is of considerable extent. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, embracing a portion of the fertile and picturesque Vale of Teivy, with the windings of that river, which flows on the northern side of the parish. Llŷs Newydd, the property of the Lloyds, but at present in the occupation of Hammond Spencer, Esq., is an elegant mansion, beautifully situated in grounds tastefully laid out, and comprehending much pleasing scenery. The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's: the rectory, which is a sinecure, and rated in the king's books at £12. 18. 9., was formerly in the patronage of the Crown, but, after the foundation of St. David's College at Lampeter, it was appropriated to the Principal and Tutors of that establishment: the vicarage, which is discharged, is rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., is endowed with £200 royal bounty, and is in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The tithes of this parish are divided into two portions, called respectively the Grange and the Gwlâd: of the latter, the Principal and Tutors receive two-thirds and the vicar one-third; of the former, one-third belongs to the Llŷs Newydd family, and of the remainder, two-thirds are appropriated to the Principal and Tutors, and one-third to the vicar. The church, dedicated to St. Celert, is a plain and neat edifice, in good repair, but not distinguished by any architectural details of importance: an addition of three hundred and eighty sittings, of which three hundred are free, has been recently made, towards defraying the expense of which the Incorporated Society for the enlargement of churches and chapels granted the sum of £70. An ancient chapel of ease, dedicated to St. Mary, and thence called "Capel Mair," has been entirely demolished. A monumental stone, bearing an inscription in rude characters, and said to be in the Welsh language, is still remaining. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic Methodists, and also one which is jointly appropriated to Independents and Presbyterians. Near the church is a spring called St. Celert's, which was formerly in great reputation for its supposed medicinal virtues. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £441. 6.

LLANGELYNIN (LLAN-GELYNIN), a parish in the hundred of LLÊCHWEDD-ISÂV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S. by W.) from Aberconway, containing 279 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Celynin, who flourished towards the close of the sixth century, is situated at the north-eastern extremity of the county, bordering upon Denbighshire. A memorable battle was fought at Cymryd, in this parish, in the year 880, between the forces of Anarawd, Prince of North Wales, and those of Edred Earl of Mercia, who attempted the conquest of this country. In this conflict Anarawd was completely victorious; he drove the Mercians from the field of battle, and continued to pursue them until finally expelled from the principality: this victory was called Dial Rhodri, or "Roderic's Revenge," as Anarawd thus fully avenged the slaughter of his father Roderic in a descent of the Saxons upon Anglesey. The village, which is small, is beautifully situated in a fertile vale under the mountain called Tâl y Van. The surface of the parish is mountainous, the lands partially enclosed and cultivated, the soil various, and the surrounding scenery marked with features rather of boldness than of beauty. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £7, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church is a small ancient edifice, not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. There are places of worship for Independents and Wesleyan Methodists. The Rev. Launcelot Bulkeley, in 1718, bequeathed £120, directing the interest to be appropriated to the clothing of six poor boys, and teaching them to read, two to be of this parish, and two of each of those of Caerhên and Llanbedr; and the Rev. Owen Bulkeley, in 1737, bequeathed £60, the interest to be annually distributed among the poor of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £138. 8.

LLANGELYNIN (LLAN-GELYNIN), a parish in two divisions, Higher and Lower, in the hundred of TÂL Y BONT, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N.) from Towyn. This parish, which is situated on the coast of Cardigan bay, was anciently the residence of Ednowain ab Bradwen, one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales, in the time of Edward I.: the remains of his house, called Caer Bradwen and Llŷs Bradwen, are still to be seen in the township of Cregennan; and near them are the remains of a Druidical circle. In the reign of Henry IV., Ednyved ab Aaron, grandson of Ednowain, entertained Owain Glyndwr after his defeat by that monarch, and secreted him in a cave near the church of this parish, which was from that circumstance called Ogov Owain, or "Owain's cave:" it is now almost choked up with sand. At a place called Castell, now a farm-house, near Rhôs Levain, an important battle is said to have been fought at some remote period, but no particulars are recorded concerning it. Peat and turf are obtained in the parish. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £15. 10. 2½., and in the patronage of Parry Jones, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Celynin, is an ancient structure: on the road through Llwngwriil to Dôlgeley is a proprietary chapel, called Arthog chapel. There are places of worship for the Society of Friends,



Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The Rev. Mr. Morgan bequeathed a tenement called *Tŷcroes*, and Mrs. Morgan another, called *Pen yr Allt*, in trust for the instruction of poor children of this parish: the rents of both are now applied to the gratuitous instruction of fifty children, for which purpose a good school-house was erected by subscription, in 1831. Near the village of *Llwyngwrl*, in this parish, are the remains of a British encampment; and on the hill above it, called *Gwastad Merioneth*, is a small plain, on which are numerous Druidical remains. From this plain a very extensive prospect is obtained of the surrounding country. In a turbarry at *Ty'n Coed*, opposite to *Barmouth*, a copper urn, nineteen inches deep, and fourteen inches and a half in diameter at the top, and eleven and a half at the bottom, was found in 1826. At the farm called *Tyddyn Bâch* lived Mary Thomas, an invalid, who subsisted for several years without any solid food, and almost entirely without nourishment; and in this parish was born the noted astrologer named *Arise Evans*, an impostor of considerable fame among the class which so much prevailed during the reigns of *Elizabeth* and *James I.* The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £556. 11.

**LLANGENDEIRN (LLAN-GYNDEYRN)**, a parish in the hundred of *KIDWELLY*, county of *CARMARTHEN*, *SOUTH WALES*, 6 miles (S. E.) from *Carmarthen*, on the road through *Llannon* to *Swansea*, containing 2412 inhabitants. This place is thought to have been anciently the residence either of some of the native princes of *South Wales*, or of some chieftain of distinction in the earlier periods of *Welsh* history; and the remains of an ancient mansion, called *Hên Blâs*, or "the Old Hall," which have been converted into a stable, appear to confirm that opinion. The lands are, with the exception of a very small portion, enclosed and in a good state of cultivation; and the substratum of the soil consists of various valuable minerals, chiefly coal, iron, and limestone, the procuring of which affords employment to a considerable number of the inhabitants. A ridge of excellent limestone extends across the parish, in a direction parallel with the strata of coal, which rest upon it; iron-ore is found here, and there are also strata of very fine black and speckled marble. The limestone is worked to a very great extent for the supply of the adjacent districts to a great distance: the marble, which is of excellent quality for chimney-pieces and other ornaments, is sent from the quarries in great quantities to *Bristol*, and to different parts of the principality; and the coal is also worked to a considerable extent. All the marble burns into white lime, the bitumen with which it is coloured being sublimed by calcination. A fair is held here annually on the 5th of August. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of *Carmarthen*, and diocese of *St. David's*, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of *Rees Goring Thomas*, Esq., who is the lay impropiator of the tithes of the parish. The church, dedicated to *St. Cyndeyrn*, is a spacious and plain edifice; and the churchyard is one of the finest and most agreeably situated in the country. There are three places of worship for Independents, two for Baptists, and one for Methodists. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children was

endowed by Mrs. Catherine Goldfrap, a native of this parish, in 1784, with money then producing £25 per annum, but which, from the reduction of the rate of interest, now produces only £21. 17. 6., to which *Sir William Clayton*, Bart., and *Rees Goring Thomas*, Esq., add £5. 5. per annum each: in this school forty-five children are taught to read, and thirty of them to write. *Glynn Abbey*, a private house in this parish, is supposed to occupy the site of an ancient religious establishment, of which there are no remains, and of which the only existing memorial is the name. Formerly there were numerous seats in the parish, within which no fewer than seven magistrates were resident: but they have all been deserted by their proprietors, and most of them converted into farm-houses. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £645. 15.

**LLANGENEY (LLAN-GENEU)**, a parish in the hundred of *CRICKHOWEL*, county of *BRECKNOCK*, *SOUTH WALES*, 1½ mile (E. by S.) from *Crickhowel*, containing 409 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to *St. Ceneu*, one of the daughters of *Brychan*, Prince of *Brycheiniog*, who, devoting herself to a life of religious retirement, had an oratory here, and was canonized after her death. The parish, which is not of any considerable extent, is bounded on the south by the river *Usk*, and is intersected by the small river *Grwyney*, which, after flowing in a southerly direction for two miles through it, falls into the *Usk* at this place. The surrounding country is agreeably diversified; and the prevailing scenery is characterized by features of beautiful simplicity: the vale of the *Grwyney*, in which the village is embosomed, is enclosed by lofty hills clothed with the richest groves, and the stream is bordered on each side by meadows of beautiful verdure. In the neighbourhood are several good mansions and handsome villas; and within the parish are situated *Court y Gollen*, a spacious mansion, built by the present proprietor, the Rev. *Richard Davies*, at a convenient distance from the turnpike road to *Crickhowel*; and *Sunny Bank*, a handsome modern house, also erected by its present proprietor, *Robert Williams*, Esq. At *Grwyney* is a small carding and spinning establishment, in which not more than six persons are employed; and on the river from which this small village derives its name are two paper-mills, for the manufacture of the coarser kinds of paper, affording employment conjointly to about sixteen persons. Near the village is an iron forge, which formerly gave employment to a considerable number of men, in converting into bars the pig iron made at the *Sir Hoey* works, but which, from some litigation, has been suspended. The turnpike road from *London* to *Milford* traverses the southern part of the parish. The living is a perpetual curacy, united, with that of *Llanelly*, to the rectory of *Llangattock*, in the archdeaconry of *Brecknock*, and diocese of *St. David's*. A certain portion of the tithes of this parish is paid to the sexton, who claims it by a prescriptive right, recognised in a terrier dated 1720, and now in the possession of the Rev. *Richard Davies*, of *Court y Gollen*. The church is a neat and substantial edifice in good repair, consisting of a nave, chancel, and a south aisle, which last appears to have been built or repaired about the commencement of the seventeenth century: the nave is



separated from the aisle by a series of five pointed arches, resting upon octangular pillars: the edifice is situated on the western bank of the river Grwyney, over which is a neat stone bridge of one arch. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. John Howel, in the year 1620, bequeathed two fields, called Dwygae Llangeney, in trust to the churchwardens, to appropriate the rents to the repairs of the church and the neighbouring bridge, in equal portions, after deducting a part to be annually distributed among the poor at Christmas. In a field on the confines of this parish and those of Crickhowel and Llanbedr is a stone inscribed, in Roman characters, to the memory of one "Turpilus;" and in the grounds of Court y Gollen, near the turnpike road, is a large Maen Hîr, a rude erect stone, thirteen feet high, three feet three inches broad, and eighteen inches thick. Some vestiges of an encampment may be traced on an eminence in this parish, called Pen y Prisc, which is supposed to be of Roman origin, but no satisfactory account of it has been recorded. On the farm of Pen y darren is Fynnon Geneu, or "Ceneu's Well," to the water of which was formerly attributed great efficacy in the cure of diseases of the eye; and another well near Sunny Bank is said to possess petrifying qualities. Near Fynnon Geneu a farmer, some years since, in removing the remains of an ancient building, which was supposed to have been the oratory of St. Ceneu, discovered a very ancient bell of singular form and construction, supposed to have been used by that saint in calling the people to prayers: this curious piece of antiquity was in the possession of the late Venerable Archdeacon Payne, by whose permission it was exhibited before the Society of Antiquaries in London, in the year 1809. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £165. 8.

LLANGENNECH (LLAN-GENNECH), a parish in the hundred of CARNWALLON, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (E. N. E.) from Llanelly, containing 670 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the western margin of the river Loughor, by which it is separated from the county of Glamorgan, and is intersected by the rivulet called Morlais, a tributary to that river, and also by the turnpike road from Swansea to Llanelly. The surface is varied; the lands for the greater part are enclosed and cultivated, and the soil is generally fertile. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified; and within the parish is Llangennech Park, the seat of Edward Rose Tunno, Esq., and formerly the property of the Stepneys of Llanelly House. Coal of very superior quality, which obtains a high price in the London market, is found in the parish; and works upon an extensive scale have been established here by the Llangennech Coal Company, who, in addition to the fine beds found on the Llangennech Park estate, have recently opened new pits of coal, and also of culm, of which considerable quantities are exported. The river Loughor is navigable at spring tides, for vessels of two hundred tons' burden, to the quay belonging to the Llangennech Coal Company, who have greatly improved it, and rendered it very commodious, have facilitated the access by deepening the river, have established a steam-boat of twenty-five horse power, for towing the vessels after they are laden with the coal, and have laid down tram-roads, and employ every means for the despatch of business. A fair is held annually on

October 23rd in the village. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Edward Rose Tunno, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Gwynog. There is a place of worship for Independents. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £144. 4.

LLANGENNITH (LLAN-GENYDD), a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 16 miles (W. by S.) from Swansea, containing 367 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cenydd, to whom also was dedicated a priory founded in this parish, according to Bishop Tanner, by Roger de Bellomont, or Beaumont, Earl of Warwick, who is said to have conquered the territory of Gower, in which ancient lordship this place is included, in the reign of Stephen. This priory, of which the present parish church was most probably the chapel, was annexed to the abbey of St. Taurinus at Evreux in Normandy, and, as an Alien priory, was seized in the reign of Henry V., by whose unfortunate son and successor it was granted, in 1441, to the Warden and Fellows of All Souls' College, Oxford, in whose possession it now remains. From the frequent mention, in ancient deeds, of the names "East Town," "West Town," "Prior's Town," "Druids' Moor," &c., with reference to this place, it would appear to have been originally of much greater extent than at present. The village is situated near the south-western foot of Llanmadoc hill, and commands a fine view of the adjacent country, through which flows the river Burry; the town of Loughor is seen in the distance, between the hills: the houses, though scattered, and in general of a poor description, have a cleanly appearance, and are whitewashed, as is common in the county of Glamorgan. The soil of the parish is fertile, and the lands are almost entirely enclosed, and in a good state of cultivation. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 16. 8., endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Warden and Fellows of All Souls' College, Oxford. The church is an ancient and spacious structure, and preserves some characteristics of its original importance, as connected with the priory: in the chancel are several ancient monuments. The glebe-house is supposed to occupy the site of the ancient residence of St. Cenydd, and is still called the College. On Holmes island, which is contiguous to this part of the coast, are the remains of an ancient chapel, formerly belonging to the church. In the small village of Burry's Green is one of Lady Barham's chapels for dissenters, with a neat house adjoining, as a residence for the minister. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £65.

LLANGERNEW (LLAN-GERNEW), a parish partly in the hundred of ISALED, and partly in that of ISDULAS, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (W. by N.) from Denbigh, containing 1036 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the banks of the river Elwy, and comprises a large portion of one of the most rugged and mountainous parts of the county. The ancient mansion of Hâvodunos, within its limits, is stated originally to have been a religious foundation; but



no authentic account has been preserved of such an establishment, nor are there any vestiges of the ancient buildings: the present edifice is in the Elizabethan style. There is also another good old mansion in the parish, called Pennant. Several attempts to procure lead and copper-ore have been made, but the quantity found has been considered insufficient to afford an adequate remuneration to the adventurers. That part of the parish which is in the hundred of Isaled comprises the Upper and Lower divisions; and that which is in the hundred of Isdulas forms the township of Marchaled. Fairs are held on March 29th, May 16th, June 28th, September 29th, and November 29th. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £7. 6. 0½, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph: the rectory is an impropriation, attached to the Precentorship in the cathedral church of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Digain, is a large edifice in excellent repair, and contains some good monuments of the Lloyds of Hâvodynos. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Numerous small benefactions have been made for the benefit of the poor, the produce of which, amounting to about £77 per annum, is distributed among them annually on St. Thomas' day. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £480. 11.

LLANGEVNI (LLAN-GEVNI), a market town and parish, in the hundred of MENAI, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 13 miles (W.) from Beaumaris, and 248 (N. W. by W.) from London, containing 1753 inhabitants. This place, which derives its name from the river Cevni, upon which it is situated, was, towards the close of the last century, but a small and inconsiderable village, consisting only of two or three solitary houses; but owing to its central situation, and the establishment of a market here, it has, since that period, amazingly increased in extent and population, and is at present one of the best market towns in the island. It is beautifully situated in a rich and fertile vale, watered by the river Cevni, which nearly encircles the town, and over which two handsome bridges of stone have been erected, and upon the old Holyhead road, at the distance of a mile from the new line of road from the Menai bridge to Holyhead, which has been constructed under the authority of government for the more expeditious conveyance of the mail. The parish comprises a considerable tract of land, of which the greater portion is enclosed and cultivated, though one part forms a tract of common, which affords good pasturage for cattle and sheep. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, combining features of rural and picturesque character; and the higher grounds afford some extensive prospects over the adjacent country. The town is well built and of prepossessing appearance, consisting of several regular and well-formed streets, with a neat market-house. On the river Cevni is a small factory for carding and spinning wool, and for bleaching and weaving woollen cloth, which is manufactured here on a limited scale. The market, which was formerly on Friday, is now on Thursday, and is well supplied with provisions of every kind: it was established in the year 1785, and is now one of the best attended in the island. Fairs are annually held on March 14th, April 17th, June 10th, August

17th, September 15th, and October 23rd; and six great cattle markets are held on the six market days preceding Christmas. A post-office under that of Bangor, from which place it is distant eleven miles, has been established in the town, for the accommodation of its greatly increased population. By the late acts for amending the representation of the people Llangenvni has been constituted a polling-place in the election of a knight for the shire.

The living is a discharged rectory, with Trêgayan annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £9. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Cyngar, is a spacious and handsome structure, in the later style of English architecture, with a lofty square embattled tower, crowned with pinnacles, erected in 1824, by subscription, aided by a grant of £250 from the Incorporated Society for the building and enlargement of churches and chapels, for the erection of three hundred and eighty-three additional sittings, of which two hundred and ninety-seven are free. The late Lord Bulkeley gave the land on which the church is built, and £300 towards its erection, also a plot of ground on which to build a glebe-house, with the grounds attached to it; and a portion of land for the enlargement of the churchyard. The Rev. Evan Williams, M. A., the present rector, built, in 1822, an excellent, commodious, and well-planned glebe-house, and contributed £100 towards the building of the church, and the proprietors of land in the parish subscribed liberally towards the accomplishment of the same work. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school, which is held in a large room over the market-place, built expressly for that purpose by the late Lord Bulkeley, was established here in 1818, and is supported by subscription, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, of whom there are at present one hundred and sixty attending it. Numerous small donations and bequests have been made by various benefactors for the relief of the poor of this parish; but they have all been lost, with the exception of £1. 15. per annum, which is distributed according to the intention of the donor.

About one mile from the town, within the limits of the parish, is situated Trêgarnedd, anciently the residence of Ednyved Vychan, the valiant commander of the forces and chief counsellor of Llewelyn the Great, and ancestor of Owain Tewdwr, and of the sovereigns of that house who subsequently succeeded to the throne of England. Trêgarnedd, which took its name from a large earnedd, or sepulchral heap of stones, in an adjoining field, was also the birthplace of Sir Gruffydd Llwyd, grandson of Ednyved, who was knighted by Edward I., in 1284, on announcing to that monarch, who was then at Rhuddlan, the intelligence of the birth of Prince Edward, in the castle of Carnarvon. Sir Gruffydd was greatly distinguished by the royal favour, both in the reign of Edward and during part of that of his son; but in 1317 he attempted to form an alliance with Edward Bruce, who had assumed the crown of Ireland, and in 1322 openly revolted, ravaging the whole country, and committing various acts of atrocity: the English giving him battle, in which he sustained considerable loss, he retreated to his fortress of Trêgar-



nedd, which he had previously garrisoned, and also constructed another strong hold, called Ynys Gevni, in the marsh at a short distance from his mansion, and surrounded it with a broad and deep fosse, of which part is still remaining. In this strong position he maintained himself for some time, but was finally taken prisoner, and conveyed to Rhuddlan castle, where he was soon afterwards beheaded. The site of Trêgarnedd is now occupied only by some mean farm-buildings; but the whole extent is clearly marked by the intrenchments which surround it, and which enclose an area of nearly five acres: part of the moat on the north-west side is quite perfect. The adjacent carnedd, which consisted of an extensive pile of stones, surrounded by a circle of upright stones about eighty-six yards in diameter, was wholly removed in 1822, for the purpose of building a wall to divide the field. Of the fortress in the marsh, the site of which is still called Ynys Gevni, nothing but some small vestiges of the intrenchments are now visible, the continued overflowing of the river having swept away every vestige of the ancient buildings. About a mile from the town are some considerable remains of a paved road, which may be traced for a distance of two miles, in some parts in a very perfect state, being paved in some places with large masses of jasper, which is found in a quarry at no great distance, intermixed with the grit-stone. It is supposed by some antiquaries to be part of a Roman road, which anciently led from the Moel y don ferry across the Menai to the station at Holyhead. In taking down the old church, in 1824, a large stone was discovered beneath the foundation, with a very curious inscription in rude Roman characters, of which, owing to the mutilated condition in which it was found, the following part only is legible; *CVLIDON. IACIT. SECVND....* it is now placed upright in the churchyard, upon the spot where it was found. In 1829, in removing a small fence at Glânhwva, near the town, forty human skeletons were found, which, from the position in which they lay, appeared to have been hastily interred; and in the adjoining field great numbers of human bones are scattered in every direction: these are supposed to be the remains of the men who fell at the siege of Ynys Gevni. Adjoining the town is a chalybeate spring, formerly in great repute, but now owing to an admixture of other water, by which its medicinal efficacy is weakened, altogether disused. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £462. 2.

**LLANGIAN (LLAN-GIAN)**, a parish in the hundred of GAFLOGION, in the Llein division of the county of CARMARVON, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (S. W. by W.) from Pwllheli, containing 1211 inhabitants. It is four miles in length and three in breadth, and is pleasantly situated near the south-western extremity of the county, and in the centre of the promontory which shelters on the west St. Tudwal's Roads, in the bay of Cardigan. It comprehends a very extensive tract of land, of which a considerable portion is unenclosed and uncultivated: the remainder, which is rich and fertile, has been brought into a good state of cultivation. An act of parliament was obtained, in 1808, for enclosing the common called Mynydd Mynytho, comprising from six to seven hundred acres, of which by far the greater portion is within this parish. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and in some places highly picturesque; and the views

from the higher grounds over the bay of Cardigan on the south and east, and over the adjacent country on the north, combine many objects of interest and features of beauty. Nanhoron, in this parish, the residence of Richard Lloyd Edwards, Esq., is an elegant mansion, beautifully situated in grounds which are tastefully disposed, and surrounded with woods of stately growth, and with thriving plantations, which form a prominent and highly ornamental feature in the scenery of the place. The inhabitants, with the exception of such as are engaged in the herring fishery, which is carried on here during the season, are principally employed in agriculture. Some indications of lead-ore have been observed in several parts of the parish, but no mines have yet been opened, nor any works established. A fair is held on June 28th. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llanbedrog, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Cilan, is a spacious and well-built edifice, containing several good monuments to the family of Nanhoron, of which one to the memory of Captain Edwards, R. N., who died at sea, is remarkable for its elegance. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Richard Hughes, in 1642, bequeathed in trust to the heirs of Tŷn y Cae and Nanhoron Issa, £40, the interest of which, together with that of some other charitable donations and bequests, is annually distributed among the poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £450. 6.

**LLANGINNING (LLAN-GYNIN)**, a parish in the higher division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 2½ miles (W.N.W.) from St. Clear's, containing 434 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cynin, or from its situation on the river Cynin, by which it is bounded on the eastern side, contains a considerable tract of land, which, with the exception of a very small portion, is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. A fair is held on January 18th. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Vicar of St. Clear's, or of J. Lewes Philipps, Esq., patron of St. Clear's, the right of appointing the minister being a subject of dispute: the Bishop of St. David's presented at the last vacancy by lapse. The church has no architectural claim to particular description. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £101. 19.

**LLANGLYDWEN (LLAN-GLEDWYN)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (N.W.) from St. Clear's, containing 319 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cledwyn, one of the sons of Brychan, Prince of Brycheiniog, is pleasantly situated on the river Tâf, by which it is bounded on the east. The surrounding scenery is richly diversified, and the adjacent country well-wooded: some parts of it are in a high state of cultivation. Dôlwyllim, the seat of Evan Protheroe, Esq., M. D., is a handsome modernized mansion, romantically situated in a deep vale, through which flows the river Tâf, forming here a boundary between the parishes



of Llanglydwen, Llanboidy, and Killymaenllwyd : the grounds are tastefully laid out, and from the house may be seen the venerable Druidical remains described in the article on Llanboidy, in which parish they are situated. The woods surrounding Dôlwyllim abound with squirrels : on the estate are some indications of lead-ore, but no attempt has yet been made to work it. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £2. 13. 4., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Cledwyn, is a small neat edifice, and was repaired and beautified some years since, at the expense of the family at Dôlwyllim. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £61. 1.

**LLANGOED (LLAN-GOED), or LLANGOURDA,** a parish in the hundred of TYNDAETHWY, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N. by E.) from Beaumaris, containing 562 inhabitants. This place, the name of which signifies "the church in the wood," is situated on the shore of the Irish sea, by which it is bounded on the north, and forms an enclosed and well-cultivated tract. The surrounding scenery is agreeably varied, and the views over the sea and the adjacent country are extensive, and abound with interesting features. Plâs yn Llangoed, in this parish, the residence of Mrs. Hughes, is a spacious mansion, occupying a delightful situation, embracing within its demesnes a rich variety of scenery, and commanding, from various parts of the grounds, extensive prospects of considerable beauty. On the sea-shore are very large quarries of black and grey marble, and of limestone, from which the government works at Port Patrick and other places are supplied. From the former are raised blocks of marble weighing ten tons, and slabs of large dimensions, susceptible of a high polish ; and from the latter, stone of excellent quality for building, and also for burning into lime. These quarries, which are worked upon an extensive scale, afford employment to more than a hundred men, exclusively of others who are engaged in the navigation of ten vessels, which are constantly employed in transporting the larger blocks to Ireland, and the smaller pieces to Liverpool. The situation of the quarries near the sea-shore affords great facility for shipping off their produce ; and on this part of the coast is good anchorage for vessels, while waiting to receive their freight. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed, with that of Llanvihangel-Din-Sylwy, to the rectory of Llaniestyn, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, endowed conjointly with £200 private benefaction, £600 royal bounty, and £900 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Rev. Robert J. Hughes. The church, dedicated to St. Cawrdav, is of very ancient foundation : the present structure was erected in 1613, at the expense of Henry Johnes, Esq., to whom James I. granted the tithes of this parish. It is a spacious and elegant cruciform edifice, in the later style of English architecture, consisting of a nave, chancel, and north and south transepts, and containing some good monuments to the memory of deceased members of the families of Johnes and Hughes. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. William Wynne, by deed in 1670, gave a tenement called Tŷddyn Llwyn,

in the parish of Bethgelart, in the county of Carnarvon, the rent of which he directed to be appropriated to the apprenticing of two poor boys either of this parish or that of Penmôn adjoining, and also for the purchase of six coats annually, to be given to six poor men at Christmas, and of six penny loaves to be distributed weekly on Sunday : this tenement is now worth £200 per annum, but no appropriation of its rental to the objects for which it was given has been made since 1826. There are several other benefactions to the poor, the proceeds of the whole of which are either lost or misapplied. Plâs Newydd, a very extensive farm in this parish, was left by the foundress of Llandwrog almshouses, in Carmarthenshire, towards their support, and is now become a very valuable property. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £162. 13.

**LLANGOEDMORE (LLAN-GOEDMAWR),** a parish in the lower division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (E.) from Cardigan, containing 1014 inhabitants. The name of this place, signifying "the church of the great wood," is derived from its situation in a district abounding with timber of ancient and luxuriant growth, and with groves of stately oaks and other trees, for the number and beauty of which the immediate vicinity is eminently distinguished. Soon after the death of Henry I., a memorable battle was fought near Crûg Mawr, a conical hill in this parish, between the Welsh, commanded by Gruffydd ab Rhŷs, and the English, in which the latter sustained a signal defeat. The parish is pleasantly situated on the river Teivy, on the turnpike road from Cardigan to Newcastle-Emlyn, and contains, in addition to the large proportion of woodland above-noticed, a considerable portion of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation : the whole forms a rather hilly surface of about five thousand acres, having a variety of soils, among which clay prevails. The surrounding scenery is richly diversified, and in some parts highly picturesque ; and the views of the adjacent country combine many features of pleasing character. In the vicinity are several handsome seats and villas, beautifully situated, and commanding extensive prospects. Coedmore, the seat of Thomas Lloyd, Esq., is a noble mansion, situated on a lofty eminence overlooking the river Teivy, commanding a fine view of the venerable remains of Kŷlgerran castle, and sheltered in the rear and on the sides by an extensive wood of stately and well-grown trees : contiguous to this seat formerly stood Castel Ceval, the ancient mansion of the lords of Coedmore. The name of this mansion, anciently written Coed-Mawr, signifies "the great wood," and was probably bestowed on it from the luxuriant and extensive forest in which it was built. The baronage of Coed-Mawr was conferred by Edward III. on Sir Robert Langley, constable of Aberystwith castle, and lieutenant of the county of Cardigan, from whose family it passed by exchange to the Mortimers, of whom Llewelyn Mortimer, the first of that name who owned this estate, espoused Angharad, daughter of Meredydd ab Rhŷs, Prince of Cardigan. Rowland, the sixth in descent from Llewelyn Mortimer, assigned it to his brother-in-law, Sir John Lewis, in exchange for Castell Llwyd, in Laugharne, county of Carmarthen ; and it subsequently came into the pos-



31st, August 21st, and November 22nd, for horses, cattle, pigs, butter and cheese. By the late act for amending the representation of the people Llangollen has been made a polling-place in the election of knights for the shire.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £9. 11. 10½., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Collen, is an ancient structure, partly in the early style of English architecture, consisting of a nave with one aisle and a chancel: the roof is of oak, panelled and richly carved: the east window of the chancel is embellished with a half-length figure of the Saviour, in stained glass, by Eginton. The service is performed in the English language only on the second Sunday in each month. The churchyard is spacious and elevated, and commands a grand and pleasing prospect of the town and bridge, rearing its lofty summit above which is the isolated hill whereon stand the ruins of Castell Dinas Brân. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. In 1773, a parochial school was erected, in which sixteen children are gratuitously instructed by a master who receives the interest of £150, bequeathed at various times for that purpose. The interest of various charitable donations and bequests, amounting in the aggregate to £409, is annually distributed among the poor. The abbey of Valle Crucis, though forming a beautiful and prominent feature in the scenery of the neighbourhood, is situated in the adjacent parish of Llantysilio, under which head an account of it will be found, as also of the famous "Pillar of Eliseg," nearly adjacent, the most ancient inscribed monument of British erection now existing. The ancient fortress of Castell Dinas Brân, from its peculiar situation, and the massive structure of such portions of its walls as are still remaining, appears to have been almost impregnable. Its remains, which are very extensive and highly picturesque, comprise a quadrilateral area, one hundred and ninety feet long, and one hundred and forty broad, forming the entire summit of the mountain on which they stand, and which on most sides is so precipitous that it can be ascended only with great difficulty: the side easiest of access is defended by a deep trench cut through the solid rock. The walls, though ornamented in some places with mouldings of freestone, are composed for the most part of the coarse and friable schistose stone abounding in the neighbourhood, which gives to the broken towers and shattered fragments yet remaining a strikingly rugged and picturesque appearance, and combines with the conspicuousness of their situation to render them one of the most remarkable objects in the surrounding scenery. At Pengwern, the seat of Sir Thomas Mostyn, Bart., are some remains of the ancient mansion of Llŷs Pengwern, supposed to have been the residence of Tudor Trevor, Lord of Bromfield, in the early part of the tenth century, and which certainly formed that of Ednyved Vychan, one of his descendants. Close to the town stands the elegant little mansion of Plâs Newydd, lately the residence of the late Lady Eleanor Butler and Miss Ponsonby, two ladies of Irish extraction, who, in 1778, retired from the gaieties of fashionable society, and secluded themselves in this charming sequestered retreat, where they continued,

devoted in their companionship, and seeking little intercourse with the neighbouring gentry, until the death of each. Lady Eleanor Butler died in 1829, and Miss Ponsonby in 1831, and both were interred in the churchyard of this parish: since the decease of the latter lady the estate has been sold by public auction, and was purchased by two other maiden ladies, namely, Miss Lolly and Miss Andrews. The poor of the entire parish are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £1001. 18., of which sum, £586. 8. is raised on the united divisions of Llangollen Traian and Trevor Traian, and the remainder on the division of Glyn Traian.

LLANGOLMAN (LLAN-GOLMAN), a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (N.) from Narberth, containing 311 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Golman, is pleasantly situated on the Eastern Cleddy river, and in the eastern extremity of the county, bordering on Carmarthenshire. The eastern part of it is intersected by the river, and the northern by the turnpike road leading from Fishguard to Narberth: the whole forms a considerable extent of arable and pasture land. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and the views over the adjacent country embrace some interesting features. Slate of good quality is found within the parish, and some quarries are worked upon an extensive scale, affording employment to such of the inhabitants as are not engaged in agriculture. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to that of Llandilo, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty. The church is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £59. 9.

LLANGONOYD, or LLANGONWD (LLAN GYN-WYD), a parish in the hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 10 miles (S.E.) from Neath, comprising the hamlets of Bayden or Lower-Llangonoyd, Cwmdû, Higher Llangonoyd, and Middle Llangonoyd, each maintaining its own poor, and containing 1726 inhabitants, of which number, 331 are in Middle Llangonoyd. This parish, which is situated near the source of the river Llynvi, and in the heart of a wild and mountainous district abounding with mineral wealth, is said to have afforded a temporary asylum to Edward II., who, after his escape from the castle of Caerphilly, sought shelter here in hope of effecting his passage to Ireland. Coal and iron-ore abound in the parish, and are both worked upon an extensive scale. At Maes Têg, about a mile and a half from the church, are the large iron-works of Messrs. Buckland, Smith, and Co., affording employment to more than three hundred men: the collieries of Messrs. Allen also employ about sixty men, and many are engaged in other similar works upon a smaller scale, and in the quarries of limestone and freestone which abound in the vicinity. For the purpose of opening a communication between these works and the neighbouring districts, and affording a facility of conveyance for their produce, a railway has been constructed from the works, which are situated on the line of the Dyfryn-Llynvi railway from the small harbour of Porthcawl, to the market town of Bridgend, passing within a



short distance of the coal-works in the parish of St. Bride's Minor. The Dyfryn-Llynvi railway, which is seventeen miles in length, was commenced in 1825, and has been completed at an expense of about £60,000: it begins at Porthcawl, in the parish of Newton-Not-tage, and proceeds by Pyle, where, taking an easterly direction, it joins the Bridgend branch railway at Cevn Cribwr iron-works: from this junction it takes a northerly direction towards Llangonoyd, and, after crossing the river Llynvi, terminates at Dyfryn-Llynvi. For fourteen miles from the sea it forms an inclined plane, rising four hundred feet in the whole of that distance: in the course of the next two miles it has a rise of a hundred and ten feet, and the remainder is a good level. A fair is held here on May 3rd. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £19.5., and in the patronage of Lewis Thomas, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Cynwyd, a saint of the congregation of Catwg. In the hamlet of Bayden there was formerly a chapel of ease, which is now in ruins. There are places of worship for Baptists and Independents. A school for the gratuitous instruction of children, which it is intended to unite with the central school in London, is supported by subscription. Near the village was formerly a cromlech, called by the peasantry "the Old Church." The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the whole parish amounts to £537. 11., of which sum, £227. 7. is raised on the hamlet of Llangonoyd Lower.

**LLANGONOYD, HIGHER, (LLAN-GYNWYD)**, a hamlet in the parish of **LLANGONOYD**, hundred of **NEWCASTLE**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $10\frac{1}{4}$  miles (N. by W.) from Bridgend, containing 260 inhabitants. This hamlet is situated in the upper part of the parish, at the head of the river Llynvi, which joins the Ogmore, and in an extremely rugged and mountainous tract, prolific in mineral and fossil produce, the working of which has caused an increase in the population since the census of 1821. The poor are supported by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £117. 16.

**LLANGORSE (LLAN-GORS)**, a parish composed of the Upper and Lower divisions, each separately maintaining its own poor, partly in the hundred of **PENCELLY**, but chiefly in that of **TALGARTH**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**, 6 miles (E. S. E.) from Brecknock, containing, with the township of Llanywern, 405 inhabitants. The name of this parish, signifying literally "the church of the marsh, or bog," appears to have been derived from its situation on the low banks of an extensive pool, or lake, from which circumstance this place is also designated, in ancient charters, "Mara," and St. Paulinus on the Meer. This fine sheet of water, which is called Llŷn-Savaddan, or, more generally, Llangorse Pool or Mere, is about two miles in length and about one in mean breadth, the broadest part lying between the churches of Llangasty-Talyllyn and Llangorse. It forms a curve near the source of the river Llynvi, which, passing through it, is hence supposed to derive its name, signifying literally the "lake water." Its mean depth is from nine to twelve feet, though in some places it varies considerably: the deepest part is near the junction of this parish with that of Cathedine, in which place

its depth is from thirty-five to forty-five feet: the depth of the lake diminishes very gradually from the centre towards the banks, so that flat-bottomed boats only can be used. The waters contain pike, perch, and eels, which last are frequently of enormous size: the pike are sometimes found of thirty or forty lb. weight, but they are inferior in flavour to those which are taken in the river Wye: the perch are generally small, five or six together weighing not more than a lb., though some are occasionally found weighing three lb. each, and, when of that size, are esteemed a great delicacy. All persons having land adjoining the lake have the right of keeping a boat upon its waters; and many boats are also kept by the fishermen who live in the village of Llangorse. The parish is intersected by the turnpike road from Crickhowel, through Bwlch, to Talgarth, and is separated from the parishes of Llanvihangel-Talyllyn and Llandevaillog Tre'r-Graig by the river Llynvi, which falls into the Wye near the bridge at Glâsbury: the village is situated about half a mile eastward from the turnpike road from Brecknock to Talgarth: the tram-road from Brecknock to Hay passes through the parish. The lands are chiefly arable, and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and from the higher grounds are some fine prospects over the adjacent country, comprehending, on the east, the Black Mountains of Talgarth.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 10., and in the patronage of the Dean and Canons of Windsor. The tithes of the parish were anciently appropriated to the priory of St. John the Evangelist in Brecknock, upon the dissolution of which establishment they were granted by the crown, together with the advowson of the living, to the Dean and Canons of Windsor, under whom they are held on lease by Charles Griffiths, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Paulinus, is an ancient structure, with a tower at the western end, surmounted by turrets, and containing six musical bells, the fine tone of which has been attributed to the effect of the large body of water contained in the neighbouring lake: the nave is separated from the aisles by a series of obtusely pointed arches, supported on octangular columns. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. Mrs. Elinor Williams, of the Gaer, in 1698, bequeathed the rental of a tenement in Battle, which, in 1745, was let on lease for ninety-nine years to Morgan Powel, Esq., at a yearly rent of £2. 12., and now in the occupation of I. L. P. Watkins, of Pennoyre, Esq., to be appropriated to the apprenticing of four children, born in or near Llangorse. John Dilwyn, of this parish, in 1484, bequeathed £20, directing the annual interest to be distributed among the poor; and Walter Lewis of Llangasty-Talyllyn, in 1680, charged the tenements of Caepella and Wrlodd Cil y llŷn in the parish of Cathedine, with the annual payment of twenty shillings to the poor; but neither of these legacies is now paid. Mrs. Williams, of the Gaer, in 1745, bequeathed £40, secured on the Brecknock turnpike trust, now producing £2 per annum, which, together with the interest of £80 invested in the funds, is annually distributed among the poor. An ancient tenement in this parish, called Cwrt y Prior, was the occasional residence of



the priors of the monastery of St. John the Evangelist in Brecknock. The monks of Llantony appear also to have held lands in this parish, for, according to an ancient document, it appears that, in 1324, Hugh de Turberville granted them the tenements called "Cevn" and "Celliau," "at the town of the mere or lake of Breconium, situate on the side between the land of the Lord of the mere, and the lands of Roger the Fisherman, and on the other side next to the road or highway leading to Breconium, in pure and perpetual alms." After the dissolution, the tithes of these tenements were for some time paid to the impropiators and vicar of the parish; but one of the Earls of Oxford having claimed an exemption under the grant of Hubert de Turberville, and the Dean and Canons of Windsor, the impropiators, not thinking it proper to bring the question to issue, these tenements have ever since continued to be tithe-free. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £223. 9., of which sum, £103. 11. is assessed on the Lower, and £119. 18. on the Upper, division of the parish.

**LLANGOWER**, or **LLANGYWAIR (LLANGOWER)**, a parish in the hundred of **PENLLŶN**, county of **MERIONETH**, **NORTH WALES**, 3 miles (S. by W.) from Bala, containing 412 inhabitants. This parish, which is about five miles in length and three in breadth, is beautifully situated on the south-eastern side of Bala lake, and on the turnpike road leading from Dinasmowddwy to Bala and Corwen. The surface is varied, being in some parts rocky and mountainous, and in others swampy and marshy, producing peat in great abundance, which forms the principal fuel of the inhabitants. The surrounding scenery is richly diversified, and in some places highly picturesque, the parish comprising part of the Berwyn range of mountains, from which is a fine view of Bala lake, of the Aran and Arenig mountains in the distance, and of the intervening country, which is rich in every variety of beauty. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £5. 5., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Gwyr, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, and is beautifully situated, with the small village around it, on the south-eastern side of the lake: in the churchyard is an ancient yew tree of remarkable growth. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. At the north-eastern extremity of Bala lake are two mounds of earth, one of which bears the name of Castell Grono Bevro Benllŷn, "the castle of Goronow the Fair of Penllŷn," from its having been the site of a strong hold occupied by that chieftain, who is said to have lived in the time of Maelgwyn Gwynedd, about the beginning of the sixth century. Near this place is Fynnon Gwyr, a well to which, under the auspices of that saint, extraordinary virtues were attributed. The Rev. Edward Lloyd, A.M., was for forty years incumbent of this parish: he is known as the author of a work in the Welsh language, entitled *Meddyginiaeth*, a tract on the Sacrament, which he translated from that published by Bishop Patrick: he died in 1685. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £198.

**LLANGRANOG (LLAN-GARANOG)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of **MOYTHER**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 20 miles (W. by N.) from Lampeter, containing 921 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Caranog, who flourished towards the close of the sixth century, and is said to have had a small chapel or oratory among the rocks on this part of the coast, where he spent his days in religious seclusion. The parish is pleasantly situated on the shore of Cardigan bay, by which it is bounded on the north-west, and on the turnpike road from Cardigan to Aberystwith. The village is seated in a deep dingle, sheltered by hills on each side, and opening at one extremity towards the sea; and its situation on the open bay of Cardigan, affording excellent opportunities for sea-bathing, occasionally attracts to it a few visitors during the summer season. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified; and from the higher grounds are obtained fine views, extending over the bay and the adjacent country. At some distance above the village stands Pigeonsford, the neat mansion of George Price, Esq., and formerly the seat of the family of Parry. The herring fishery is carried on here to a considerable extent during the season; and in this trade from eight to ten small vessels are generally engaged, in the management of which from twenty to thirty men are employed. Below the village is a small creek, affording shelter to the craft employed in the fishery, and also a facility of communication with other places on the coast. A fair is held on May 27th. The living is a vicarage, not in charge, annexed to that of Llandysilio-Gogo, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 parliamentary grant. The great tithes are appropriated to the Treasurership of the Cathedral Church of St. David's. The church is a neat plain edifice, without either tower or spire, consisting of a nave and chancel, separated by a pointed arch: over the western door are the remains of an ornamented gallery, and the steps of the ancient rood-loft are still remaining: the font is square, and is supported by a circular pillar. A small but elegant vicarage-house has been recently built on the glebe land, at the expense of the present incumbent. There are places of worship for Baptists and Independents. Above the small harbour is a rock, which, from its fancied resemblance to a large chair, has obtained the appellation of "Eisteddva Cranwg;" though by some writers the name is supposed to be derived from its having been anciently a place of meeting for the bards: and on the summit of an eminence in the immediate vicinity is a large tumulus, in form resembling an inverted pan, and thence called Pen Moel Badell. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £258. 17.

**LLANGRYSTYOLYS (LLAN - GRISTIOLUS)**, a parish in the hundred of **MALLTRAETH**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (S. S. W.) from Llangewni, containing 873 inhabitants. This parish, which takes its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cristiolus, who flourished about the middle of the seventh century, is situated on the great road from London to Holyhead, and near the upper part of the Malldraeth marsh, over which the road is continued by a noble embankment, extending nearly a mile in length. In 1788 and 1790, acts of parliament were obtained for



constructing an embankment to secure this low tract from the encroachment of the sea, and for enclosing it, as it formed an extent of about three thousand acres, comprised chiefly within the limits of this parish. Under the provisions of these acts considerable progress had been made in the execution of this work, and many thousand pounds expended on it, when, in 1796, a violent irruption of the sea destroyed the greater part of the embankment, and the enterprise was for some time abandoned. This desirable work was, however, resumed under the sanction of an act of parliament obtained in 1815, and the undertaking was successfully completed in 1819. The entire parish consists of a large tract of enclosed and well-cultivated land, with some common and waste. The surrounding scenery is not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature from what is generally found in this part of the island; the soil is various, but for the most part fertile. Coal and freestone of good quality exist in the parish, but have not been hitherto worked to any advantage. The living is a perpetual curacy, with that of Cerregceinwen annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor, to whom, as Archdeacon of Anglesey, the tithes of the parish are appropriated. The church is supposed to have been originally built about the year 610: the present structure is spacious and handsome, exhibiting some elegant architectural details, and decorated with an east window of good design, enriched with elegant tracery. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school, in which a few boys are gratuitously taught to read and write, is supported partly by a small endowment, and partly by subscription. The Rev. Hugh Jones bequeathed £100; the Rev. Dr. Lewis, £50; John Griffith Lewis, £10; Owen David ab Owen, £10; and various other benefactors smaller sums of money; the interest of which, amounting to £17. 10., is annually distributed among the poor of the parish at Christmas. Dr. Henry Maurice, of Jesus' College, Oxford, and Margaret Professor of Divinity in that university, was born in this parish, in 1648: he accompanied his patron, Sir Leoline Jenkins, to Cologne, whither he was sent as ambassador, and greatly distinguished himself as a polemical writer. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £472. 2.

**LLANGUICKE**, otherwise **LLANGUIC** (**LLANGIWG**), a parish in the hundred of **LLANGYVELACH**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5 miles (N.N. W.) from Neath, containing 1847 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the river Tawe, which flows through a beautiful and romantic vale to which it gives name, affording in some parts pleasing and picturesque views, and sheltered on both sides by lofty hills of varied appearance and rich in mineral wealth. The mines of stone coal, culm, and iron-ore are almost inexhaustible, and are here worked to a very considerable extent by Messrs. Gough, I. D. Berrington, G. Crane, &c., who employ together several hundred men, but neither the exact number nor the quantity of coal raised can, owing to constant fluctuation, be satisfactorily ascertained. The Swansea canal, which passes through the parish, affords the means of conveying large quantities of mineral produce to the port of Swansea, from which it is shipped to various parts of the kingdom; and a road

from Swansea to Brecknock, which passes by the village, gives a facility of intercourse with the neighbouring districts. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Mrs. Leach. The church is dedicated to St. Ciwg. There are two places of worship for Presbyterians. The late Mrs. Turberville, of Kilybebill Place, bequeathed £5 per annum, which is annually distributed in bread among the poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £280. 5.

**LLANGUNLLO** (**LLAN-GYNLLO**), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of **TROEDYRAUR**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 3½ miles (N. E. by E.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, containing 644 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cynllo, is pleasantly situated on the turnpike road from Cardigan through Troedyr-awr to Lampeter, and nearly the whole of it is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The soil, though varying with the surface, which is finely undulated, and in some parts rises into bold eminences, is in general fertile. The surrounding country is pleasingly varied, and the scenery in many parts is highly picturesque. The upper grounds command some extensive and interesting prospects, and from the eminence on which the church is built is obtained a fine view over the beautiful vale above which stands the mansion of Bronwydd. In the immediate vicinity are some fine estates and elegant seats: of these, the principal are those of Bronwydd and Gernôs. Bronwydd, the residence of the late patriotic Colonel Lloyd, who commanded the Teivy-side volunteers, and subsequently the Fishguard and Newton fencibles, and now the seat of Thomas Lloyd, Esq., is a handsome mansion, beautifully situated on the summit of an eminence richly clothed with wood, and overlooking a deep and sequestered vale, watered by a rapid and turbulent stream, which falls into the Teivy at Hênllan. Gernôs, formerly the mansion of the family of Lewis, and now the seat of Major Parry, by marriage of his ancestor, Thomas Parry, of Cwm Cynon, Esq., with the heiress of that family, is a good mansion, pleasantly situated in grounds comprehending much varied and pleasing scenery. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Freeholders of the parish. The church, dedicated to St. Cynllo, a saint of the fifth century, who was eminent for the sanctity of his life and the austerity of his manners, is a neat edifice, situated on a commanding eminence, and rebuilt at the sole expense of the late proprietor of the Bronwydd estate: it consists of a nave and chancel, and is appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £176. 8.

**LLANGUNLLO** (**LLAN-GYNLLO**), a parish comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, in the hundred of **KEVENLEECE**, county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5½ miles (W.) from Knighton, containing 498 inhabitants, of which number, 323 are resident in the Upper, and 175 in the Lower, division. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cynllo, an ancient British



saint who flourished about the middle of the fifth century. The parish, which is situated in the north-eastern portion of the county, and near the source of the river Lûg, is bounded on the east by the parish of Heyop, and on the west by that of Llanbister, and extends four miles in length and three in breadth, comprising large tracts of elevated mountain, with much rich arable and pasture land, of which by far the greater part is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The soil in the lower grounds is fertile, and the system of agriculture pursued is of a superior kind. The surrounding scenery, though not distinguished by any striking peculiarity of features, is in general pleasing, and on the side towards Knighton is in many parts highly picturesque; the views from the higher grounds embrace some interesting and finely varied prospects over the valley of Cwm Heyop, which is partly within the parish. In ancient writings this parish is styled "Llan Gynllo cum Capellis," and the parish church of Pillith, is said to have been formerly a chapel to the mother church of this place. Llangunllo, with the adjoining parish of Pillith, constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, valued in the king's books at £13, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Pillith annexed, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 1. 0½, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. Three-fourths of the tithes of this parish, and also of that of Pillith, belong to the prebendary of Llangunllo, and the remainder to the vicar. The church is a small ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, and is not distinguished by any architectural details of interest. A small free school, for the gratuitous instruction of eight poor children, is endowed with three acres of land in the parish. Andrew Clarke, in 1752, bequeathed a rent-charge of £2; and Thomas Meyrick, in 1764, gave a rent-charge of £1. 10., both to be annually distributed among the poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of both divisions amounts to £300. 9.

LLANGUNNOCK (LLAN-GYNOG), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (S.W. by S.) from Carmarthen, containing 859 inhabitants. This parish, which is of considerable extent, has been greatly improved since the year 1806, when an act of parliament was obtained, under the provisions of which more than five thousand acres of land within its limits have been allotted and enclosed, the greater part of it being now in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery, though not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature, is in general pleasing. The manor of Penryn is co-extensive with the parish, in which is an ancient family mansion called Cwm, now the property of Thomas Morris, Sen., Esq., of Llanstephan Cottage. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to that of Llanstephan, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Cynog, is not distinguished by any peculiar architectural feature. There are places of worship for Baptists and Independents. Here is a parochial school, said to have been founded by Judge Vaughan of Derllŷs, and endowed with two cottages and about two acres of land, which

endowment was subsequently augmented, by Mr. John Vaughan, with a rent-charge of £5, for clothing eight poor children, and providing them with books. This establishment, which is called the New Well Charity, is traditionally said to have originated from a cure performed on Judge Vaughan by the water of a spring called the New Well, near the site of the present school-house, over the entrance to which is a stone with the following inscription: "This is a charity school for ever, built at the recommendation of the Archbishop of Canterbury, by the lord, freeholders, and inhabitants of this manor of Penrin, A. D. 1705." Mr. John Popkin, in 1713, bequeathed £10, and in 1771 Mr. David James bequeathed £100, the interest of which sums, together with the dividends arising from £214. 2. 6. three per cent. Bank annuities, bequeathed by Miss Theodosia Laugharne, of the town of Laugharne, is annually distributed among the aged and infirm poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £315. 18.

LLANGUNNOR (LLAN-GYNYR), a parish, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, in the hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (E.) from Carmarthen, containing 1041 inhabitants. This parish is beautifully situated on the river Towy, by which it is separated from the borough of Carmarthen, and on the great turnpike road from that town, by Golden Grove, to Llandilo-Vawr: it contains several genteel residences. On the bank of the river is a ridge of elevated ground, at the eastern extremity of which stands the church, commanding perhaps the finest view of the most interesting portion of the fertile and picturesque Vale of Towy. This beautiful prospect embraces Merlin's Hill on the right, and on the left the luxuriant woods of Middleton Hall, with the elegant tower, raised to the memory of Lord Viscount Nelson, crowning the summit of one of the loftiest hills in the vale. Opposite to these are, Grongar Hill, and the abrupt eminence on which are the ancient and venerable ruins of Dryslwyn castle, almost surrounded by a bold sweep of the river; and a little lower down in the vale is Dynevor castle, embosomed in stately oaks, above which rise, in romantic grandeur, the dilapidated towers of that once stately pile. The vale is studded on each side with numerous handsome seats and elegant villas, above which the newly restored palace of St. David's, and the pleasing little village of Aberguilly, are conspicuous. The whole extent of country beyond Llandilo, through which the Towy pursues its winding course, lies open to the view, forming a grand combination of pleasingly picturesque objects and a continued succession of scenery of unrivalled beauty, terminated by the Black Mountains in the distance. The lands, with the exception of a small portion, are enclosed and cultivated; and the soil, though varied, is generally fertile. The Carmarthen race-course is situated on the banks of the Towy, in this parish. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Cynyr, is a neat edifice, appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service, and, though possessing no architectural details of importance, derives from its beautiful situation an interesting and romantic



appearance. It contains a neat monument to the memory of Sir Richard Steele, who, for some time prior to his decease, lived in retirement at a farm in this parish, called Tŷ Gwyn, or the "White House." There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £378.

**LLANGURIG, or LLANGIRIRIG (LLAN-GURIG)**, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (S. W.) from Llanidloes, on the road to Aberystwith, containing 1847 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the northern bank of the river Wye, at no great distance from its source in the neighbouring mountain of Plinlimmon. A new road leading from the village to Rhaiadr, in the county of Radnor, formed in 1830, has placed it on the nearest route from London to Aberystwith, and added materially to its interest and importance. This new line of road, which is nine miles and a half in length, winds through the beautiful and picturesque vale of the Wye, abounding with pleasingly diversified scenery. In various parts of the parish are obtained interesting views, and from Glynn-Brychan is an extensive and delightful prospect, embracing the Vale of Llanidloes, with the windings of the river Severn, and the mountainous ridges by which this district is bounded. The manufacture of flannel is carried on in the parish, but the inhabitants are principally employed in agriculture. The living is a vicarage, locally in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £9. 10., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor, to the jurisdiction of whose consistorial court it is subject. The church, dedicated to St. Curig, a saint of the seventh century, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture: the remains of an elaborately carved screen and rood-loft are still preserved. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Welsh Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Sunday schools, in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations, are supported by subscription. Mr. David Vaughan bequeathed £10 to the poor, the interest of which is annually distributed among them. In 1826, a noble, coined in the reign of Edward III., was dug up in this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £1249. 6.

**LLANGWILLOG (LLAN-GWYLLOG)**, a parish partly in the hundred of LLYVON, partly in that of MENAI, and partly in that of MALLTRAETH, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N. W.) from Llangevni, containing 267 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cwylllog, a female saint, who flourished in the middle of the sixth century, is pleasantly situated nearly in the centre of the island, and on the turnpike road leading from Llangevni to Llanerchymedd, from which places it is equidistant. A sanguinary battle is said to have taken place on Maes Rhôs Rhyvel, in 1143, between the forces of Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, and the united armies of the Erse, Manks, and Norwegians, who had invaded the island, in which the Welsh prince was triumphantly victorious. Upon that occasion the whole naval force of Wales is said to have been brought into action, and to have succeeded in capturing all the

ships of the enemy off Dulas bay. This victory is celebrated in Gray's ode to the memory of Owain Gwynedd, in which he eulogizes the exploits of that chieftain; but it is not noticed by any of the principal Welsh historians. This parish, which is of comparatively small extent, is enclosed, and the land is in a good state of cultivation. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £400 private benefaction, £600 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Sir R. B. Williams Bulkeley, Bart. The church, situated in that part of the parish which is in the hundred of Malltraeth, was originally founded in the year 605: the present edifice is small, but remarkably well built, and has an ancient and curious chapel at the west end of the nave. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The interest arising from some small charitable bequests and donations is annually distributed among the poor of this parish, pursuant to the directions of the several benefactors. At a short distance from Maes Rhôs Rhyvel is a place called "Castell," the origin and history of which are equally unknown. Coins of Nero, Vespasian, and Constantine, have been found here at various times, in a state of good preservation, and in 1829 a gold coin of Vespasian was dug up, the impression on which was quite perfect. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £185. 5.

**LLANGWM (LLAN-GWM)**, a parish in the hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (W.) from Corwen, containing 1011 inhabitants. It is stated that the inhabitants of North Wales, revolting against the government of Meredydd, Prince of Powys, about the close of the tenth century, invited Eidwal, son of Meirig, to the throne, to dispossess whom Meredydd immediately called together his troops, and the rival princes met at Llangwm, where, after a sharp conflict, Meredydd was totally defeated, and Tewdwr Mawr, his nephew, slain. This parish, which is of great extent, is situated in a dreary moorland district, near the extremity of the county, bordering on Merionethshire, and is intersected by the road from London through Shrewsbury to Holyhead and Dublin: the female inhabitants are principally employed in the spinning of woollen yarn, and the knitting of stockings, large quantities of which are sent to the neighbouring towns, and are purchased for the London and Liverpool markets: the males are occupied in attendance upon their herds and flocks, great numbers of which are purchased by the English drovers, and fattened for the London market. The village is small, but is noted for the large sheep and cattle fairs held in it, which take place on March 8th, April 18th, and August 11th. The living comprises a sinecure rectory and a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph: the former is rated in the king's books at £11. 4. 7.; and the latter is rated at £6, and is endowed with £200 royal bounty; both are in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Hierom, is a small neat edifice. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Various bequests have been made for the benefit of the poor of this parish, several of which have been lost: the produce of those which remain is annually distributed among them on St. Thomas' day. Llŷs Dinmael,



an ancient mansion in this parish, is traditionally stated to have been the residence of Dinmael, a petty prince : courts for the lordship of Dinmael are held twice a year. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £412. 12.

**LLANGWM (LLAN-GWM)**, a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. E. by S.) from Haverfordwest, containing 697 inhabitants. This parish, the name of which signifies "the church in the vale," is pleasantly situated on the western bank of Milford Haven, about the same distance from Pembroke as from Haverfordwest. Great Nash, formerly the residence of the family of Owen, now of Orielson, and long noted for its hospitality, is now deserted by its proprietor, and in ruins. Duple-dale, the seat of Mrs. Jordan, is a handsome modern mansion, very pleasantly situated, and commanding a fine view of Milford Haven. At the village, which extends along the shore, is a horse ferry to the parish of Coedcanlais. The inhabitants are principally engaged in a lucrative oyster fishery, the produce of which is generally sold at two shillings per bushel (Winchester measure), to dealers from the coast of Kent, more especially to those of Chatham and Rochester, by whom they are taken away in sloops for the supply of the London market : the average annual amount of the profits of this fishery is about £2000, and in good seasons it frequently exceeds £3000. Coal and culm are found here in great abundance : the mines are worked by Sir John Owen, Bart., who is the principal proprietor, and the produce is shipped at Hook Quay, for the supply of the neighbouring districts. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 12. 11., endowed with £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Mrs. Owen Barlow. The church, dedicated to St. Hierom, is a spacious and venerable structure, in the early style of English architecture, and contains some ancient monuments, among which are several to the memory of the family of Roch. There is a place of worship for Methodists. George Roch, Esq., in 1707, bequeathed a small rent-charge for the instruction of poor children. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £190. 11.

**LLANGWNADL (LLAN-GWYNODL)**, a parish in the hundred of COMMITMAEN, Llyn division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 12 miles (W. by S.) from Pwllheli, containing 293 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the south-western extremity of the county, and upon the shore of Carnarvon bay, by which it is bounded on the west, comprises a small tract of arable and pasture land, in the cultivation of which the inhabitants are chiefly employed, except during the season of the herring fishery, which is here conducted upon an extensive scale. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and the distant views, extending over Carnarvon bay and the adjacent country, are peculiarly interesting. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £1200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Sir J. S. Piozzi Salusbury, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Gwynodl, who lived about the middle of the sixth century, possesses no architectural claim to particular description. There is a small place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. Hugh

Griffith of Brÿnodl, in 1788, bequeathed a tenement in this parish, directing the rental, now amounting to £7 per annum, to be appropriated to the payment of a master to teach poor children of this place to read Welsh : the school, in which twelve children are gratuitously instructed, is held in the vestry-room of the church, no building having been erected purposely for its use. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £83. 9.

**LLANGWSTENYN, or LLANGWYSTENNIN (LLAN-GYSTENNIN)**, a parish in the hundred of CREUDDYN, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, on the road from Chester to Holyhead, 2 miles (E. N. E.) from Aberconway, containing 643 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated at the entrance to the Vale of Conway, and on the eastern bank of that river, near its mouth : it is of small extent, and contains no village ; the houses, which are few in number, lying scattered over its surface : formerly it was divided into the two townships of Trê Iorwerth and Llanwdden, which, on account of the small value of the tithes at that time, were united, and their boundaries are not now accurately known. Indications of copper-ore exist in several parts, and spirited efforts are now in progress for obtaining it, which are likely to produce a successful result. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Constantine, is a small plain structure, situated in a pleasing valley close to the boundary line between the counties of Carnarvon and Denbigh, and said to be the first Christian church erected in Wales : it is conjectured to have been founded by Constantine the Great, who died in the year 330. Henry III. was commanded by the pope to do penance in this church, but was subsequently absolved, on payment of a fine of five hundred marks of silver. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. Llangwstenyn participates, in conjunction with the parishes of Aberconway, Eglwys-Rhôs, and Llandudno, in the gift of Lewis Owen, Esq., who, by will dated September 4th, 1623, assigned the rectorial tithes of the parish of Aberconway, in trust, to be equally divided between the vicar of that parish and the poor of all the four. The amount resulting to this parish, in the year 1830, was £16, which was distributed in money and clothes to the poor on St. Thomas' day. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £181. 3.

**LLANGWYRYVON, or LLANGRWYDDON, (LLAN Y GWYRYDDON)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of LLAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S. by E.) from Aberystwith, containing 533 inhabitants. The name of this place signifies "the church of the Virgins," and is derived from the dedication of its church to St. Ursula and the eleven thousand virgins. The parish is situated on the southern bank of the Wyrri river, and comprises a considerable tract of enclosed and well-cultivated land, with a large portion of open and elevated common. The soil is generally fertile, and in some places argillaceous : turbaries are found in various places. Some of the higher grounds are abundantly productive of corn and hay. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal



bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Chichester family, as impropiators of the tithes. The church, situated on an eminence, is a small ancient edifice, consisting only of a nave and chancel, formerly divided by a curiously carved screen. In the churchyard is an ancient monumental stone, highly ornamented, and having the figure of a cross sculptured upon it, but without any inscription; it is now used as a gate-post. Owing to the elevated situation of the church, the cemetery commands a fine view of the river and the surrounding country. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A Sunday school, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, is superintended by a few of the parishioners; and a school-house, in which the children are to be educated on the National system, is about to be erected by subscription among the landed proprietors of the parish. Within the limits of the parish are the remains of an ancient intrenchment, of a curvilinear form; but nothing is known either of its origin or history. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £88.13.

**LLANGWYVAN (LLAN-GWYVAN)**, a parish in the hundred of MALLTRAETH, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 10 miles (S. W. by W.) from Llangenvni, containing 218 inhabitants. This parish, which is of very small extent, being scarcely a mile in length, and about the same in breadth, is situated at the south-western extremity of the county, on the shore of Carnarvon bay. The lands are cold and barren, and the whole aspect of the place is dreary and desolate. The surrounding scenery is not enlivened either by variety or beauty, and the only views which possess any interest are those extending over the bay. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Trêvdraeth, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Cwyvan, who flourished towards the close of the seventh century, and from which circumstance the parish derives its name, is a small edifice, built on a rocky island in Carnarvon bay, about three quarters of a mile distant from the main land, with which it has a communication only at low water; and during the prevalence of easterly winds it is utterly inaccessible, on which account divine service is seldom performed in it during the winter months. The produce of some small charitable benefactions in land and money is annually distributed among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £149. 6.

**LLANGWYVAN (LLAN-GWYVAN)**, a parish in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (E.) from Denbigh, containing 264 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is situated in the north-eastern part of the county, and at the western base of the Clwydian range of mountains. The surrounding scenery is beautifully picturesque, and the views from the higher grounds over the fertile and extensive vale of Clwyd are rich and magnificent. The surface is finely undulated, and the lands, with the exception of the mountainous part of the parish, are enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The living is a discharged rectory, within the jurisdiction of the consistorial court of the Bishop of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £7. 18. 9., endowed with £200 royal

bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Cwyvan, is a small neat edifice, undistinguished by any architectural details of importance: the pulpit and reading-desk are respectively placed on each side and adjacent to the communion table. There are some small charitable donations for the benefit of the poor, who also receive gratuitous medical assistance from the dispensary at Denbigh. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £153. 11.

**LLANGYBI (LLAN-GYBI)**, a parish in the hundred of EIVIONYDD, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N. E. by N.) from Pwllheli, containing 717 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cybi, an eminent British saint, who flourished towards the close of the sixth century, is pleasantly situated in the south-western portion of the county, and nearly in the centre of the promontory which separates Cardigan bay from the bay of Carnarvon. It is of very considerable extent, and the lands are mostly enclosed and in a good state of cultivation: the surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, comprising some fine views of the adjacent country, which abounds with varied and picturesque beauty. At Pontrhŷd Gôch is a slate quarry, which, however, is worked only on a limited scale, the slates being of rather an inferior quality, and the demand for them confined principally to the immediate neighbourhood. The road from Carnarvon to Pwllheli passes through the parish, but there are no other facilities of intercourse with the neighbouring districts. The living is a rectory, with that of Llanarmon annexed, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £15. 3. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church is a spacious structure, consisting of a nave and north aisle: in 1830 it underwent a thorough repair, the roof being raised and new windows inserted, and it is now one of the best ecclesiastical edifices in this part of the principality. There is neither glebe house nor any glebe land attached to the living. There are places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists and Presbyterians. A parochial school, in which poor children receive gratuitous instruction, is supported solely at the expense of the rector of the parish. An almshouse was founded by Sir William Williams, Bart., who endowed it with a rent-charge payable out of the estate of Pentyrch Uchâv, for six poor men, who receive £1 per quarter, with a sufficient allowance of fuel, and are nominated by Rice Thomas, Esq., of Coed Helen, heir of the founder: the buildings are at present in a very dilapidated condition, no part of the original endowment having been appropriated for keeping them in repair. The Rev. Mr. Griffith, in 1729, bequeathed a small portion of land, directing the proceeds to be annually distributed among the poor. Near the church is a fine chalybeate spring, called Fynnon-Gybi, enclosed with a stone wall, and having stone seats round it: the water was formerly in great repute for its efficacy in the cure of scorbutic complaints, and is still found beneficial in chronic cases. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £255. 18.

**LLANGYBY (LLAN-GYBI)**, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CAR-



**DIGAN, SOUTH WALES**,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  miles (N. N. E.) from Lampeter, on the road to Tregaron, containing 275 inhabitants. The lands are in general enclosed and in a good state of cultivation, and the soil is tolerably fertile. This place formerly constituted a prebend in the collegiate church of Llandewy-Brevi, rated in the king's books at £1. 6. 8. The living is a perpetual curacy, consolidated with that of Llanvair Clydogau, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the alternate patronage of the Earl of Lisburne and Lord Carrington. The church, dedicated to St. Cybi, is a small edifice, consisting only of a nave and chancel. There are places of worship for Independents and Presbyterians: the latter is supposed to be the most ancient congregation of dissenters in the principality, having first assembled here about the year 1663. On a hill above the river Teivy is a large intrenchment, called Castell Goedtrêv, but nothing is known either of its origin or history: it gives name to the farm on which it is situated. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £39. 14.

**LLANGYNHAVAL (LLAN-GYNHAVAL)**, a parish in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N. by E.) from Ruthin, containing 503 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cynhaval, who flourished about the beginning of the seventh century, is situated in the rich and fertile Vale of Clwyd, and sheltered by the fine range of mountains which bounds it on the east. The surrounding scenery is beautifully diversified and highly picturesque, and the views over the adjacent country abound with interesting features. A very considerable portion of the parish is unenclosed and uncultivated, but of the remainder the soil is fertile and productive. The living is a discharged rectory, within the jurisdiction of the consistorial court of the Bishop of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £15. 15., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church is a small neat whitewashed edifice, occupying a pleasant situation, but not possessing any architectural details of importance. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. William Wynn left £5 per annum for teaching poor children of this parish. Thomas Roberts bequeathed £43, Edward Wynn £20, Strange Pedler £10, and John Doulsen £10, to the poor, which, together with some smaller benefactions, have been invested in the purchase of land, the produce of which is distributed among them. In the chain of hills by which the parish is bounded on the east, the highest, called Moel Vamma, is surmounted by a column erected to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the accession of George III.: on the side towards the county of Flint it exhibits a remarkable volcanic appearance. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £276.

**LLANGYNIDER (LLAN-GYNIDR)**, a parish composed of the hamlets of Dyfryn and Vro, which separately maintain their own poor, in the hundred of CRICKHOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N. W.) from Crickhowel, containing 1440 inhabitants, of which number, 934 are in the hamlet of Dyfryn, in which the church is situated. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cynyd, or Cynydr, who lived in religious seclusion

in Glamorgan, in the sixth century, and in commemoration of whom a festival was annually celebrated here, on the 1st of August. In ancient records it is frequently called "Llan-Gynydd-Eglwys-Yail," from the Yail, a small stream which passed near the church; and "Llan-Gynydd-Eglwys-Vesey," from an ancient chapel, of which the ruins were formerly visible on the bank of the Crawnant, about two miles from the village. The parish, which extends from the southern bank of the river Usk to the confines of Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire, is bounded on the north by that river, which separates it from the parish of Llanvihangel-Cwm-Dû; on the south-west by the river Romney, which separates it from the parish of Gellygaer, in the county of Glamorgan; on the south by the parish of Bedwelty, in the county of Monmouth; and on the west by the parish of Llanthetty. The adjacent country is finely varied, and in many parts beautifully picturesque; and the view of the mountains by which the parish is surrounded is strikingly beautiful: among these, the lofty conical mountain called the Sugar Loaf, on the border of Monmouthshire, and the Irvol, or Hirvoel, in the adjoining parish of Llanthetty, partly clothed with larch trees of stately growth, are prominent and interesting features. The parish abounds with iron-ore, coal, and limestone. On the river Romney are some iron-works, which were formerly conducted by Messrs. Forman and Johnson, lessees under the Duke of Beaufort, and afforded employment to nearly four hundred persons: they are at present suspended, and there is no immediate prospect of their being resumed. The Brecknock and Abergavenny canal, extending from Pontymoile, near Pontypool, in Monmouthshire, to Brecknock, traverses the parish, and on its banks a wharf has been constructed for lime and coal; and the tram-road, commonly called the Trivel Road, communicating with the canal at Talybont, in the parish of Llanthetty, passes along the Trivel mountain in this parish, which is also traversed by the turnpike road leading from Llangattock to Brecknock. Fairs are annually held in the village, by prescriptive right, on April 20th, October 7th, December 1st, and the Wednesday before Christmas-day. The parish is within the jurisdiction of a court of requests for the recovery of debts not exceeding £5, established at Merthyr-Tydvil, by an act of the 49th of George III., for certain parishes in the counties of Brecknock, Glamorgan, and Monmouth. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £13. 14. 7., and in the patronage of the Duke of Beaufort. The church is a plain small edifice, without any claim to architectural notice, consisting only of a small nave and chancel, and containing no remarkable monuments: the parsonage-house was erected at the sole expense of the Rev. William Davies, the present incumbent. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Wesleyan Methodists. Mrs. Frances Griffiths, in 1761, bequeathed £10 in money, the interest of which is annually, on Easter-eve, divided among the poor not receiving parochial relief. Miss Prothero bequeathed £8 per annum, payable out of a farm in this parish, to be distributed on the first of January, by the minister and churchwardens, among the poor not receiving parochial relief. It is believed that a Roman vicinal road from Caerphilly to Bedwelty, and thence over Bedwelty



common, upon which are manifest and unequivocal traces of a causeway, leading through the mines of Bryn Oer to Llanvrynach, in the Vale of Usk, passed along the high ridge of the Trivel-ddû mountain, in this parish. On this mountain, some years ago, was found a celt, which was in the possession of the late Archdeacon Payne. Near the source of the river Romney is a ford called Rhŷd y Milwyr, or "the soldiers' ford," but from what circumstance it obtained that appellation is altogether unknown. On the Trivel Glâs mountain is a large natural cavern, called Stabl-Vawr, or "the great stable," above which is a large heap of stones, which most probably was raised as a beacon, as, upon examination, no sepulchral deposit was found beneath it, denoting it a cairn. Tradition points out the site of an ancient castle near the high road from this place to Brecknock; but nothing of its history is recorded, and probably it was only a lodge for the residence of a forester under the lords of Tre'r Twr castle. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £357. 13.

LLANGYNIEW (LLAN-GYNYW), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of MATHRAVAL, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. by W.) from Llanvair-Caereinion, containing 675 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cynw, an eminent British saint, who flourished in the sixth century, and was son of Gwyn-lliw, and brother of Catwg the Wise. That it is of very remote antiquity is evident from the numerous British encampments, apparently of the very earliest character, which are scattered over the hills in various parts of the parish; and that it was either occupied by the Romans, or at least known to that people, has been conjectured on probable grounds by several writers, both from the situation and the quadrangular form of a camp in the hamlet of Mathraval, which subsequently became the seat of the ancient princes of Powys. This station, situated on the bank of the river Banwy, at no great distance from its junction with the other branch of the river Vyrnwy, and at the western extremity of the Vale of Meivod, near the turnpike road from Llanvair to Meivod, has not only been supposed to be a Roman station, but by some antiquaries has been identified with the long lost *Mediolanum* of the Itineraries. The reasons upon which they establish their hypothesis are, the common opinion entertained by all writers that, from the coincidence of the situation with the distances laid down in the Itineraries of Antoninus and Richard of Cirencester, the site of that station is to be looked for either in the Vale of Meivod, or in that of the Tanat; that the western part of the former of these vales must have been the spot where the ancient Watling-street and the *Via Devana* would intersect each other, if continued in straight lines; that there are no other remains of Roman origin near this place, which at all correspond with the distances given in the Itineraries; and lastly, the prevailing custom of the early Saxon princes of Britain, to erect their palaces on the sites of stations which had been occupied by the Romans. On the opposite side of the river, in a wood called Gwern ddû, is a circular intrenchment; and in a field beyond it is a circular mount, both which Mr. Pennant thinks were appendages to the principal station at Mathraval, which he concurs with Burton in supposing to have been the

*Mediolanum* of the Romans. About the latter end of the eighth century, the princes of Powys, in order to guard against the frequent incursions of Offa King of Mercia into the eastern portion of their territories, transferred the seat of their government from "Pengwern Powys," now Shrewsbury, where it had been previously established, to Mathraval in this parish, where they either built a palace, or enlarged one previously erected, which continued to be their chief residence till towards the close of the twelfth century, when Gwynwyn, son of Owain Cyveiliog, having taken "Castell Côch yn Mhowys," now Powis castle, removed the seat of government to that place. The Eisteddvdodau, or triennial assemblies of the bards and minstrels, were regularly held at Mathraval with great solemnity; and Owain Cyveiliog, who, as Prince of Powys, resided in the castle of this place, and Cynddelw Brydydd Mawr, his poet laureate, who lived at Llêchwedd-Isâv, near the banks of the Vyrnwy, both bards of the first eminence, who flourished during the middle of the twelfth century, which is considered the Augustan era of Welsh poetry, composed on those occasions some of their finest odes, of which many are preserved in the Welsh Archaeology. After the removal of the seat of government to Castle Powys, the palace of Mathraval, which was deserted by the princes of Powys, fell into the possession of Robert Vipont, a powerful baron in high favour with John King of England, who either rebuilt, or at least repaired and fortified, the ancient castle. In 1212, Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, having made an incursion into Powysland, invested the castle of this place, which, from having been recently fortified by Vipont, was strong enough to hold out against his assaults, till King John, marching from England with a considerable force to the relief of the baron, compelled Llewelyn to retire with his confederate forces; and in order to prevent any similar attempt on the part of that prince, he ordered the castle to be burnt to the ground, since which period it has been in ruins.

The parish is situated nearly in the centre of the county, and on the turnpike road leading from Oswestry to Llanvair: it is bounded on the south and west by the parish of Llanvair, and on the north and east by the Banwy and Oweddyn, or Mechan, both branches of the river Vyrnwy, which unite a little below Mathraval. It extends for nearly four miles in length, and from one mile and a half to three miles in breadth, and comprises some very extensive tracts of arable and pasture land, which are in a good state of cultivation. Nearly three-fourths of the lands are old enclosures, and the remainder was enclosed under the provisions of an act obtained in 1810, which extended also to the adjoining parish of Llanvair-Caereinion, and part of that of Castle-Caereinion. The surface is greatly undulated, rising in many places into hills of considerable elevation; and the surrounding scenery, which is strikingly diversified and picturesque, is in several parts highly enriched with woods of luxuriant growth, and enlivened by the branches of the river Vyrnwy. At Mathraval Fridd and Park are not less than three hundred and fifty acres of woodland, on which are growing some of the finest oak trees in this county, which is much celebrated for that species of timber: many of the young trees, not more than nine inches in girth at the butt, are sixty feet in height, and for cleaving are considered



to be the best in the kingdom; and those of more mature growth are unrivalled in the stateliness of their appearance, forming a majestic and beautiful feature in the scenery of the place. From several of the hills, which are generally of conical form, are some noble and magnificent views over the surrounding country, comprehending the most picturesque portion of the district called Powysland; and from the summit of Penyborth, in the hamlet of Cynhinva, more especially, the view is almost boundless in extent and unequalled in grandeur. Towards the east are seen the open and fertile plains of Shropshire, as far as the high lands of Cheshire and Staffordshire, with the Wrekin, the Breiddyn, the Clee hills, and the Radnorshire range; and on the west are the lofty mountains of Plinlimmon, Cader Idris, the Arans, the Berwyn chain, and the Arenigs, with numerous other Welsh hills, among which one of the peaks of Snowdon is plainly discernible. There are several small turbaries in the parish, which formerly supplied the inhabitants with fuel, but which are now almost exhausted: they appear to have been formed from timber which, being collected in hollows, and becoming decomposed, constituted a peat soil of considerable depth. In one of these turbaries, a little to the north of the church, the pieces of timber found in a horizontal position were chiefly oak and birch; but as the surface was lowered by the removal of the peat for consumption, the stumps of trees which were found in an upright position were of fir, and, on the application of fire, easily ignited and blazed freely. From this circumstance it is evident that the fir is a species of timber of no modern date in this part of the principality, and also that turbarry water is a preservative of timber, especially of fir. The substratum of the peat soil, which is now only a few feet deep, is a shell marl of considerable depth; and between the peat and the marl is a layer of moss and sedges, apparently in their original state. On analyzing the marl, it was found to contain seven parts and one-tenth of extraneous vegetable matter, five-tenths of a part of siliceous earth, eighty-nine parts and eight-tenths of carbonate of lime, and two parts and six-tenths of waste, being a portion of water. According to this analysis, the marl, containing nearly ninety per cent. of carbonate of lime, is highly valuable as a rich calcareous manure for land, though it has not been hitherto much used for that purpose, the inhabitants having been ignorant of its quality. The branches of the river Vyrnwy still retain their wonted celebrity for various kinds of fish of very superior quality, which obtained for them the appellation "*Piscosi Amnes*." On the Banwy is a beautiful waterfall, near Dôlanog bridge, partly within the parish of Llanvair.

The living is a rectory, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £5. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Cyniw, and situated at the eastern extremity of the parish, near the bank of the Banwy, is an ancient and venerable structure, in the early style of English architecture: in the interior are the remains of the ancient screen and rood-loft, embellished with some exquisite carvings in oak, and in the east window are some small remains of ancient stained glass; the ancient font, which is of large dimensions, is still preserved: in the churchyard

are six venerable yew trees. There are places of worship for Independents and Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. A National school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children has been recently established, and is supported by subscription; and there are Sunday schools in connexion with the established church and the dissenting congregations. Some small charitable donations and bequests have been made by various individuals, the produce arising from which is annually distributed among the poor of the parish. The only remains of the ancient castle of Mathraval, the supposed Roman station *Mediolanum*, consist of vestiges of the vast rampart of stones and earth, with a deep fosse on three sides of the quadrangular area which it occupied, the fourth side being defended by the steep eminence overhanging the river: the enclosed area is about two acres in extent, each side being about one hundred and twenty yards in length; at the north-eastern angle, which impends over the river, is a lofty exploratory mount, on which probably there may have been formerly a castelet, commanding a full view up and down the vale. Several relics of antiquity have been dug up among the ruins near this spot, among which were some tiles having protuberances at one extremity, apparently to connect them, also some silver dishes, an old sword, and some silver coins: within the area is a farm-house, situated near the mount, which, together with the greater part of the hamlet of Mathraval, belongs to the Powys estate. In the eastern part of the parish are the remains of two other encampments, forming, with Mathraval, an equilateral triangle, each of the sides of which is about a mile in length: the first of these, which are supposed to be of British origin, occupies a conical hill called Garthen, in the hamlet of Llangyniew, and appears to have been surrounded with three ramparts of earth and two fosses, enclosing a circular area seventy yards in diameter within the inner wall, and one hundred and forty yards in diameter within the outer: the other occupies the summit of a hill in Mathraval Fridd, and comprises an elliptical area conformably to the shape of the hill, seventy-two yards in the longer, and forty-four yards in the shorter, diameter; it is surrounded by two ramparts and one fosse, except on the western side, where, being less defended by the nature of the ground, it is protected by four ramparts and three fosses; the distance between the two ramparts is twenty yards, and between the additional ramparts on the western side, ten yards: both these camps occupy an elevated site, commanding an extensive view of the surrounding country. There is a very powerful spring in the parish, strongly impregnated with sulphur. The late Rev. Dr. Evans, rector of Llanymynech, and canon of St. Asaph, was born in this parish, and was buried in the church, where a marble tablet has been erected to his memory: he was a distinguished Welsh scholar and critic, and assisted Dr. Burney in writing his History of Music, and Mr. Edward Jones in his collection of Welsh airs. Among his papers was lately discovered a letter from one of his friends, requesting his literary assistance in the following terms: "A Friend of mine, of the name of Samuel Johnson, talks of writing a dictionary of the English language, and would be much obliged to you for sending a list of those English words which are derived from the Welsh." The



average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of this parish is £337. 8.

LLANGYNOG (LLAN-GYNOG), a parish in the hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. S. W.) from Builth, containing 77 inhabitants. This parish, which comprises a tract of about two thousand acres, derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cynog, an eminent British saint, who suffered martyrdom about the close of the fifth century. It is situated in a dreary and mountainous district, in the northern portion of the county, and near the source of the small river Dihonwy, which falls into the Wye, near Builth: it is of small extent, and the soil is poor, producing only a little oats and barley, the farmers depending chiefly on the rearing of sheep and a few hardy cattle, for which the hilly grounds afford but inferior pasture. The Epynt hills are partly within the parish; and from their summits some extensive views are obtained over the adjacent country: the immediate neighbourhood exhibits only wild mountain scenery. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the lessee of the tithes under the prebendary of Llandarog, in the collegiate church of Brecknock. The church is a small, ancient, and mean edifice, possessing no claim to architectural notice: it stands a little eastward from the mountain road from Brecknock to Builth, on the brow of the Epynt hills, in a very bleak situation, sheltered only by some larch and fir trees, by which the churchyard is surrounded. A Sunday school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported at the expense of the incumbent. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £37. 11.

LLANGYNOG (LLAN-GYNOG), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of LLANVYLLIN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (N. W.) from Llanvyllin, containing 499 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cynog, the eldest of the sons of Brychan, Prince of Brycheiniog, who suffered martyrdom in the fifth century, was buried at Merthyr-Cynog, in the county of Brecknock, and was canonized after his death. The village is beautifully situated in a pleasing but narrow vale, watered by the river Tanat, and sheltered by lofty mountains, in the northern part of the county, bordering upon Denbighshire, and on the turnpike road from Llanvyllin to Bala. The parish is nearly four miles in length, and the same in breadth, and comprehends a large extent of country, abounding in mineral wealth. The scenery is strikingly diversified, abounding with features of picturesque beauty, and of rugged grandeur; and the views over the adjacent country, comprising part of Denbighshire on the east, and Merionethshire on the west, from which latter the parish is separated by the fine range of the Berwyn mountains, are interesting and extensive. A very small proportion of the land is enclosed and cultivated, the remainder being a mountainous district, in which are mines of lead, quarries of slate, and other mineral works. Peat, which forms the principal fuel of the inhabitants, is found in abundance. The lead mines, which are the property of the Earl of Powys, have been worked for nearly a century, and were formerly productive of immense profit to an an-

cestor of the present proprietor: the ore is of the species called *galena*, or "potters' ore," and is found in a rake vein, extending in a direction from east-by-south to west-by-north, which is noticed by Williams, in his "Mineral Kingdom," published in 1789, as being perhaps the richest then discovered in the island: it contained in the centre a breadth of five yards of clean ore, so pure as to be immediately conveyed from the mine to the smelting-house, exclusively of a breadth of several feet on each side, which, being mixed with spar, required previous dressing to prepare it for smelting. This vein has been worked to a depth of more than ninety yards, and during a period of forty years yielded upon the average about four thousand tons of ore annually, producing to its proprietor a clear yearly revenue of £20,000. About the commencement of the present century this mine, the working of which had been for some time discontinued, owing to the influx of water, which rendered it impracticable, was leased by a company who drove a level beneath it, in order to draw off the water, and continued the working of it for some time. In the course of their operations the miners occasionally found masses of pure ore, weighing from seventy to one hundred lb. each; but, after prosecuting their labours for some time, the works were again discontinued. Within the last twelve months the old shaft has been re-opened, and nearly seven hundred tons of ore have been raised: the machinery employed in the mine is driven by a stream of water, brought from a distance of seven miles at a very considerable expense.

At Craig y Gribbin, in this parish, are some quarries of excellent blue slate, of a strong and durable quality; but, from the veins of quartz which pervade the entire mass of the rock in which they are quarried, they exhibit a rough surface; and some of the slabs contain beautiful cubes of mundic. Many thousands of these slates are annually procured for the supply of the neighbouring districts, and a considerable quantity is sent to the Montgomeryshire canal at Newbridge, near Llanymynech, for conveyance by water to more distant parts. In the rock of Llangynog, which has a lofty and almost perpendicular elevation on the north side of the village, is another quarry, from which great numbers of slates of similar quality are obtained, and are brought down the steep declivity of the rock in sledges containing about five hundred-weight each, with extreme danger to the persons employed in this arduous task. When the sledge is loaded, and drawn to the edge of the declivity, the conductor sits upon it, passing over his shoulders a rope, which is fastened at each extremity to the front, and, raising his feet from the ground, begins his descent down a narrow winding path, guiding the sledge by opposing his feet to the projecting points of the rock, which would divert it from its course, and governing its accumulating velocity by pressing firmly with his feet upon the ground, and sustaining the weight of the carriage by the rope which passes over his shoulders. Sometimes the guide, passing the rope over his shoulders as in the former case, instead of sitting upon the front of the sledge, descends backwards, and, when in danger of being overpowered by the weight and the accumulated velocity of the sledge, slipping the rope over his head, detaches himself from the carriage, and throws it sideways over the precipice,



regarding only his own preservation. In either case the descent is attended with extreme danger, and the least inattention or want of dexterity, on the part of the guide, would expose him to inevitable destruction.

Fairs are annually held in the village on May 6th, August 9th, and September 3rd. The living is a discharged rectory, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £4. 8. 11½, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church is an ancient edifice, in the early style of English architecture, and is appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Mr. Lewis bequeathed a small portion of land, the rental of which is annually distributed among the poor. A brass celt was found near the village, a few years ago. At Cwm Glân Avon, in this parish, near the base of a rock containing lead and copper ores and calamine, which is on the side of the valley, opposite to the lead-mine above-noticed, are great heaps of scoria, near the site of an ancient building, called Cubil; but the oldest of the miners are ignorant of their origin, which may probably be ascribed to the improvement of the science of metallurgy, which was revived in Britain during the reign of Elizabeth, when this place, among others, had assayers, who carried on the process of extracting silver from the lead with which it was intermixed. On the summit of a mountain to the north of this place is a deserted lead mine, called Craig y Mwyn, or the "cliff of ore," which appears to have been wrought at a very remote period; and within a few hundred yards of the ancient site above named is a mining level called Ogo, or "the cave," driven under a vast depth of slaty rock, which appears to have long ceased to be recognised as a work of art. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £128. 2.

LLANGYVELACH (LLAN-GYVELACH), a parish partly within the limits of the new borough of SWANSEA, and partly in the hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N. by W.) from Swansea, comprising the hamlets of Higher Clâs, Lower Clâs, Upper Mawr, Lower Mawr, Upper Pen Derwi, Lower Pen Derwi, Upper Rhwngdwy Clydach, and Lower Rhwngdwy Clydach, each of which maintains its own poor, and containing 7753 inhabitants. About the year 990, Howel, Prince of South Wales, and his nephew Edwin, having entered the dominions of Ithel, Prince of Glamorgan, and ravaged them without mercy, were met, on their return, at a place called Cors Eineon, in this parish, by Howel, the brother of Ithel, who had suddenly raised the country in their rear: having assembled an immense multitude, armed with the first weapons they could obtain, he here routed his enemies with great slaughter, and recovered the plunder which they were carrying away. This parish, which is situated in a district abounding with mineral wealth, is more than ten miles in length, and in many parts six in breadth. Clasemont, lately the seat of Sir John Morris, Bart., has been recently taken down; and the only seat deserving notice, now within the limits of the parish, is Penllergare, the elegant residence of L. W. Dillwyn, Esq., author of some approved botanical works. The principal mineral production is coal, which is procured in great quantities,

and the working of which affords employment to the greater part of the population. The copper-works, established here for the manufacture of the ore produced in other parts of the kingdom, and the collieries, are conducted by different companies on a very extensive scale, the former furnishing employment to more than one thousand five hundred, and the latter to two thousand, men. For the residence of the workmen a very considerable village has been built by Sir John Morris, on the western bank of the river Tawy, which falls into Swansea bay, and is navigable to this place for sloops of small burden: it has been designed upon a regular plan, with a view to its future improvement, from the probable increase of the works, and is called, after the name of its proprietor, Morriston. The Swansea canal intersects the parish in its course up the western bank of the Tawy. A fair is held on March 1st. The petty sessions for the hundred are held in this parish; and the Bishop of St. David's, who, as Dean of the College of Christ Church in Brecknock, is lord of the manor, holds two manorial courts here in the year.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 14. 9½, and in the patronage of the Bishop, who, as Dean of the College of Brecknock, is impropiator of the great tithes. The church, dedicated to St. Cyvelach, is a very neat and well-built structure, consisting of a nave and chancel, the former of which has been recently rebuilt: the old tower, which still remains, is detached from the present, as it was from the former, structure, standing at a short distance from the nave: in the sepulchral chapel belonging to the family of Penllergare is an elegant cenotaph of black marble, to the memory of the late — Llewellyn, Esq., of that place. The situation of parish clerk is worth from £70 to £100 per annum, arising chiefly from a charge of two shillings and sixpence upon each plough used upon every farm in the parish, and is in the gift of the Bishop of St. David's. There are in the parish four places of worship for Baptists, seven for Independents, two for Calvinistic Methodists, and one for Unitarians. Thomas Price, Esq., of Penllergare, bequeathed £2, charged on a tenement called Abergwenlas, to the poor: he also gave £2. 5. per annum for the instruction of five poor boys at the newly-erected school at Llangyvelach, and the like sum chargeable on his personal estate. Thomas Popkin, in 1751, bequeathed a rent-charge of £2, and Alexander Amyas, in 1773, the sum of £40, to the poor. Mrs. Williams of Gellygron bequeathed £2 per annum, chargeable on a tenement called Glynmarch, to a school at Gellyonon, in this parish. A school is held at Morriston, for the benefit of the children of the workmen in the different coal and copper works, by the proprietors of which it is supported. Lewis Thomas, Esq., gave a messuage and tenement called Tîr bâch, the rent of which is distributed among the poor of Upper and Lower Mawr not receiving parochial relief. A member of the family of Pen Derwi bequeathed £20, directing the interest to be distributed among the poor of the hamlet of Upper Pen Derwi. Mrs. Mary Rogers bequeathed the sum of £393. 12. 6., of which the interest is to be appropriated in clothing six poor men and six poor women, to the amount of £1 each, the residue to be given to the vicar of the parish; and Thomas Popkin, Sen., Esq., left £7. 10. per annum,



charged on a tenement called Hâvod, in the parish of Bettws, in the county of Carmarthen, for distribution among the poor of Llangyvelach. Penllergare, near the western confines of the parish, is the only place besides Loughor having any claim to be regarded as the site of the Roman station *Leucarum*; and this consists partly in its name, which may be translated "the camp summit," and partly in the discovery of fragments of ancient walls, in a situation likely to have been chosen by the Romans for a military post. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the several hamlets of this extensive parish is £1406. 16.

LLANHAMLLËCH, or LLAN-AMLLËCH (LLAN-AMMWLCH), a parish consisting of two divisions, Lower and Upper, the latter of which constitutes the hamlet of Llêchvaen, in the hundred of PENCELly, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (S.E. by E.) from Brecknock, containing 308 inhabitants. The name of this parish, signifying the "church on many flat stones," is in allusion to the strata of the rock on which that edifice is built, and the numerous fragments of slate with which the churchyard abounds. The greater portion of the parish, together with the advowson of the living, formed part of the possessions of Sir John Walbeoffe, one of the companions of Bernard Newmarch in his conquest of the ancient principality of Brecknock, and remained in the possession of the descendants of that family till it became extinct. In the reign of James I., the manor and advowson became the property of the family of Powell, in whose possession they have since continued. The parish, which comprises only about eleven hundred acres, is beautifully situated on the north bank of the river Usk, and on the great turnpike road from London to Milford, which passes through the village: on the west it is bounded by the Brÿnych brook. The lands are chiefly arable; but there are some good meadows near the Usk, which afford excellent pasturage for cattle. The soil, composed of clay and gravel, is tolerably fertile, and the inhabitants are principally employed in agricultural pursuits. The surrounding scenery is richly diversified and highly picturesque: the river, in many parts of its winding course, forms a beautiful feature in the landscape; and the distant views embrace many objects of romantic grandeur, among which are the Brecknockshire Beacons, and the Sugar Loaf and other mountains in Monmouthshire. Peterstone Court, the seat of the Rev. Thomas Powell, is a spacious and well-built mansion, near the site of the old residence of the Norman family of Walbeoffe, and situated in grounds ornamented with a stately avenue of elms, and a small group of oak trees. The Brecknock and Abergavenny canal, which opens a communication from these places to Newport, and thence, by the river Severn and the Bristol channel, to most parts of the kingdom, passes through the eastern part of the parish for nearly a mile, and is carried over the river Usk, by a handsome stone aqueduct of four arches, into the parish of Llanvrynach. The Hay railway, from Brecknock to the rich agricultural districts of Herefordshire, passes through the northern part of the parish.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 1. 8., and in the patronage of the Rev. Thomas Powell. The tithes were charged by

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one of the family of Walbeoffe with the payment of nine shillings annually to the priory of Malvern, which, upon the dissolution of that establishment, was paid to the crown. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, and supposed to have been originally founded by one of the Walbeoffes, was, with the exception of the old tower, rebuilt by a parochial rate in 1802: it is a neat plain edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel; the latter was formerly filled with raised tombs, which, since the rebuilding of the church, have been placed on a level with the pavement; the tower, which is embattled, is a fine specimen of the later style of English architecture, but not elaborately ornamented, and from every point of view forms an interesting and highly picturesque object. The churchyard, which is remarkably picturesque, is adorned with some fine yew trees, several of which, though of great age, are flourishing in full vigour. The parsonage-house is in a very dilapidated state, and is about to be rebuilt under the provisions of Gilbert's act: it appears to be of very ancient date, probably coeval with the settlement of the first Norman family, for, besides the Norman arches which constitute the doorways, and the stone mullions of the windows, several stones have been found in the walls, ornamented with the Norman or Saxon scrolls, and on one of them is an inscription in the Saxon character, of which the word "*Meridic*" is legible: attached to the living are twenty acres of glebe land. In the hamlet of Llêchvaen was formerly a chapel of ease, which fell down about a century ago, and has not been rebuilt; the central situation of the parish church, and its sufficiency of accommodation, rendering it unnecessary. The Peterstone estate is charged by Miss Walbeoffe with the annual payment of £2, which is regularly distributed among the poor of the parish; and a bequest of £3 per annum, by Miss Walbeoffe, is charged on lands in the parish of Llanvrynach, for apprenticing one child from this parish annually. On a farm called Mannest, within the parish, and crowning the summit of an eminence which overlooks the villages of Llanhamllêch, Llanvigan, and Llanvrynach, and commands a very extensive prospect over the picturesque and fertile Vale of Usk, are the remains of a kistvaen, under an aged yew tree, and surrounded with stones apparently from a dispersed cairn, under which it had been concealed for many ages: at what period it was opened is not known. It consists of three upright stones, two forming the sides, about five feet in length, and one at the end, about three feet wide: the whole height does not exceed three feet from the ground. By some writers this relic has been supposed to be of Druidical origin, and by others to be the remains of a hermit's cell: by topographers it is usually designated Tÿ Iltyd, or St. Iltyd's, hermitage. The crosses and characters appear to be nothing more than the rude efforts of pilgrims and visitors, to leave some memorial of themselves behind, by inscribing the initials of their names, and other devices, on the stones of the monument. The parish was anciently crossed by the Roman *Via Julia Montana*. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £113.

LLAN-HARAN, a parish in the hundred of Cowbridge, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5½ miles (N. by E.) from Cowbridge, containing 313 inhabitants.

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This parish is situated under the southern declivity of a ridge of hills, and abounds with mineral wealth. The neighbourhood presents much pleasing scenery, and from the high grounds are obtained extensive and interesting views of the Bristol channel, and of the adjacent country, intersected by the river Ogmere. Llanharan House, the seat of R. H. Jenkins, Esq., is a handsome mansion, pleasantly situated under the shelter of a lofty ridge of hills, with a south-eastern aspect: the grounds are richly wooded, and present an agreeable irregularity of surface, embracing also much pleasing scenery; and the upper part of the house commands extensive and interesting prospects. Llanelay, the seat of the late Mr. Vaughan, and now the property of John Edwards Vaughan, Esq., of Rheola Cwm Neath, is also in this parish. Several of the inhabitants are employed in the collieries, which are chiefly worked for the supply of the immediate vicinity: limestone is found in great quantities, and lead and iron ores have been discovered: on the estate of R. H. Jenkins, Esq., magnesian limestone in one place lies above the coal, which rises again beyond it to the south. The living is a perpetual curacy, consolidated with the rectory of Llanilid, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf. The church is dedicated to St. Julius and St. Aaron. Mrs. Thomas, early in the last century, bequeathed £60 to the poor of this parish, of which only £15 is now available: £10 has been recently bequeathed by the late Mr. Gibbon, of Newton House, near Cowbridge, and £120 by the late Dr. Hoare, now producing £6 per annum, paid by R. H. Jenkins, Esq.: the produce arising from these bequests is annually distributed among the poor. At Llanharan House is a valuable collection of Welsh manuscripts, formed by Llewelyn Sion, an eminent bard of Glamorgan, illustrative of the system of bardism, preserved in the Gorsedd Morganwg, in which he presided in 1580. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £106.7.

LLANHARY (LLAN-ARAU), a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N. N. E.) from Cowbridge, containing 208 inhabitants. The lands of this parish are generally enclosed, and in a good state of cultivation: a portion of its substrata consists of coal of good quality, which is worked for the supply of the immediate neighbourhood. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £5. 12. 8½., and in the patronage of Richard Hoare Jenkins, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Arau. There is a place of worship for Independents. Mr. Gibbon, of Newton House, near Cowbridge, bequeathed £10, the interest of which is annually distributed among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £78. 19.

LLANHOWEL (LLAN-HOWEL), a parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 4½ miles (E. by N.) from St. David's, containing 186 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated in the north-western part of the county, and nearly in the centre of a peninsula stretching into St. George's channel, and terminating in the promontory called St. David's Head. The surrounding scenery is pleasing, but not characterized by any peculiarity of feature. The living is a discharged vicarage, with that of Llandeloy annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's,

and in the patronage of the Precentor and Upper Chapter of the cathedral church of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Hoel, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £68. 16.

LLANIDAN (LLAN-IDAN), a parish in the hundred of MENAI, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (S. W. by W.) from Bangor, containing 967 inhabitants. This extensive parish, which is situated on the western shore of the Menai strait, was in ancient times one of the principal stations of the Druids, and comprehended a large district, in which the arch-druid, the sub-druid, and other priests of that order had their residence. From this circumstance is derived the names of the several hamlets of the parish, of which Tre'r Dryw was the seat of the arch-druid; Tre'r Beirdd, that of the bards; Bôdowyr, the residence of the priests; and Bôd Drudan, the habitation of the Druids. Suetonius, who entirely destroyed the authority of these priests in Britain, is said to have landed his forces at Porthaml, not far from this place, at a spot still called Pant yr Ysgraf, or "the valley of skiffs," from his having transported his infantry across the Menai in flat-bottomed boats. Being almost immediately compelled to retreat by the insurrection under Boadicea, the Roman general was unable to make any permanent settlement here, nor have any Roman remains, either of this or a later period, been discovered, with the exception only of a few coins, which have been occasionally dug up in the neighbourhood. The lands are, with some trifling exceptions, enclosed, and in a good state of cultivation. Limestone abounds in the parish, the quarrying and burning of which affords employment to several of the inhabitants: great quantities are burnt for manure, and shipped in the Menai, to be conveyed coastwise to Liverpool and other places. At Bryn Siencyn, near the strait of the Menai, in this parish, fairs are held on March 11th, April 14th, September 13th, October 12th, and November 12th. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacies of Llanddaniel-Vab, Llanedwen, and Llanvair y Cwmwd annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £10, and in the patronage of Lord Boston. The church, dedicated to St. Aidan, was originally founded in 616, and was afterwards appropriated to the convent of Bethgelart: it shared the fate of that establishment in 1535, and was granted by Queen Elizabeth to Edmund Downam and Peter Ashton, who, in 1605, sold it to Richard Prytherch of Myvyrian, whose daughter conveyed it by marriage to the Llwyds of Llugwy, on the extinction of which family it was purchased, with the rest of their estates, by Lord Uxbridge, who bequeathed it to the ancestor of the present patron. One-third of the great tithes is appropriated to the vicar. The present structure is spacious, and contains several good monuments: a curious reliquary is preserved in this church, formed of common gritstone, with a cover of the same material in the form of a dome. A stone called Maen Morddwyd, or "the stone of the thigh," to which the faculty of locomotion was anciently attributed, is said to be now built up in the wall of this church, but it is not sufficiently conspicuous to be easily distinguished. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Henry Rowlands, in 1616, bequeathed a



rent-charge of £ 1. 10. on his estate of Plâs Gwŷn, besides which there are some other charitable donations and bequests for distribution among the poor: the estate of Llŷslew, bequeathed by Dr. H. Rowlands, Bishop of Bangor, for the support of his free grammar school at Bottwnog, is one of the best farms in this parish. Of the numerous Druidical and other British antiquities with which the parish abounded, and of which so exact an account has been given by the Rev. H. Rowlands, in his "*Mona Antiqua Restaurata*," but very few are at present in any tolerable state of preservation, and of many there are scarcely any remains. The spacious grove and temple of Tre'r Dryw are now scarcely distinguishable; and only a few of the stones which formed the sacraria are now remaining to mark out the site. Bryn Gwŷn, the grand consistory of the Druidical administration, a circular cavity one hundred and eighty feet in diameter, and surrounded originally by an immense rampart of earth and stones, has only a few upright stones left, one of which, now forming part of the gable of a dwelling-house, is twelve feet in length and of proportionate bulk. Tre'r Beirdd, "the seat of the bards," has been almost entirely demolished, the materials having been removed for building, and its site is occupied only by two small tenements. Bôdowyr contains a cromlech supported on four upright stones, in a tolerably perfect state, but the circle has been entirely removed. Trêvrŷ has only three upright stones remaining, at a great distance from each other; the foundations have been removed, and the site was levelled by the plough in 1827. Tan ben y Cevn remains in an entire state, though concealed from observation by the brambles with which it is overspread. Two upright stones only are left at Llŷslew; and of numerous others, noticed by Mr. Rowlands, not the slightest vestiges can be traced. Caer Lëb, or "the moated intrenchment," supposed by Mr. Rowlands to have been the residence of the arch-druid, is in good preservation: it forms a quadrangular area, defended by a double rampart, with a broad intervening ditch, and surrounded on the outside by a ditch of smaller dimensions: within the area are foundations of square and circular buildings. Castell Idris, built on the summit of a rock, and defended on the accessible sides by three walls in the form of a crescent, appears to be a fortress of later date, though of British origin: it is a place of great strength and in good preservation, though overgrown with brambles, and concealed by a young plantation of forest trees. The Rev. Henry Rowlands, an eminent antiquary, and author of the "*Mona Antiqua Restaurata*," was vicar of this parish at the time he wrote that work. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £452. 18.

LLANIDLOES (LLAN-IDLOES), a newly created borough, market town, and parish, in the upper division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES,  $26\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.W.) from Welshpool, 22 (W. S. W.) from Montgomery, and 193 (W. N. W.) from London, containing 4189 inhabitants. This parish, which is of considerable extent, derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Idloes, an eminent British saint, who flourished about the middle of the sixth century. The town is situated in a beautiful and fertile vale, watered by the river Severn, which has its source within

the parish, and almost surrounded by verdant hills of moderate elevation, of which some are crowned with thriving plantations, and others are richly cultivated. The scenery of the vale is beautifully picturesque, and the banks of the river are enlivened with some pleasant villas and handsome residences: the hills which surround the town form a rich and striking contrast to the barren heights seen in the distance, among which the great mountain of Plinlimmon, partly within the limits of this parish, forms a conspicuous and interesting feature. The town occupies a favourable site on the southern bank of the river Severn, and on the turnpike road from Shrewsbury through Newtown to Aberystwith: it consists principally of two spacious streets, intersecting each other nearly at right angles, and has of late years been greatly improved by the erection of several respectable buildings on the site of more ancient houses of timber frame-work and plaster, which formerly prevailed throughout the place, and by the removal of the numerous heaps of cinders which had previously been suffered to accumulate in front of the houses. Within the last few years a handsome stone bridge of three arches has been erected, at an expense of £3000, over the river Severn, near the place where it receives the tributary stream of the Clywedog, which, after flowing some distance through the parish, falls into the Severn at this place: the inhabitants are amply supplied with water. The approaches to the town are remarkably fine, especially that from Aberystwith, which is strikingly picturesque; and the environs abound with features of rural simplicity and romantic beauty. On the road leading from Aberystwith, having passed over a stone bridge about two miles from this town, there is a genteel farm-house, the grounds belonging to which are agreeably laid out, and are planted with a variety of fir, lime, elm, chesnut, beech, and other trees, with a beautiful trout stream passing close to the house. On the south-eastern side is a very handsome large house, now in progress of erection, which, when completed and the grounds laid out, will form an ornamental feature in the scenery of the place. A little nearer the town a beautiful house has been lately built, having handsome grounds disposed with great taste, and planted with trees, flowering shrubs, and annuals. Dôl Llŷs, in this parish, commands a delightful view of the Vale of Severn, with the windings of the river and the rich and finely varied scenery on its banks, terminated by the high mountains in the distance. Mount Severn, an elevated and truly romantic spot, overlooking that river, which, here obstructed in its course, forces its way with noisy impetuosity over immense masses of rock, commands an interesting view of the picturesque cottage of Nant y brace, embosomed in the trees which crown the opposite bank. There are some pleasing views to the south-east, and in many parts of the neighbourhood are fine prospects over the adjacent country, which is richly diversified. About two miles from the town, on the road to Trêveglwys, is a spacious pool called Llŷnebyr, extending over a surface of nearly one hundred acres, and abounding with pike, eels, and perch: it is frequented by wild fowl, and during the summer season is the resort of parties of pleasure, for whose accommodation two boats, belonging to gentlemen in the vicinity, are kept upon the pool.



The manufacture of flannel has been established from a very early period in this town, which, forty years ago, was the only place in the county where that material was made, and whence it was conveyed by packhorses to the market of Welshpool for sale. Since that period, however, it has been out rivalled by Newtown, which, within the last twenty-five years, has obtained great eminence in the production of flannel of a finer texture, but probably less durable than that of Llanidloes. The manufacture of this town has, notwithstanding, continued to increase, and there are at present more than forty carding-engines, eighteen fulling-mills, and nearly thirty-five thousand spindles constantly in operation in the town and neighbourhood, affording employment to a considerable number of men, who weave the flannel at their own dwellings. About three hundred pieces of flannel, averaging in length one hundred and fifty yards each, are manufactured here, and sent every fortnight to the market at Welshpool, held for the sale of them every alternate Thursday. A considerable trade is carried on in malt, for drying which there are several kilns, and in the town and its vicinity are also several tanneries and corn-mills. The market is held on Saturday, and is abundantly supplied with wool, grain, and provisions of every kind. The market-house, or town-hall, an ancient edifice of timber and plaster, is conveniently situated in the centre of the town: the upper story is appropriated to the use of the wool market. Fairs are held annually on the first Saturday in April, May 11th, the Saturday next preceding the 24th of June, July 17th, the last Saturday in September, and the first Friday in October and on the 28th of that month. Sheep fairs are also held every Thursday from the 26th of May to the 26th of June inclusive, which are numerous attended by the shepherds of both North and South Wales.

This town received its first charter of incorporation from John De Charlton, Lord of Powys, in the 18th of Edward III., and obtained other successive charters, of which the last was granted by John Tiptoft, Lord of Powys, in the 26th of Henry VI. Under these charters, which have been lost or destroyed by accident, the government is vested in a mayor, recorder, and an indefinite number of aldermen and burgesses, assisted by a coroner, two serjeants at mace, and other officers. The mayor is elected by the burgesses annually at the court leet of the lord of the manor, in the first week after Michaelmas, and may, if he chooses to qualify, act as a magistrate within the borough, but is not *ex officio* a justice of the peace: the recorder is appointed by the lord of the manor, and holds his office for life. The elective franchise was granted in the 27th of Henry VIII., when Llanidloes was constituted a contributory borough to Montgomery: it exercised that privilege till the year 1728, when, together with the other contributory boroughs of Llanvyllin and Welshpool, it was disfranchised by a vote of the House of Commons, which restricted the right of election to the burgesses of Montgomery alone. This resolution of the Commons being directly at variance with a previous resolution in 1680, by which the right of election was confirmed, the burgesses, by the statute of the 28th of George III., were granted the power of asserting their right of voting for a member

for Montgomery before any future committee of the House of Commons, and of making an appeal, within twelve calendar months, against any subsequent decision. The late act for amending the representation of the people has restored the franchise to this borough, in common with others in the county which had been deprived of it; and it is now one of the five which contribute with Montgomery in the return of a representative to parliament. The right of voting is vested in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the present number of tenements of this value within the limits of the borough, which have been greatly extended by the late Boundary Act, and are minutely detailed in the Appendix to this work, is one hundred and twenty-four. The freedom is inherited by the eldest son of a burgess, on his coming of age, and is conferred on others by the lord of the manor and a jury of burgesses at the annual court leet. Llanidloes has also been made a polling-place in the election of a parliamentary representative for the county. The county magistrates and the county coroner exercise jurisdiction within the town, and the former hold a petty session for the hundred on the first Monday in every month. A court baron for the manor of Arustley, the jurisdiction of which extends over the hundred, is held every third Monday, for the recovery of debts and determining of actions under the amount of £2, by process similar to that of the supreme courts at Westminster. The surface of the parish being hilly, and in some parts mountainous, the soil is various, though generally fertile: the lower grounds are in a good state of cultivation, and the declivities of the hills afford pasturage to numerous flocks of sheep. In 1816, an act of parliament was obtained for enclosing the common and waste lands in this vicinity, called the "Arustley Enclosure Act," under the provisions of which considerable portions of land in this parish have been enclosed, and are now under cultivation. Turf and peat, which constitute the principal fuel of the inhabitants, are procured in abundance. Lead-ore has been found in the parish, and some mines were formerly worked, but not with sufficient advantage to remunerate the adventurers, and they have consequently been discontinued: the hills abound with a coarse kind of slate, and in the vicinity are some quarries of stone of very good quality for building.

The living is a discharged vicarage, within the jurisdiction of the Consistorial Court of the Bishop of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £4. 3. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Idloes, was originally founded towards the close of the fifth, or at the beginning of the sixth, century: of the original building the tower only is remaining. The present structure consists of a nave and aisle, the latter of which was built about two hundred years since, and is separated from the former by circular clustered columns, the capitals of which are decorated with palm leaves, and by finely pointed arches: the roof of the nave is of carved oak, ornamented with figures of cherubim holding shields charged with armorial bearings, exquisitely carved. According to tradition these were removed hither from the abbey of



Cwm Hîr, in the county of Radnor, and the date upon one of the shields (1542) corresponds with the time of the dissolution of that abbey. An elegant screen from the same monastery formerly separated the chancel from the nave, but it was removed in 1816, when the chancel and south wall were rebuilt, and has not been restored. At the same time the church was new pewed, the expense of both having amounted to £1600: a new set of bells was also hung in the tower, in 1825, at an expense of £200. There are places of worship for Baptists, the Society of Friends, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, all neatly and appropriately fitted up. A parochial school, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, is supported by subscription; and there are Sunday schools in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations. Jenkin Bowen bequeathed certain portions of land; Evan Glynn gave a rent-charge of £2. 10; Dr. David Lloyd, a rent-charge of £12. 12; and Catherine, wife of Edward Lloyd, gave £100, which has been laid out in the purchase of land, the produce arising from which several benefactions is annually distributed among the poor, according to the directions of the testators.

Within the limits of the parish is partly included the lofty mountain of Plinlimmon, or, more properly, Pumlumon, "the five-peaked mountain," which is the highest in the several chains of which it forms the centre; and from this place the ascent to its summit is usually made. The sides and summit are, like the adjacent hills, entirely destitute of wood, and present a barren and gloomy aspect: the summit is formed of two small heads, on each of which is a carnedd, of which that on the highest peak is pyramidal, and was perhaps intended as a beacon. Scattered around are patches of coarse grass, intermixed with heaps of loose stones and fragments of rock in the wildest confusion. From the highest points, which are frequented by numerous birds, such as herons, cranes, snipes, ravens, and plovers, is obtained a fine prospect of vast extent, comprehending on the south the hills of Cardiganshire and Radnorshire, on the west Cardigan bay and St. George's channel, on the north Cader Idris, and part of the Snowdon range of mountains, separating the counties of Carnarvon and Merioneth; on the north-east the Breiddyn hills in Montgomeryshire, and on the east part of the counties of Hereford and Salop. This mountain derives a considerable degree of interest from its giving rise to the rivers Severn, Wye, Rheidiol, and Llynant, of which the first is secondary only to the Thames in commercial importance, while the Wye and the Rheidiol surpass all other rivers in Britain for the picturesque beauty of their scenery. The Severn, here called by its ancient British name of Havren, rises on the northern side of the mountain, in a strong chalybeate spring, and is quickly joined and increased by numerous other springs rising near its source, and by several mountain torrents, before it reaches the town of Lanidloes. The Wye rises from two powerful springs on the south-eastern side of the mountain, and, after a long circuitous course, falls into the Severn below Chepstow. The Rheidiol has its source in a pool called Llŷn Llygad Rheidiol, and falls into the Irish sea at Aberystwith; and the Llynant issues from a pool called Glâs Llŷn. At Melin Velindre, on the route to Plinlim-

mon, is a romantic cataract; and near a sheep farm called Blaen Havren the Severn rolls its waters over a lofty ledge of slate rocks, in which they have formed gullies of various picturesque shapes. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of this parish amounts to £2056. 9.

LLANIESTYN (LLAN-IESTYN), a parish partly in the hundred of TYNDAETHWY, and partly within the liberties of the borough of BEAUMARIS, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. W. by N.) from Beaumaris, containing 313 inhabitants, of which number, 135 are in the former, and 178 in the latter, portion. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Iestyn, by whom it was founded towards the close of the sixth century. It is situated nearly in the centre of the promontory which separates Beaumaris Roads from the Irish sea, and comprises a small tract of land, the greater part of which is enclosed and cultivated. The surrounding scenery is distinguished by features rather of a bold than pleasing character; and the country adjacent is studded with eminences of considerable elevation. The distant views are interesting and extensive, reaching over the Menai strait on the south, and the Irish sea to the north. The living is a vicarage not in charge, with the perpetual curacies of Llangoed and Llanvihangel-Din-Sylwy annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, and in the patronage of the Rev. Robert J. Hughes. The church, originally founded by St. Iestyn, at the close of the sixth century, was granted in 1243, by Prince Llewelyn, to the priory which he had recently founded at Llanvaes, to which establishment it belonged at the dissolution. Of the ancient church there are no other remains than the tomb of the founder, which has been carefully preserved, and is now deposited in the present church, a neat edifice of modern erection. This ancient monument is of curious workmanship, and is decorated with a figure of the saint in sacerdotal vestments, having a pastoral staff in the right hand and an open scroll in the left: round the waist is a broad girdle, from which hangs a cord and tassel similar to that worn by the monastic order of St. Francis. On the scroll is a mutilated inscription in ancient characters, which has been variously read by different antiquaries, and of which the following is the tenour, as given by the Hon. Daines Barrington, and adopted by Mr. Pennant: *Hic jacet Sanctus Yestinus, cui Gwenllian, Filia Madoc et Gryffyt ap Gwilym, optulit in oblacoem istam imaginem p. salute animarum s.*" The inscription, however, is at present so much defaced, and so many of the characters obliterated, as to render it very difficult, if not impossible, to decypher it with any degree of accuracy. This monument is noticed by Rowlands, in his "*Mona Antiqua Restaurata*," and an account of it was read before the Society of Antiquaries, in 1776, and published in the fifth volume of the *Archæologia*. The income arising from a few small charitable donations and bequests, which have been vested in the purchase of land, producing a trifling rental, is annually distributed among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £72.

LLANIESTYN (LLAN-IESTYN), a parish principally in the hundred of DINLLAEN, but partly in that of GAFLOGION, in the Lleyn division of the county of



CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (W. by S.) from Pwllheli, containing 1115 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is pleasantly situated at the head of a small valley opening towards the south, near the south-western extremity of the county, almost in the centre of the great headland which separates the bay of Carnarvon from that of Cardigan, and comprehends an extensive tract of arable and pasture land. The village is seated at the base of Carn Madryn, a lofty, barren, isolated hill, which was formerly one of the strong holds of Roderic and Maelgwyn, sons of Owain Gwynedd, to whom this part of the principality belonged. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and the distant views combine many features of interesting character and picturesque beauty. In the mountainous part of the parish are some appearances of lead-ore and nikel, but the veins are not of sufficient extent to promise remuneration to the mining adventurer, and no works have been yet opened. The living is a rectory, with the perpetual curacies of Bôdverin, Llandegwining, and Penllêch annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £21.3.9., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Iestyn, is a spacious and handsome structure, partly in the later Norman, and partly in the early English style of architecture, consisting of a nave, south aisle, and chancel. The aisle is separated from the nave by a range of pentagonal pillars and circular arches, and is lighted by a series of elegant lancet-shaped windows; and some fragments still remain of the exquisitely carved oak screen which separated the chancel from the nave. The pulpit and the reading desk are singularly placed, the former being attached to the northern, and the latter to the southern, wall. There are two places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, and one for Presbyterians. The rental of a tenement bequeathed by Mr. Roger Jones, and now producing £13 per annum, is distributed among the poor of this parish at Christmas. The whole summit of Carn Madryn was anciently surrounded by a wall, still traceable in its whole circuit, and remaining in some parts to the height of several feet: within the area are foundations of circular buildings, and near the base of the mountain are the remains of numerous circular and quadrilateral buildings, of which the walls are in many instances tolerably perfect. The upper part of the mountain is supposed to have been occupied by the chieftains during their sojourn in this strong hold, and the base by their vassals and subsidiary forces, who during times of invasion came hither with their cattle for security. Cevn Amwlch, in this parish, at present the residence of C. G. Wynne, Esq., is said to have been the birthplace of Bishop Griffith. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £272.

LLANIGON (LLAN-IGON), a parish comprising the hamlet of Glynvâch, which separately maintains its own poor, in the hundred of Talgarth, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (S. S. W.) from Hay, and containing 545 inhabitants, of which number, 478 are in the body of the parish, and the rest in Glynvâch. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church either to Eigen, a female saint, or to Eigion, the son of Caw, a saint who flourished in the sixth cen-

ture, is situated on the turnpike road leading from Hay to Talgarth, and comprises a considerable tract of land, of which the greater portion is arable, though much consists of excellent meadows in the valleys, and of elevated commons. The surface is finely varied; and the soil, though in some parts of the parish of a rocky nature, in the lower districts is tolerably fertile, affording good crops of grain and excellent pasturage for cattle and sheep, upon the rearing of which the farmers principally depend: one of the chief manures employed here is lime burned on the hills above. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and in many parts beautifully picturesque; some of the vales and hills are richly clothed with wood; and the distant views are strikingly distinguished by features of grandeur and magnificence. Llanthomas, an ancient mansion in this parish, was occupied, during the reign of Henry VIII., by Walter Devereux, Earl Ferrers, Lord Chief Justice of South Wales, and in the following reign by William Thomas, one of the clerks of the council, and the principal instructor of the young King Edward VI., and who, in the reign of Mary, was arraigned and executed for treason. It is now the property of Thynne Howe Gwynne, Esq., and has been modernized with great taste, forming a handsome and prominent object in the scenery of the village, close to which it is situated. Upon a high bank to the south-east of the church is Penyrwrlodd, now a farm-house, originally built in 1651 by William Watkins, an active partisan and an officer in the army of the parliament during the reign of Charles I., and one of the principal agents of the propagators of the gospel in South Wales. In this mansion, in which he resided till his death, he left a great number of coats of mail and other armour, which were preserved here till the middle of the last century. From the grounds, and more especially from the well-wooded hill immediately above the house, is obtained one of the most magnificent views in South Wales, for grandeur, richness, and variety of picturesque beauty: in this splendid prospect are combined features of the most interesting and romantic character: hills of varied elevation and of diversified aspect recede in long succession towards the town of Brecknock, beyond which towers the majestic chain of the Beacons; and on the declivity of a barren hill, at the distance of seven or eight miles, the white-washed village of Llanvilo forms a conspicuous object. On the west and north-west are seen Maeslough castle, with the beautiful grounds by which it is surrounded; the numerous villas that enrich the scenery about Glâsbury; and the graceful windings of the river Wye, which, after a devious course through a tract of highly picturesque country, is at length lost among the majestic woods of Llangoed. Some small veins of lead-ore have been discovered at various times in the hilly parts of the parish, but not of sufficient value or extent to justify the establishment of any permanent works. The tram-road from Brecknock to Hay and Kington passes within little more than a mile of the village. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7.12.8½., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales: it is endowed with one-half of the great tithes, and the other half belongs to Viscount Hereford, who is lay rector. The church is a spacious and lofty edifice, though not



distinguished by any architectural details of importance, and is situated on a gentle eminence, sheltered on one side by the hill above Penyrwrlodd, and on the other by an abrupt eminence called Wenallt: the belfry, containing three bells, is a kind of loft over the porch. In the hamlet of Glynvâch is a chapel, called Capel y fin, or the chapel of the boundary, which has been rebuilt within the last few years. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. Lewis Watkins, in 1712, gave an estate in this parish, called *Caer Bwla*, now producing from £10 to £12 per annum, for the endowment of a free school, which is held in the chancel of the church, but only occasionally, by a master who regularly receives the rents. There is also a Sunday school, supported by subscription. Of the antiquities with which it has been said this parish formerly abounded there are but very few remains: on the hills are some circular intrenchments; and near the spot where the counties of Brecknock, Hereford, and Monmouth unite is a large barrow, called *Twyn y Beddau*, or the "Mound of the Graves," two hundred and seventy feet in circumference, and twelve feet high, which is supposed to have been raised to commemorate some battle fought here, and also as a place of interment for the warriors who fell in the conflict. In the hamlet of *Cilônw*, a little to the south-west of the village, are the ruins of an old chapel, said to have been dedicated to *Celin*, an eminent British saint, who flourished in the sixth century, from which circumstance the hamlet derived its name. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor, exclusively of the hamlet of *Glynvâch*, is £238. 17.

**LLANILAR (LLAN-ILAR)**, a parish consisting of the Upper and Lower divisions, each separately maintaining its poor, in the upper division of the hundred of *ILAR*, county of *CARDIGAN*, *SOUTH WALES*, 6 miles (S. S. E.) from *Aberystwith*, containing 994 inhabitants, of which number, 482 are in the Upper, and 512 in the Lower, division. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is pleasantly situated on the southern bank of the river *Ystwyth*, and near the high road from *Aberystwith* to *Cardigan*. Part of it is hilly, though some is flat and liable to be flooded: the soil is in general shallow and dry, but produces good crops of corn, hay, &c. The surrounding scenery is in some parts pleasingly varied: within the parish are situated *Birch Grove*, the seat of *Lord Vaughan*, and *Castle Hill*, that of *J. N. Williams, Esq.* Fairs are held on March 14th, May 13th, July 8th, and November 14th. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of *Cardigan*, and diocese of *St. David's*, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to *St. Hilary*, and pleasantly situated on the bank of the river, near *Aberystwith*, is a low ancient structure in good repair, with a square massive tower at the west end: the body consists of a nave and chancel, formerly separated by an ancient carved screen of elegant design, which has been recently removed. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. *Richard Jones*, of the parish of *St. Clement Danes*, London, bequeathed £300 Bank Annuities, the dividends on which he directed to be paid to a proper person, being a member of the established church, for teaching six poor boys and six poor girls of this parish English,

writing, and arithmetic: the same benefactor also left the interest of £200 to be distributed among the poor. The Rev. Mr. Edwards gave £40; the vicar of *Marston upon Dove*, in the county of *Derby*, in 1761, bequeathed £30; and, about the year 1756, *Jenkin Philip* gave £10, the interest of which sums is annually distributed among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £248. 4.

**LLANILID (LLAN-ILID)**, a parish in the hundred of *COWBRIDGE*, county of *GLAMORGAN*, *SOUTH WALES*, 4 miles (N. by W.) from *Cowbridge*, containing 119 inhabitants. The name of this place is derived from the dedication of its church to *St. Ilid*, an Israelite, who, having embraced Christianity, is said to have accompanied *Brân ab Llŷr*, the deposed prince of *Siluria*, from *Rome*, about the year 70, for the purpose of introducing the Christian faith into Britain. The parish is situated under the lofty ridge which extends from east to west through the county, and on the east bank of the river *Ewenny*, which has its source in the vicinity, and joins the *Ogmore* near its influx into the *Bristol channel*. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and the higher grounds command some fine views over the channel and the adjacent country. The land is all enclosed, and by far the greater part is in a state of good cultivation. Coal abounds in the parish, and in the northern part of it have been discovered some strata, which are about to be worked. The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacy of *Llanharan* consolidated, in the archdeaconry and diocese of *Llandaf*, rated in the king's books at £7. 15. 7½., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church is an ancient edifice, possessing no architectural claims to notice. Mr. Charles Price, about the year 1703, bequeathed £50; and Mr. William Thomas, in 1737, bequeathed £10, the interest of which, together with that of several smaller benefactions, amounting in the whole to about £120, is annually distributed among the poor. At the distance of about thirty yards to the north of the church are the remains of an ancient encampment, of which neither the origin nor the history is known. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £90. 12.

**LLANILTERNE, or CHAPEL ILTERNE (LLAN-ILLTEYRN)**, a parochial chapelry in the hundred of *DINAS POWIS*, county of *GLAMORGAN*, *SOUTH WALES*, on the road from *Cardiff* to *Llantrissant*, 6 miles (W. N. W.) from *Cardiff*, containing 149 inhabitants. It is stated to have been separated from the parish of *St. Fagan* about the reign of Queen Elizabeth; but the inhabitants still contribute one-third to the repairs of the church and bridge of that parish. The living is consolidated with the rectory of *St. Fagan's*, in the archdeaconry and diocese of *Llandaf*. The chapel, dedicated to *St. Illtyd*, is a very small building, with a curious inscription, not wholly legible, at the south-western angle of the exterior wall, said to be to the memory of the wife of the renowned King *Arthur*. There is a place of worship for Independents. At *Llanvairvawr*, an ancient farm-house belonging to the Earl of *Plymouth*, lately destroyed by fire, are the ruins of a religious house, founded about the year 508, by *St. Illtyd*, as "a place for education in human learning, as well as religion:" the chapel is entire, and has been



converted into a barn. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £157. 13.

**LLANINA (LLAN-INA)**, a parish in the hundred of **MOYTHEN**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 15 miles (N. W. by W.) from Lampeter, containing 474 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the shore of Cardigan bay, by which it is bounded on the south and south-east, and is intersected by a small river, which, formed by the union of two streams to the south of the parish, pursues a northerly course and falls into the bay of Cardigan, near the small harbour of New Quay. The lands are mostly enclosed and in a tolerable state of cultivation; the surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and in some parts enriched with thriving timber; and the views, extending over the open bay, are not destitute of interest. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Llanarth, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's. The church, a neat edifice lately erected, is situated near the shore of the bay, at the extremity of a well-wooded dingle: it is dedicated to St. Ina, King of the West Saxons, who, devoting his life to religious pursuits, resigned the government of his kingdom to his kinsman Ethelred, and went on a pilgrimage to Rome; having passed the remainder of his life in retirement, he was canonized after his death. This parish contributes to defray a portion of the expenses of that of Llanllwchairn. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £82.

**LLANIO**, a township in the parish of **LLANDEWY-BREVI**, lower division of the hundred of **PENARTH**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 8 miles (N. E.) from Lampeter, containing 125 inhabitants. It is traversed by the high road between Trêgaron and Lampeter, which passes along the vale of the Teivy, and contains so many remains of Roman antiquity, as leave no doubt of its having once contained a station of that people. The site of the Roman *Loventium* is placed by antiquaries between the right bank of the Teivy and the road, at a place still called *Caer Castell*, where numerous vestiges of foundations are discernible, and whence the Roman *Via Occidentalis*, or, as it has subsequently been termed, *Sarn Helen*, branched off in a northerly and a south-westerly direction. Three inscribed stones are still preserved, two of them built in the walls of two cottages, and the third, on which can be traced the words *Cohors Secunda Augustæ Fecit Quinque Passus*, (affording evidence that a cohort of the second Augustan legion erected a certain portion of the walls,) is used as a seat in the porch of one of them. One of the other stones is placed over the chimney, and is inscribed *OVERIONT*; and on the third, which is inserted in the wall, near the door of the second cottage, can be decyphered *Caii Artii manibus (or memoria) Ennius Primus*. Other vestiges of this people have been discovered in the neighbourhood at various times, such as coins, domestic utensils, bricks, &c., and on one occasion a large piece of unwrought lead. This township is divided into the Higher and Lower portions, and is separately assessed for the maintenance of its own poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £33. 15.

**LLANISHEN (LLAN-ISAN)**, a parish in the hundred of **KIBBOR**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, on the road from Cardiff to Caerphilly,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.) from Cardiff, containing 393 inhabitants. Llanishen

House, now fallen to decay, was, for more than the last two centuries, the seat of the family of Lewis: it formerly belonged to the Vaughans, the heiress of which family was married to a younger son of the Lewises of the Vann, ancestors of the Earl of Plymouth. New House, the property of John Lewis, Esq., of the same family, is a handsome modern seat, pleasantly situated at the southern foot of a lofty ridge of hills running in a direction from east to west in this part of the county. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Earl of Plymouth and C. K. Kemeys Tynte, Esq., alternately. The church, dedicated to St. Isan, is a neat structure, in the English style of architecture. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. In 1728, Mary Lewis gave by deed a rent-charge of £23, for teaching and apprenticing poor children of this parish and of the parish of Lisvane. Edward Morgan, by will in 1669, assigned a rent-charge of £2. 12., to be distributed in bread among the poor; and Thomas Lewis, Esq., in 1785, gave one of £4 to the paupers in the workhouse of this parish. According to Leland, Richard William, otherwise Cromwell, afterwards Earl of Essex, who was beheaded by order of Henry VIII., was born at the mansion of New House; but this circumstance is doubtful. The water of a spring, called St. Dene's Well, is considered efficacious in the cure of scorbutic complaints. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £291. 11.

**LLANKILKEN**, a township in the parish of **KILKEN**, Northop division of the hundred of **COLESHILL**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. by N.) from Mold, containing 340 inhabitants. This township, in which the parish church stands, is situated in a valley surrounded by lofty hills, one of which, the stupendous Moel Vamma, separates it on the west and south from the Vale of Clwyd, which can only be approached from this place by the elevated passes in the mountains.

**LLANLLAWDDOG (LLAN-LLAWDDOG)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of **ELVET**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 8 miles (N. E. by N.) from Carmarthen, containing 770 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Llawddog, an eminent British saint, who flourished in the early part of the sixth century, is pleasantly situated nearly in the centre of the county, and upon the great turnpike road leading from Carmarthen to Lampeter: it comprises a very extensive tract of land, of which a considerable proportion is open and uncultivated. The surrounding country, though not distinguished by any striking peculiarity of feature, is agreeably diversified with hill and vale, in some of the latter of which are some interesting combinations of rural and picturesque beauty. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Aberguilly. The church, which is not remarkable for any architectural details, was formerly dependent upon that of Aberguilly, and annexed to it, but was separated from it by act of parliament. John David bequeathed a rent-charge of £1, and there are some smaller charitable donations and bequests, for distribution among the



poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £242. 1.

LLANLLAWER (LLAN-LLAWEN), a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (E. S. E.) from Fishguard, containing 123 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated in the northern part of the county, and on the river Gwyn, which falls into Fishguard bay: it is only of small extent, and nearly one-third is mountainous, the remainder being enclosed and cultivated. The surrounding scenery is finely varied, combining features of picturesque beauty with mountains of rugged aspect; and the distant views extend over a remarkably interesting tract of country. Court House, in this parish, the seat of Mrs. Gwynne, is a good family mansion, occupying a pleasant situation. The living is a rectory not in charge, annexed to that of Llanerchllwydog, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's. The church is not remarkable for any architectural details. On the side of Llanllawer mountain, which terminates in a rocky point, and is hence called the Maiden's Breast, numerous Druidical relics and *carneddau* are profusely scattered, which are supposed to have been places of ancient sepulture; and adjoining is a mineral well, formerly in high repute for its efficacy in the cure of ague and other diseases, but now neglected. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £38. 9.

LLANLLÊCHID (LLAN-LLÊCHID), a parish comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, in the hundred of LLÊCHWEDD UCHÂV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S. E.) from Bangor, on the great road from London to Holyhead, containing 3075 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Llechid, an eminent female saint, who flourished in the beginning of the sixth century: it extends nearly thirteen miles in length, and three miles in breadth, and comprises a tract of about eighteen thousand acres, of which comparatively but a small portion is enclosed and cultivated. The surface is boldly undulated, and the houses of the inhabitants, scattered widely over the parish, have, from the diversity of their situations, a pleasing effect in its scenery, some of which is of a finely mountainous character, the parish comprising within its limits the lofty mountains of Carnedd Llewelyn and Carnedd Davydd, the former of which attains an elevation of three thousand four hundred and sixty-nine, and the latter of three thousand four hundred and twenty-seven, feet above the level of the sea. On the summit of each of these mountains, which form pre-eminent features in the surrounding scenery, are large heaps of loose stones, supposed to be the remains of ancient fortifications, raised respectively by the princes from whom they take their name. According to Geoffrey of Monmouth, a giant named Rhita was buried on the summit of Carnedd Llewelyn, which may not improbably have been the place of sepulture of some valiant chieftain, whose name has not been recorded. Near the base of this mountain is Fynnon Llugwy, a fine lake covering a surface of many acres, the source of the river Llugwy, which, after traversing part of this parish, falls into the Conway, near Bettws. The village of Llanllêchid is pleasantly situated in a fine open plain, in the north-western part of the parish; but the greater portion of the poorer inhabit-

ants reside in the hamlet of Pant y Vriddlas, near the adjacent slate quarries of Penrhyn, in which they find employment. Several attempts have been made to procure slates in this parish, and some quarries have been opened for that purpose near the church; but the undertaking has not been carried on to any profitable extent, and the quarries are worked only on a very limited scale, affording but little employment to the poor of the parish, in comparison with the quarries of Penrhyn. The road from London to Holyhead runs for twelve miles through the parish, and that from Liverpool to the same place for about three miles, affording excellent facilities of communication with the neighbouring districts. A fair is held on October 29th; and at Talybont, a large village in the parish, others are held on May 7th, and August 11th.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £15. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor: the rector receives all the great tithes of the parish, except that of hay, for which a small *modus* is taken. The church is a long, low, ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a small chapel or oratory on the south side. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school was founded here in 1719, by the Rev. John Jones, Dean of Bangor, who endowed it with £100 for teaching twelve poor children of the parish to read the Welsh language. A National school was established in 1828, for which a school-house was built by subscription among the inhabitants, aided by a grant of £30 from the parent society in London. This school, in which sixty children of both sexes receive gratuitous instruction, is supported partly by subscription, and partly by the endowment given to the parochial school by Dean Jones, which, since its establishment, has been appropriated to its support. Dr. Williams, Bishop of Ossory, in 1672, bequeathed an estate in this parish, called *Plâs Hwva*, to the poor, directing its produce to be distributed at the discretion of the rector: the farm produces a rental of £13, exclusively of some land, whereon six dwelling-houses have been built, among the occupants of which the rent of the farm is annually distributed in food and clothing, according to the will of the testator. William Griffith bequeathed a rent-charge of £2. 16., and Robert and Catherine George the sum of £50, the former, as well as the interest of the latter, to be distributed in bread to the poor; Gwen Fletcher bequeathed £60, the interest to be distributed in articles of clothing among six of the poorest aged females in the parish; and Maurice Prichard and Pierce Williams £5 each, the interest of the former to be given to the poorest person in the Upper, and that of the latter to the poorest person in the Lower, division of the parish. Dr. Williams, Bishop of Ossory, was a native of this place; and Dr. John Williams, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, and Archbishop of York, in the reign of Charles I., resided at *Côchwillan*, in this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £464. 16.

LLANLLEONVEL (LLNA - LLEON - VOEL), a parish, comprising the hamlet of Llanlleonvel, and a portion of that of Gwraig, each of which separately maintains its own poor, in the hundred of



**BUILTH**, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. by S.) from Builth, and containing 226 inhabitants, of which number, 148 are in the township of Llanlleonvel. This parish, the name of which signifies the "church of Lleon the Bald," is situated in a hilly district in the north-western portion of the county, and on the rivers Irvon and Dulas, over which are three bridges within the parish, which are kept in repair at the expense of the hundred. The manor within which the parish is included is co-extensive with the hundred, and is distinguished for the prevalence of several peculiar customs, the origin of which is very obscure, and for certain singular payments. Of these latter the principal are the "Taldiestyn," the "Comortha," the "Vuwch Larder," the "Porthant herwyr," the "Maccwyn," and the "Mabryddiaeth," the two last of which are altogether inexplicable. From these payments certain inhabitants of the hundred are exempt: there are no copyhold tenures in the manor, and the chief-rents are collected for the lord by the officers of the parish. A presentment by a jury in 1646, of which Rees Gwyn, Esq., father of Marmaduke Gwyn, the Judge, was foreman, states the custom of the lordship to be, that no man's son dwelling within the lordship ought to be summoned to do fealty within the said court during the life of his father, if his father be seized of lands within the lordship. The parish comprises a considerable portion of arable and meadow land, the whole of which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation, with the exception only of some of the hills, which afford good pasturage for sheep. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and enlivened by the windings of the rivers by which the parish is intersected; and the distant views, though not very extensive, from the obstruction of the mountainous elevations by which this part of the county is almost encircled, are, notwithstanding, interesting and diversified. The woollen manufacture is carried on in the village upon a very limited scale, affording employment only to a small number of persons. Baronial courts continue to be held at an inn in the village, called Maes-cevny-fordd.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of David Thomas and Rees Morgan, Esqrs., as lessees of the tithes under the prebendary of Llanwrthwl in the collegiate church of Brecknock: there is neither parsonage-house nor any glebe land attached to the living. The church, the dedication of which is unknown, is a small edifice, undistinguished by any architectural details, but pleasantly situated on a gentle eminence on the north-western bank of the river Dulas, about a mile to the north of the high road from Builth to Llandovery. There is a place of worship for Independents. A branch of the Sarn Lleon passed through this parish, connecting *Maridunum*, at Carmarthen, with the Roman station at Cwm in Radnorshire, and uniting at the latter place with the great Roman road which anciently led from *Nidus* at Neath, to *Deva*, now Chester. On an eminence opposite to the church is an ancient mansion, formerly the residence of the family of Gwyn, or Gwynne, of Garth, and now the property of E. F. Maitland, Esq. In a field below the church, and at no great distance from the river Dulas, is a mineral spring,

resembling in taste and smell the water at Llanwrtyd, but not so strongly impregnated with sulphur. The poor of the two townships are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £64. 5., of which sum, £41. 16., is raised on the hamlet of Llanlleonvel.

**LLANLLIBIO (LLAN-LLIBIO)**, a parish in the hundred of LLYVON, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (E.) from Bodedern, containing 88 inhabitants. This parish, which takes its name from the patron saint to whom its church was dedicated, is situated near the old line of road from London to Holyhead, and consists entirely of a few farms, the produce of which, owing to the poor argillaceous quality of the soil, is chiefly oats, with a very small portion of wheat and barley. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llantrisant, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, which has been for many years desecrated, and suffered to fall into decay, has now entirely disappeared; and the churchyard has been ploughed up: the present rector has, notwithstanding, marked out the ancient boundaries of the churchyard, and has it in contemplation to rebuild the church. The inhabitants at present attend divine service in the church of Bodedern; but all ecclesiastical rites are performed at Llantrisant. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £38. 12.

**LLANLLIGAN, or LLANLLUGAN (LLAN-LLUGAN)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of NEWTOWN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S. W.) from Llanvair, containing 361 inhabitants. This place is distinguished as the site of an ancient Cistercian nunnery, which, according to Bishop Tanner, was founded here prior to the year 1239, at which time the tithes of the parish of Llanvair Caereinion were given by Bishop Hugh to the "nuns of Llanllugan in Powys," to whom also the tithes of the parishes of Llanllwchaearn and Bettws were subsequently appropriated by Anian, Bishop of St. Asaph, in 1265. This establishment, of which the founder is not known, had, at the dissolution, a revenue estimated at £22. 13. 8.: the site was granted, in the 37th of Henry VIII., to Sir Arthur D'Arcy, Knt.: the only remains are some fragments of painted glass in the chancel window of the parish church. This parish, which is nearly in the centre of the county, is intersected by the small river Rhiw, which has its source in the immediate vicinity, and, after passing by the village, pursues its course in an easterly direction, and falls into the Severn at Berriew. It is about three miles in length, and a mile and a half in breadth, and a very large proportion of it is unenclosed and uncultivated. The surrounding scenery is agreeably diversified, and in some parts highly picturesque; and the views over the adjacent country embrace many interesting features. The road from Welshpool and Llanvair passes through the parish by Cevn Côch, to meet that from Newtown and Machynlleth, at Talerddig, in the parish of Llanbryn-mair. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Lord of the Manor, and other impropriators, who are owners of land in the parish. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, and situated on the bank of the river Rhiw, is an ancient structure, in the early style



of English architecture. About a mile to the south-west of Cevn Côch, and to the right of the road from Newtown and Machynlleth, are the remains of a Druidical circle. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £131. 7.

LLANLLUAN (LLAN-LLWYN), a joint hamlet with Trê Castell, in the parish of LLANARTHNEY, hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. S. E.) from Carmarthen. The population is included in the return for the parish. It lies near the northern declivity of the Mynydd Mawr mountain, and takes its name from an ancient chapel which formerly existed here.

LLANLLWCHAIARN (LLAN-LLWCHAIARN), a parish partly in the newly created borough, and partly in the upper division of the hundred, of NEWTOWN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 1 mile (N. E.) from Newtown, containing 2005 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the bank of the river Severn, over which is a stone bridge of three arches, completed in the year 1827, at an expense of £4000, which was defrayed by the county, and connecting those parts of the parish which are called Pen y gloddfa, Frankwell, and the Basin, with the town of Newtown, of which they are almost considered as forming part. This quarter of the parish has very much increased in population during the last seven years, within which period no fewer than three hundred houses, including several factories, have been erected. The manufacture of flannel is carried on to a very great extent, affording employment to a considerable portion of the inhabitants. The lands, about four thousand four hundred acres in extent, are all enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. An act was obtained, in the 36th of George III., for enclosing the waste lands within the manors of Cedowain, Hopton, and Over Gorddwr, under the provisions of which about nine hundred acres were allotted to this parish, in 1824, and enclosed. The Montgomeryshire canal was extended, in 1819, from Garthmill to this parish, in which it terminates near Newtown: the basin, with the wharfs, lime-kilns, and other works connected with that line of navigation, is within its limits. The road from Welshpool to Newtown passes by it on the south, and that from Newtown to Machynlleth on the west. That part of the parish which is comprised within the boundaries of the new contributory borough of Newtown consists of the townships of Gwestydd and Hêndidley. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £7. 7. 6., endowed with the great tithes, which formerly belonged to Llanllugan nunnery, and with £100 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Llŵchaiarn, who flourished at the commencement of the seventh century, was erected on the site of the ancient structure, in the year 1816, at an expense of £1200: it is a neat edifice of brick, with a tower of the same materials, surmounted with pinnacles: the interior is neatly fitted up. Mr. Thomas Austin gave a rent-charge of £1; Mr. Richard Mytton, the sum of £40; and Mr. John Hughes £5; the produce of all which is annually distributed in bread to the poor. To the south of the turnpike road from Newtown to Welshpool are vestiges of a Roman road, which anciently communicated with Caer-Sws and the Gaer near Mont-

gomery. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £573. 9.

LLANLLWCHAIARN (LLAN-LLWCHAIARN), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 17 miles (N. W. by W.) from Lampeter, containing 1178 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the shore of Cardigan bay, derives its name from the dedication of its church, and, from its advantageous maritime position, has risen into some degree of notice, and is rapidly increasing in population and importance. Soles, turbot, and oysters are found in great abundance and of superior quality on this part of the coast, and a herring fishery might be advantageously established here, if an adequate demand existed. The trade of the place has already increased so much as to give rise to the establishment of the small port of New Quay (described under its own head), which has already attained a considerable degree of celebrity, and maintains a regular intercourse with Bristol. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 7. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Llŵchaiarn, is an ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, which are separated by a pointed arch: the font, which is of great antiquity, is square, and ornamented at each angle with a human head; and in the churchyard are the remains of a stone cross. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A small Sunday school for the gratuitous instruction of the poor is supported by subscription. There are some trifling vestiges of an ancient earthwork, called Pencastell, in this parish. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £338. 1.

LLANLLWNY (LLAN-LLAWNŴY), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of CATHNOC, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (S. W.) from Lampeter, containing 848 inhabitants. The name of this parish is derived from the dedication of its church to St. Llonio, one of the congregation of St. Illtyd, an eminent preacher of Christianity, who flourished in the fifth century. It is pleasantly situated on the southern bank of the river Teivy, by which it is separated from the county of Cardigan, and is intersected by the turnpike road from Carmarthen to Lampeter: the land is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation, and the soil in most parts is fertile: the surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and the distant views extend over a country abounding with picturesque beauty. Maes Criggie, an ancient family seat, now the property of Bowen Davies, Esq., forms an interesting feature in the scenery of the parish; and Perthyerllan, the residence of George Saunders, Esq., is agreeably situated under the shelter of some thriving plantations, on the edge of an extensive common. The living is a discharged vicarage, with Llanvihangel Rhôyscorn annexed, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5, endowed with £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church is romantically situated on a rocky eminence overlooking the river Teivy, which flows at its base, and commanding a fine view of some interesting and picturesque scenery. There is a place of worship for Independents. A school-room has been



erected by subscription, which is occasionally appropriated to the use of one of the Welsh circulating charity schools. On a farm called Maes Nonny, or the "Nuns' Field," in this parish, it is said there was anciently a nunnery, but nothing is known either of its foundation or its history. A tumulus, called Y Castell, still remains on this farm; and near it is a spring, called Fynnon Nonny, or the "Nuns' Well." Near the church are some remains of an ancient priory, called by the inhabitants "Hên Briordy:" it is said to have been a cell to the great abbey of Strata Florida, but neither the nunnery nor the priory is mentioned in Tanner's *Notitia Monastica*. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £261. 16.

LLANLLYVNI (LLAN-LLYVNI), a parish composed of the Upper and Lower divisions, in the hundred of UWCHGORVAI, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (S. by W.) from Carnarvon, containing 1571 inhabitants. The name of this place is derived from its situation on the river Llyni, which rises in the Nanlle lakes, in the upper part of the parish, and, after a short course, falls into Carnarvon bay. The parish extends from three to four miles in length, and from one to two miles in breadth, and comprises a tract of which a very considerable portion was formerly common and waste land, though a great part of it has of late years been enclosed, and many houses have been built upon the former wastes. The surrounding scenery is strikingly diversified; and in the upper part of the parish are two fine lakes, called Nanlle, one of which is more than half a mile in length and nearly a quarter of a mile broad; and the other, nearly adjoining it, is of equal breadth, but not quite so long. These lakes, which add greatly to the beauty of the scenery, formerly abounded with fish of superior quality; but the quantity has been greatly diminished by the influx of water from the copper-works in the vicinity. There are also two smaller lakes in the mountainous part of the parish, called respectively Llŷn Cwm Silin and Llŷn Cwm Dŷlyn, both of which afford better sport to the angler. One side of the parish is bounded by a fine range of mountains, the appearance of which is highly picturesque; and the lofty mountain of Snowdon, though eight miles distant, is seen with more strikingly romantic beauty from the parsonage-house, in this parish, than from any other point in the county. The village is pleasantly situated on the turnpike road from Carnarvon to Trêmadoc, from the former of which the inhabitants receive their letters. The parish, in common with the adjacent country, abounds with mineral wealth: beds of slate, intersected by veins of copper, extend through the whole of it, in a direction from south-west to north-east: manganese of superior quality has been recently discovered, and considerable quantities are shipped for Liverpool. The principal copper-works are those of Simdda Dylluan and Gwernoer; but the mines are not at present so extensively worked as formerly. The slate quarries were also worked some years ago, upon a very extensive scale, but the quantity of slates now procured is considerably less than formerly. A railroad, eight miles in length, has been laid down from the quarries to the port of Carnarvon, for the conveyance of the slates and other mineral produce to that port, where they are shipped for their several destinations.

The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £7. 17. 6., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church is dedicated to St. Rhedyw, whose tomb within it was destroyed about fifty years ago; but his memory is still preserved in the name of a well called Fynnon Rhedyw, and in that of a stone called Eisteddva Rhedyw. It is a spacious cruciform structure, supposed to have been enlarged into its present form about the year 1032, which date was discovered above the east window of the chancel, while repairing it some years ago. Above the window of the Eithnog chapel, in this church, is an image of St. Rhedyw, which was formerly held in great veneration, but is now nearly defaced. There are two places of worship each for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. No Druidical monuments are actually remaining in the parish, but the existence of such within its limits at some former period is indicated by the names of various fields, such as Y Gistvaen, Cae y cynghor, Tâl y garnedd, &c. On the banks of the river Llyni are the remains of an ancient fortification, called Craig y Dinas, but whether of Roman or British origin it is not easy to determine: it is about a mile from Pont y Cern, and comprises an area of about two acres, inaccessible, owing to the precipitousness of the ascent, on the side next the river, and defended on the others by two walls of stone, with a fosse between them. In the upper part of this, and also in the neighbouring parishes, are numerous remains of the dwellings of the aboriginal inhabitants, commonly called Cyttian 'r Gwyddelod, or the "Irishmen's Huts:" they are either circular or elliptical in form, and generally from five to six yards in diameter: several of them are grouped together within a quadrangular area, enclosed by a single, and in some instances by a double, wall; and they also occur occasionally in concentric circles, and when cleared are generally found to contain great quantities of ashes. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £397. 5.

LLANMADOCK, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 15 miles (W.) from Swansea, containing 240 inhabitants. This parish is situated on Whitford harbour, at the mouth of the Burry river. The most striking feature on its surface is Llanmadock hill, generally considered as the highest point in the peninsula of Gower, which is a well-known landmark to mariners off this part of the coast, and the view from which is extensive and magnificently grand, comprising the whole of the peninsula of Gower, the entire course of the Loughor or Burry river, from Pontardulas to its mouth, the luxuriant woods of Penrice castle, the lofty and precipitous cliffs which form the eastern side of Oxwich bay, with the vast expanse of sea beyond, the Devon and Cornish hills in the distance, and the coasts of Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire. The village extends about half a mile along the base of the hill: the land in the parish is chiefly enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. This place carries on a considerable trade in coal and limestone, in which about thirty vessels, varying in burden from twelve to twenty tons, are employed: in these vessels the coal is brought from Loughor and Llanelly, and the limestone conveyed to the counties of Devon and Cornwall. The living is a rectory, in the archdea-



conry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church is dedicated to St. Madoc, the son of Gildas, a saint in Gower. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. On Llanmadock hill are traces of an ancient encampment, comprising a nearly circular area of about four acres, defended by triple ramparts, and commanding the entrance of the Burry river. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £19. 5.

LLANMAES, or LLANVAES (LLAN-MAES), a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.) from Cowbridge, containing 234 inhabitants. This parish is situated in a most fertile and salubrious part of the Vale of Glamorgan, and within two miles of the Bristol channel: it is watered by a small rivulet, which, passing by the churchyard, falls into the Bristol channel about three miles below it. The lands, which are almost entirely enclosed and in a high state of cultivation, are fertile and productive; and the environs abound with varied and pleasing scenery. The salubrity of the air is attested by several entries in the parish register of the burial of persons whose lives had been extended to an almost incredibly protracted period: among these, the most remarkable are the following, which have been extracted verbatim;—"Ivan Yorath buried a Sater-daye the XVII day of July anno doñi 1621 et anno regni regis vicessimo primo annoque ætatis circa 180. He was a Sowdiar in the fights of Boswoorthe, and lived at Lantwit Major, and he lived much by fishing. John Sherry was buried 8th of December 1624, aged 104 years. Thomas Watkin sepultus fuit octavo die Martii 1628, ætatis circa 100. Elizabeth Yorath wife of Edmund Thomas was buried the 13th of February 1668, aged 177." The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £10. 2.  $3\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of the Marquis of Bute: attached to it are seventy-two acres of glebe land. The church is dedicated to St. Cadocus. A Sunday school is supported by the rector. Mrs. Susannah Thomas, in 1747, bequeathed a rent-charge of £1, and Mrs. Jane Thomas, in 1761, bequeathed a rent-charge of one bushel of wheat, Cowbridge measure, both which are annually distributed among the poor of the parish. Near the church are the remains, now inconsiderable, of the ancient castellated mansion of the Maliphants, which is noticed by Leland, in his Itinerary, as belonging to the crown, and at that time in a state of great dilapidation. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £124. 12.

LLANMEREWIG (LLAN-YR-EWIG), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of NEWTOWN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N. E. by E.) from Newtown, containing 201 inhabitants. This parish, which is said to have been formerly a chapelry within the parish of Llanllwchaiarn, is situated in a pleasant part of the county, near the river Severn, and is intersected by the river Mule, which flows through the eastern portion of it. It comprises about one thousand acres: the surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified; and the road from Abermule to Kerry, along the bank of the Mule, is highly pictures-

que. The soil is fertile, and the lands, which are all enclosed, are in a good state of cultivation: on the banks of the Mule are some corn-mills and a flannel-manufactory. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 9., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Llwlwchaiarn, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture. On the summit of a hill above the farm called Giant's bank, about half a mile from the road leading from Welshpool to Newtown, are the remains of a Roman camp, comprising a quadrilateral area, in which fragments of ornamented pottery, and part of a spear head have been found: from this camp are seen several of the principal mountains in North Wales. A Roman road leading from Caer-Sws, through the Vale of Severn, to the Gaer near Montgomery, and thence to Chester and Wroxeter, the ancient *Ureconium* of the Romans, may be traced in the lower part of the parish, near the river Severn. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £68. 18.

LLANMIHANGEL (LLAN-VIHANGEL Y BONT-VAEN), a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. by W.) from Cowbridge, on the road to Lantwit-Major, containing 53 inhabitants. Llanmihangel Place, for many generations the seat of the family of Thomas, was sold to Sir Humphrey Edwin, lord mayor of London, some time in the seventeenth century: it was subsequently the residence for sixty years of the late John Franklin, Esq., one of the Welsh judges, and is now the property of Earl Dunraven. In the grounds belonging to it is the finest collection of evergreens to be met with in this part of the principality; and the yew trees, hollies, and cypresses, which are remarkable for the luxuriance of their growth, are perhaps unrivalled by any in the country. The living is a rectory not in charge, with that of Flemingston consolidated, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, and in the patronage of the Earl of Dunraven. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a small edifice, not characterized by any remarkable architectural features. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £34. 11.

LLANMIHANGEL - RHÔSYCORN (LLAN-VIHANGEL RHÔS Y CORN), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of CATHINOG, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (N. E.) from Carmarthen, containing 683 inhabitants. It is situated in the northern part of the county, and comprehends, in addition to a considerable portion of mountainous and waste land, a large tract of enclosed arable and pasture land. The surrounding scenery is distinguished by features rather of bold and striking character than of pleasing and picturesque appearance; and the views from the higher grounds embrace extensive, and in some instances interesting, prospects over the adjacent country, which is finely diversified. Within the parish is Forest, formerly the residence of Lady Rudd, who, according to an inscription on the building, caused it to be erected in the year 1724, under the direction of Richard Gwynne, Esq., grandfather of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Hughes, of Tregib, near Llandilo-Vawr: it is now a farm-house, with some fine specimens of beech still remaining, which formed part of a noble



grove of those trees, said to have extended to the church. The soil, though varying in different parts of the parish, is chiefly of a good quality on the cultivated lands. A woollen manufacture is carried on upon a limited scale, affording employment to a small number of persons. The living is annexed to the vicarage of Llanllwny, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's. The church is a small edifice, undistinguished by any architectural details; it occupies a dreary elevated situation, remote from all habitations. There is a place of worship for Independents. Of the sum of £2. 6. per annum, charged on an estate called Pentre, in this parish, £2 is appropriated to the minister for preaching four sermons quarterly, and the remainder is distributed in bread to the poor. In this parish is a spring called Fynnon Capel, near which is an ancient yew tree, from which circumstance, combined with the evidence afforded by its name, it is inferred that there was anciently a chapel at this place. Near the eminence on which the church stands is a turbarry of considerable extent. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £196. 10.

**LLANNON (LLAN-NON)**, a parish in the hundred of CARNWALLON, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 14 miles (S. E. by S.) from Carmarthen, containing 1582 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is pleasantly situated on elevated ground, in the south-eastern part of the county, and extends six miles in length from north to south, and four miles and a half in breadth, from east to west. The surrounding scenery, though not distinguished by any striking peculiarity, is pleasingly diversified; and the views from the higher grounds embrace some interesting and extensive prospects. The surface is varied, being in some parts mountainous: the lands, with the exception of a comparatively small portion, consisting of part of the Great Mountain, the Little Mountain, and Mynydd Sylan, are mostly enclosed, and in a good state of cultivation. The great turnpike road from Swansea to Carmarthen intersects the parish, and the mail coach through Bristol to Milford passes through the village: the tram-road from the works in the Great Mountain is continued through the parish to the port of Llanelly. Fairs, which are in general well attended, are held annually on July 6th and December 12th. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Rees Goring Thomas, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Non, the mother of St. David, the Patron of Wales, is not distinguished by any remarkable architectural details. Robert Williams, in 1761, bequeathed £50; and Pascal Parry, in 1747, gave £10 to the poor of this parish; the interest arising from which, together with the produce of some smaller benefactions in land and money, is annually distributed among them. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £418. 13.

**LLANNOR**, a parish chiefly in the hundred of DINLLAEN, but partly in that of GAFLOGION, in the Llein division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. W.) from Pwllheli, containing 1137 inhabitants. This parish, which is very extensive, is situated in the south-western portion of the county,

and nearly in the centre of the great promontory which separates Cardigan bay from the bay of Carnarvon. The village, which is small, is beautifully situated near the junction of two small streams, in a fine and extensive plain, open to the sea on the one side, and sheltered on the other by a range of mountains. The surrounding scenery is finely varied, and in many parts strikingly picturesque; and the distant views embrace numerous objects of interesting character and romantic appearance. Bodegroes, the ancient seat of the Glynne family, occasionally the residence of Bishop Glynne, and of his brother Geoffrey Glynne, Dean of the Arches, and founder of the free grammar school at Bangor, and now the property of his descendant, William Glynne Griffith, Esq., is an elegant mansion, beautifully situated in grounds tastefully laid out, and comprehending much varied and beautiful scenery. Fairs are held on April 12th, and October 18th and 29th. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Denio annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £12, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to the Holy Cross, is a long edifice in the later style of English architecture, with a small tower at the west end, and contains some windows of good design, enriched with tracery. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. A parochial school, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, is supported by subscription; and, as there is no school-room, part of the church is appropriated to its use. The produce of various charitable donations and bequests is annually distributed among the poor at Christmas, according to the will of the several benefactors; and a large distribution of bread is made weekly to the poor frequenting the church, for which purpose Mr. John Evans bequeathed £104, now paid by the proprietor of Bodegroes. In a field called Maen Hir, near Beudymynydd, in this parish, a very curious grave was recently discovered, containing some remains of human bones: the body appeared to have been deposited on the gravel with the feet towards the north, and on each side was a slab of chert-stone, six feet long, curiously wrought: on these stones, forming the eastern and western sides of the grave, are inscriptions in rude Roman characters, and above them was a flat stone covered with soil. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £391. 2.

**LLAN-OETHIN**, an extra-parochial district, locally in the parish of Llanarvan, hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. S. E.) from Cowbridge. The population is returned with Llanarvan. This district is situated near the left bank of the river Ddaw, and contains within its limits the farms of Llanbithou, Caer Maen, and Velin Vâch, which are exempt from church, poor, and county rates; but those of Treguf, Carn Llwyd, Laucadle, and Llanbythery, are each subject to a modus. A chapel formerly existed here.

**LLANPYMP SAINT (LLAN-Y-PUMSAINT)**, a parish in the hundred of ELVET, county of CARMARTHEN, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (N.) from Carmarthen, containing 548 inhabitants. This parish, the name of which signifies the church of the five saints, is traversed on the east by the turnpike road leading from Carmar-



then to Lampeter, and is intersected by the small river Guilly, which has its source in the neighbourhood, and falls into the river Towy at Aberguilly. It comprises a large tract of land, of which by far the greater part is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, but not distinguished by any peculiarity of features; and the views of the adjacent country are interesting and extensive. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Aberguilly, within which parish this was formerly a chapelry, but separated from it by act of parliament. Thomas Lloyd bequeathed a rent-charge of £2, and Elizabeth Jones £20 in money, the former of which, together with the interest of the latter, is annually divided among the poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £197. 4.

**LLANREITHAN (LLAN-RHIDIAN)**, a parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N. E. by E.) from Solva, containing 141 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is pleasantly situated in the north-western part of the county, and comprises some fertile tracts of land, which are enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery, though in general pleasing, is not distinguished by any peculiarity from that which prevails generally in this part of the principality. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Subchanter and Minor Chapter of the cathedral church of St. David's, to whom the tithes of the parish are appropriated. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £64. 15.

**LLANRHAIADR IN KINMERCH (LLAN-RHAIADR-YN-NGHYMMEIRCH)**, a parish partly within the limits of the borough of DENBIGH, and partly in the hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S. E.) from Denbigh, containing 2066 inhabitants. This very extensive parish is fourteen miles in length, and on an average three miles in breadth: it abounds with limestone, of which there are several quarries in various parts, great quantities being procured to be burnt for manure in several kilns here, and for building. In the rock immediately under Cader-yr-Arglwyddes, an eminence about a quarter of a mile to the west of the church, large masses of silex are discovered imbedded in the limestone, which, when broken, are found to contain agate, jasper, crystallized sulphate of lime, and chalcedony: the agate and the chalcedony are very pure, and exceedingly beautiful. From the summit of this eminence, the name of which signifies "the Peeresses' Chair," a most extensive and richly varied prospect is obtained, comprehending the whole Vale of Clwyd between Denbigh and Ruthin, diversified with woods, meadows and corn-fields; and a fine view of Denbigh castle, of which the walls and towers are seen to great advantage. Several attempts have been made to obtain copper-ore, but it has not been found in sufficient quantity to remunerate the adventurers. The village is pleasantly situated on the turnpike road from Ruthin to Denbigh; and courts leet and baron, with

view of frankpledge, are held at Easter and at Michaelmas by the steward of the Bishop of Bangor, for his lordship's manors of Llêch and Llan, which are in this parish. A fair is held on October 17th. The living is a vicarage, within the jurisdiction of the Consistorial Court of the Bishop of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £28. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop: there is also a sinecure rectory, rated in the king's books at £30, which was annexed to the bishoprick by act of parliament in the reign of James II.; the whole of the tithes are equally divided between the bishop and the vicar. The church, dedicated to St. Dyvnog, is chiefly remarkable for its lofty east window of five lights, a fine composition in the decorated style of English architecture, and embellished with a beautiful specimen of stained glass: the subject is the Root of Jesse, and occupies the three central compartments of the window, on each side of which are some of the most distinguished patriarchs of the Old Testament, and underneath is the date M.CCCCXXXIII. There are some neat monuments, among which is a handsome effigy of Maurice Jones, Esq., in white marble, in a kneeling posture under a canopy supported by weeping figures. In the churchyard are the tombs of Captains Wynne and Salusbury, who were both killed during the siege of Denbigh castle, in 1646. A parochial school, in which children of both sexes are gratuitously instructed, is supported by subscription. Jane, widow of Maurice Jones, Esq., founded eight almshouses for as many poor persons of this parish, and endowed them with lands near Corwen: these houses, to each of which is attached a small garden, were thoroughly repaired and greatly improved by William Lord Bagot, grandnephew of the founder, in 1829. Each of the almshouses receives a weekly allowance of five shillings, with a supply of coal and clothing, and an additional sum of £1 at Christmas. There are several charitable donations and bequests, producing in the aggregate more than £72 per annum, which is distributed among the poor according to the directions of the testators. Near the church are the remains of an ancient bath, called Fynnon St. Dyvnog, which was formerly supposed to operate miraculous cures, and was much resorted to by patients, whose votive offerings were partly employed in decorating the east window of the church. The water, rising in great force from under the limestone rock, was long thought to be a remarkably copious spring; but it has since been ascertained to be a stream, which rises in the hilly part of the parish, in the township of Prion: the two branches of this stream, after flowing for nearly half a mile, sink into the rock, and pursue a subterraneous course for two miles, emerging at this spot. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £1680. 13.

**LLANRHAIADR YN MOCHNANT (LLAN-RHAIADR-YN-MOCHNANT)**, a parish composed of the Lower division, in the Cynlleth and Mochnant division of the hundred of CHIRK, county of DENBIGH, and the Upper portion, in the upper division of the hundred of LLANVYLLIN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 12 miles (W. by S.) from Oswestry, and containing 2344 inhabitants. This parish, which comprises an extent of about eight thousand acres, of which four thousand six hundred are in the Lower, and three thousand four hundred in the Upper, division, is in-



tersected by the river Moch, in English signifying "Rapid," which here separates the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery, and in the former of which, at the distance of four miles from the village, it forms the much admired waterfall called Pistyll Rhaiadr, which renders this place, especially during the summer months, the resort of numerous visitors on their route through this part of North Wales. The perpendicular height of this fall is two hundred and forty feet; and the scenery around it, though in some places sterile and destitute of wood, is strikingly grand and picturesque. The river, flowing through a narrow valley which terminates in a precipitous and bold declivity of the Berwyn mountains, after gliding over a shelving rocky projection for a short distance, precipitates itself with great impetuosity down a steep descent of more than one hundred and fifty feet, and, being interrupted in its fall by a projecting mass of rock, through which it has worn a channel, forms a second fall beneath a lofty arch to the base of the mountain: the road leading from the village to this cataract has been greatly improved. The river pursues its course from Pistyll Rhaiadr through the village into the Tanat, a large stream descending from the hills above Pennant, and flowing through an extensive valley commencing at Llangynog, and continued through the parish to Pen y Bont, below Llangedwin: in this parish the Tanat is also joined by another tributary, called the Twrch. The Vale of Tanat, through which is an excellent turnpike road from Oswestry, through Llangynog, to Bala, is remarkable for the fertility of its soil, and the beauty and variety of its scenery, and is much admired by tourists, as affording a succession of interesting features. The lands bordering upon the Tanat are subject to inundation, but the rest of the parish, which has every where an uneven surface, is chiefly elevated: the soil is various, but for the most part gravelly. Coal has been discovered at Cevn Côch, a township in this parish, not far from the village, but no works have yet been established: several attempts have been made to procure ore, which is thought to abound in the parish, but they have not hitherto been attended with success. Near Pistyll Rhaiadr is an extensive slate quarry, the property of the Earl of Powis, and worked under the superintendence of Messrs. Foulkes and Co.: the slate is of good quality, but no great quantity has been obtained, the works not being yet in full operation. The manufacture of woollen cloth is carried on to a small extent, and several of the inhabitants are employed in the making of shoes. A small market is held here under a building which is called "the town hall;" and fairs are held annually on the first Friday in March, May 5th, July 24th, September 28th, and November 8th. The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £9. 3. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph: the sinecure rectory, rated in the king's books at £18. 16. 0½., was appropriated by act of parliament of the 29th and 30th of Charles II., on the death of the rector, the facetious Dr. South, to the maintenance of the choir, and the repairs of the cathedral church, of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Dogvan, and situated in that portion of the parish which is in the county of Denbigh, is an ancient and spacious structure, but not distinguished by any particular architectural features. Llanarmon-Mynydd-

Mawr, formerly an integral part of this parish, has been separated from it and now forms a distinct parish. The neighbouring churches of Llanadwaladr, Llangedwin, and Llanwddyn, were originally also dependent chapels on the mother church of Llanrhaiadr, from which they are respectively distant nine, four, and eight miles. There are places of worship in the village for Independents, and for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The parochial school, held in a building adjoining the church, was founded, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, by Mr. John Powell, who, in 1730, bequeathed £210 in money, and lands then producing £24 per annum, for the instruction of children and for the relief of the poor: of the produce of this bequest, £23 per annum is paid as a salary to a schoolmaster for teaching the English language, writing, and arithmetic; and the remainder is appropriated to the purchasing of clothes, the apprenticing of children, and the relief of the poor; to which purposes are also applied the produce of £100, bequeathed by Dr. South, the last rector of the parish; £120 by Mr. Charles Edwards, and several smaller sums by different benefactors for distribution among the poor. Dr. Morgan, author of a translation of the Bible in the Welsh language, for which he was rewarded by Queen Elizabeth with the bishoprick of Llandaf, from which see he was translated to that of St. Asaph, in 1601, was at one period vicar of this parish. Dr. Lloyd, afterwards Bishop of Bangor; Dr. Langford, Archdeacon of Merioneth; Dr. Powell, Dean of St. Asaph; Dr. Worthington, Prebendary of York and of St. Asaph; Dr. Williams, Prebendary of St. Asaph, and examining chaplain to Shipley, Bishop of St. Asaph; and several other eminent divines, have also been vicars of Llanrhaiadr. The poor of the entire parish are maintained by an average annual expenditure of £979. 2.

LLANRHIDIAN, or LLANRIDIAN (LLAN-RHIDIAN), a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH-WALES, 11 miles (W. by N.) from Swansea, consisting of a Higher and Lower division, which separately maintain their own poor, and containing 1445 inhabitants, of which number, 1033 are in the Higher, and 412 in the Lower, division. This parish, which is situated in the peninsula of Gower, abounds with coal and iron-ore, but of these minerals no strata are at present worked within its limits. The village is pleasantly situated on the south bank of the river Burry, immediately opposite to the town of Llanelly, in the county of Carmarthen. The manufacture of woollen cloth is carried on, though upon a very confined scale, employing no more than from six to eight persons. At the village of Penclawdd, in the Higher division of the parish, were formerly extensive copper-works belonging to the Cheadle Copper Company; but they are now neglected, that company possessing numerous others in more convenient situations, and are going to ruin. A canal, called the Penclawdd canal, in connexion with which are some short rail-roads, opens a communication between the coal districts of Swansea, Loughor, and Llangyvelach, and joins the Burry river at Aberkiddy, in this parish. A fair is held here on Palm-Monday. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £12. 13. 4., endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £1600 parliamentary grant,



and in the patronage of John Morgan, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Illtyd. In the Higher division of the parish is a chapel of ease, in which divine service is performed once a month by the incumbent, who also solemnizes marriages, christenings, and burials at this chapel, which is four miles distant from the parish church. In this division also there are places of worship for Baptists, a congregation in the late Countess of Huntingdon's connexion, and Independents; and in the Lower division, another belonging to the Countess of Huntingdon's connexion. Sunday schools, connected with the established church and the several dissenting congregations, are supported by subscription.

Within a quarter of a mile of the river, and near the western extremity of the parish, are the ruins of Weobley castle, occupying an eminence commanding the navigable river Burry, and affording an extensive view of the adjacent country: it appears to have been anciently of great strength and extent, having formed the head of a considerable manor, and formerly belonged to Lord Mansel: part of it has been converted into a farmhouse. On Manselford farm is a strong intrenchment in a very perfect state, which appears to have been thrown up to defend the passage of two valleys leading up to the castle. Several other intrenchments are visible within the parish, but by whom they were constructed is not known: one of these occupies the summit of a lofty hill just above the village, and is supposed to have been thrown up by Ivor ab Cadivor, a chieftain of Morganwg, about the year 1110, during his wars with the English, from which circumstance it has obtained the name of Cil Ivor, or "Ivor's Retreat." On the summit of Cevn Bryn is a large cromlech, called Arthur's Stone, a vestige of Druidical antiquity, which Camden and other writers describe as being composed of a different species of stone from any found in this part of the country: this, however, appears to be erroneous, as it is the common pudding-stone, or millstone grit, of the country; and, within the recollection of persons still living, a huge fragment, which had been broken off with great labour, by means of wedges, and intended for a millstone, was found totally unfit for that purpose, from the cavities left in the surface by the falling out of the pebbles of which it consisted. The principal, or covering stone, is eleven feet in length and six feet and a half in its greatest breadth: it rests on twelve supporters, for fixing which the earth appears to have been excavated, and by the side of the cromlech lies the mass above noticed. A supposed miraculous well beneath this monument, which was said to ebb and flow with the sea, appears to be nothing more than a collection of water, after heavy rains, in the cavity formed for the insertion of the supporters, which fluctuates according to the weather, and which, as attested by intelligent persons residing near the spot, is frequently dry in hot summers. This cromlech is supposed to be alluded to in the historical triads of Wales, as one of the three Herculean labours. There are several mineral springs in the parish, to which medicinal properties are ascribed: of these, the most celebrated is Holy Well, on Cevn y Bryn mountain, to which, in former times, miraculous efficacy was attributed: it was generally frequented on Sunday evenings during the summer season by numbers of persons, who drank the water, and, according to an ancient custom,

threw in a pin as a tribute of their gratitude. On Llanrhidian salt-marsh a spring has been discovered within the last ten years, strongly impregnated with iron, and perhaps also with sulphur, and of a foetid smell, to which the inhabitants have given the name of the Stinking Well: it instantly discolours silver, and is thought to possess very powerful medicinal efficacy. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £416. 5., of which sum, £227. 2. is raised on the Higher, and £189. 3. on the Lower, division.

LLAN RHÔS, or LLANVAIR YN RHÔS, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES. — See EGLWYS-RHÔS.

LLANRHÛDD (LLAN-RHÛDD), a parish partly within the limits of the borough, and partly in the hundred, of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 1 mile (E.) from Ruthin. The village is pleasantly situated in a fertile vale near the Clwydian mountains, and the neighbourhood abounds with pleasing and finely varied scenery. That portion of the parish called the township of Llanrhudd Uchâv is comprised within the limits of the contributory borough of Ruthin. The rectories of Llanrhudd and Ruthin were appropriated, in 1590, by Dr. Gabriel Goodman, Dean of Westminster, to the endowment of Christ's Hospital in Ruthin, and are now held by the warden and pensioners of that institution: the warden appoints a curate for each of the parishes, but is occasionally required to perform duty at each of the churches himself: both parishes are within the sole jurisdiction of the consistory court of the Bishop of Bangor, and the wardenship is in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. The church, dedicated to St. Meugan, is a small ancient edifice, forming a picturesque object in the vale: it contains an ancient monument to the memory of John Thelwall, Esq., and his wife Jane, whose effigies are represented in a kneeling posture, with ten of their sons and four daughters. In a niche near this monument is a well-executed bust of Ambrose, their ninth son, steward to Lord Verulam, Lord High Chancellor of England, and afterwards Yeoman of the robe to James I. and Charles Prince of Wales: he died on August 5th, 1653, aged eighty-two years. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. The poor children of this parish are admissible to the free grammar school of Ruthin, and also to the National school established in that borough. Mrs. Dorothy Myddelton bequeathed £20; Mr. Parry, in 1714, bequeathed £20; and Mr. Jones £20; which sums, with other benefactions amounting to about £105, have been invested in the funds of the Llandegla and Mold turnpike trusts, and the interest, together with a rent-charge of £8, left by Mr. Edward Griffith, is annually distributed among the poor of the parish. A chalybeate spring, dedicated to St. Peter, was formerly in high repute for the supposed miraculous medicinal efficacy of its waters, but is at present neglected: it is strongly impregnated with some mineral, and, if due care were taken to prevent its admixture with other waters, it might still be found highly beneficial. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £320. 2.

LLANRHWYDRUS (LLAN-RHWYDRYS), a parish in the hundred of TALY BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (N. W.) from Llanerch-



medd, containing 178 inhabitants. This parish is situated at the north-western extremity of the Isle of Anglesey, on a headland projecting into the Irish sea, on the north, and forming on the east the boundary of Camlyn bay. It derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Rhwydrus, by whom it was originally founded in the sixth century, and contains a large portion of enclosed and well-cultivated land. The surrounding scenery is strikingly diversified, and in some parts highly picturesque; and the views along the coast and over the adjacent country are interesting and extensive. About two miles north-westward from the main land is Ynys y Moelrhoniaid, or the "Isle of Seals," commonly called the Isle of Skerries, a long island composed entirely of craggy pointed rocks, in which are great numbers of rabbits, and which, during the breeding season, is the resort of puffins and razor-bills. A lighthouse, exhibiting a steady light, was erected on the highest point of this island, in 1733, by the Corporation of the Trinity House, to facilitate the navigation of this part of the channel, and for the preservation of the numerous vessels employed in the trade between Liverpool and Dublin: it has been of material use in the preservation of life and property, but the want of a superior elevation to render it visible at a greater distance has much tended to diminish the benefits which it might otherwise have afforded to vessels navigating this dangerous part of the channel. A more eligible situation might be found on the main land, at a point called Cader Rhwydrus, where the light would have an elevation of nearly a hundred feet above that which it has in its present situation. The Isle of Skerries anciently belonged to the monks of Bangor, and was the principal fishery appertaining to that see, the prelates of which, by neglect, having suffered it to be usurped by the family of Griffith, of Penrhyn, Bishop Dean, in 1498, exerted himself for its recovery, and, after a considerable struggle, succeeded in procuring its restoration to the see. The living is annexed to the rectory of Llanrhyddlad, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church is a small ancient edifice, situated nearly in the centre of the headland projecting into the sea, near the small island called the West Mouse. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A small parochial school, in which a few poor children are gratuitously instructed, is supported by subscription. John Hughes, in 1778, bequeathed £50 to the poor of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £143. 18.

**LLANRHYCHWYN (LLAN-RHYCHWYN)**, a parish in the Uchgorvai division of the hundred of NANTCONWAY, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (W. by N.) from Llanrwst, containing 565 inhabitants. This parish, which is exceedingly mountainous, contains an abundance of pyrites, worked by a company from Liverpool, who ship the produce at the adjoining quay of Trêvriw, on the river Conway, which forms the eastern boundary of the parish, and is navigable from its mouth below the town of Aberconway to Trêvriw. There are also three extensive slate quarries within its limits, at the distance of about one mile and a half from the shipping-place, in which upwards of one hundred persons are employed: lead-ore has likewise been obtained here, and some small veins are now

being worked. Numerous varieties of quartz crystals are found, some of them of a beautiful amethystine colour, and of considerable value. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Trêvriw, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Rhychwyn, is situated among barren mountains, at a considerable distance from any houses, and, from the rudeness of its architecture, appears to be of great antiquity: it is vulgarly observed of this simple structure that it was erected prior to the invention of the saw and plane, since no indication of the use of these instruments can be discovered in any part of the edifice: in the east window are the remains of some handsome stained glass, with a mutilated date, which seems to have been MCCCCXXII. Near Capel Curig, at the extremity of the parish, is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. Taliesin, the celebrated British bard, who flourished about the middle of the sixth century, is stated to have resided in this parish, near a small lake, or pool, called Llŷn Geirionydd. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £121. 18.

**LLANRHYDDLAD (LLAN-RHÛDDLAD)**, a parish in the hundred of TAL Y BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (N. W. by W.) from Llanerchymedd, containing 628 inhabitants. This parish, which is of small extent, is situated on the shore of the Irish sea, which washes the western side of it: the surface is boldly varied, and the views from the higher grounds are extensive, embracing an interesting prospect over the sea and the adjacent country, which abounds with pleasing, and in some parts with picturesque, scenery. The village, which is small, is situated at the foot of Moel Rhyddlad, one of the highest mountains in the island, and for that reason selected by Colonel Mudge as one of his principal stations in making the trigonometrical survey of North Wales. Considerable quantities of manganese, and some copper-ore, have been found upon this mountain; but no mines have yet been opened. The living is a discharged rectory, with Llanvlewin and Llanrhywdrus annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £14. 11. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The tithes of the ancient parish of Llandogvael are received alternately by the rectors of this parish and Llanvechell. The church, dedicated to St. Rhyddlad, is a small edifice, not distinguished by any architectural features of importance. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The interest of several small charitable donations and bequests, two of which are small portions of land, is annually distributed among the poor at Christmas. Sir William Williams, Speaker of the House of Commons in the reign of Charles II., was born in this parish, of which his father, Dr. Hugh Williams, founder of the families of Wynnstay, Bodelwyddan, and Penbedwr, was rector from 1633 till 1670. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £208. 11.

**LLANRHÛSTID (LLAN-RHÛSTYD)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of ILAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (S. by W.) from Aberystwith, on the road to Cardigan, containing 1525 inhabitants. This place, though at present of little importance, has been distinguished in history from a remote



period of antiquity. In 987, its church was demolished by the Danes, in one of their descents upon South Wales. The castle of Llanrhŷtid, called also Dinerth castle, was, in 1080, at which period it belonged to Iestyn ab Gwrgan, Prince of Glamorgan, sacked by Rhŷs, Prince of South Wales: it was destroyed in 1135, by Owain Gwynedd and his brother, aided by Hywel ab Meredydd and Rhŷs ab Madog ab Ednerth. Having been re-erected, it was besieged and taken, in 1150, with several other fortresses, by Cadell, Meredydd, and Rhŷs, the sons of Gruffydd ab Rhŷs, Prince of South Wales, who, enraged at the spirited resistance of its defenders, whereby they lost some of their bravest troops, put the garrison to the sword. It was fortified by Roger Earl of Clare, in 1158, and, about the close of the same century, was besieged and taken by Maelgwyn ab Rhŷs, who slew the garrison left to defend it by his brother Gruffydd, and in 1204 rased it, with several others, to prevent their falling into the hands of Llewelyn ab Iorwerth. The present village, which is situated near the influx of the small river Gwyre into the bay of Cardigan, consists only of a few cottages, indifferently built. Fairs are held here on the Thursday before Easter and the Thursday before Christmas; and at Lluest Newydd others are held on September 23rd, October 8th, and the second Friday after the 10th of the same month. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Rhystyd, occupies an elevated situation above the village, and is of considerable antiquity. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Dissenters. Leland mentions the remains of a large edifice here, which some supposed to have been a nunnery; but there are now no vestiges of it, nor any authentic account of such an establishment having existed here: there is, however, within the limits of the parish, a farmhouse called Mynachty, signifying "monastery," which probably occupies the site of a religious house. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £368. 8.

LLANRIAN (LLAN-RHIAN), a parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N. E.) from St. David's, containing 715 inhabitants. This parish is situated near the north-western extremity of the county, and on the coast of St. George's channel, by which it is bounded on the west and north: the surrounding scenery is pleasing, and the views over the channel and the adjacent country are interesting and extensive. It constitutes a prebend in the cathedral church of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £19. 9. 7., and annexed to the archdeaconry of Carmarthen. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 11. 3., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Rheanus, is not remarkable for any architectural details of importance. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. Near the church are some Druidical remains, consisting of many large stones, most of which are now broken: they were formerly erect, and, in their arrangement and

general appearance, formed in miniature, according to Mr. Fenton, a tolerably correct representation of Stonehenge. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £264.

LLANRŪG, or LLANVIHANGEL YN RŪG, a parish in the hundred of ISGORVAI, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E.) from Carnarvon, on the new line of road to Capel Curig, containing 1204 inhabitants. This parish is separated from that of Llandeiniolen by the river Seiont, which forms its northern boundary. It contains no village, and the church, which is far detached from any dwelling, is situated on a beautiful eminence, commanding extensive prospects of the sea and the country adjacent, embracing the Snowdon range of mountains on the east, and the bay of Carnarvon on the west; and in certain states of the atmosphere even the Irish hills are distinctly visible from this place. There are several good mansions in detached situations, inhabited by opulent families, among which are the beautiful small villa of Glangwnna, deeply embosomed in woods on the sloping bank of the river Seiont, the property of the daughters of the late Thomas Lloyd, Esq., of Shrewsbury; Plâs Tirion, the seat of John Rowland, Esq.; Tŷn y Coed, the residence of Major Jones; and Plâs Gwynn, the seat of Major Creighton, about to be occupied by Mr. Swainson, of Liverpool, who, with other gentlemen, has taken the slate quarry on the farm of Tŷ-Dû, in the parish of Llanberis. The land is for the greater part enclosed and in a state of good cultivation: an act of parliament for enclosing the waste lands was obtained about the year 1809. The farms are small, the largest seldom comprising more than a hundred acres; and such of the inhabitants as are not engaged in agriculture are employed in the quarries and in the neighbouring mines. The parish abounds with slate of a reddish hue, or of a brown colour, of a very durable substance, and not apt to open or crack when exposed to the weather. There are quarries both on the mountain called Cevn Dû and on a farm called Glynn Rhonwy, in this parish, belonging to Lord Newborough: on the latter they are numerous, and are worked to a considerable extent under the superintendence of Mr. Roberts of Carnarvon, who rents them under his lordship. These quarries afford employment to more than two hundred men, and the slates are brought down the Llanberis lakes in boats, and thence conveyed by carts to Carnarvon. There are indications of copper-ore on Gaer Cwm y Glo, and also on a mountainous rocky farm called Llwyncoed: some small veins have been actually laid open; and in a rock near the lake, close to the new road, and on the same farm, a vein of asbestos, or amianthus, has been found. At a short distance higher up, and near the boundary of the farms called Llwyncoed and Glynn Rhonwy, is a vein of white soapy clay, resembling fullers' earth, which dips into the lake and may be taken up from a boat. Numerous curious specimens of fossils, minerals, and crystals, are found in the mountainous district of this parish.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £5. 12. 6., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a small but venerable cruciform structure, in the later style of English architecture, without tower or steeple, but having at the



west end a pointed arch, rising above the roof and surmounted by a small cross, under which a bell is suspended: from its elevated situation it is seen from a great distance in every direction, and it has been rendered more conspicuous by being whitewashed all over, not even excepting the roof. There are two places of worship for Calvinistic, and one for Wesleyan, Methodists; and a dwelling-house has been recently converted to the use of a congregation of Presbyterians. Two school-houses have been erected by the Calvinistic Methodists, where Sunday schools are held, as also in each of their places of worship. Mr. John Morris, in 1710, bequeathed two tenements in this parish, called Drws-Dangoed and Caer Weddus, for apprenticing poor boys of this parish and that of Llanbeblig: two or three boys are annually placed out according to the will of the testator, and the benefit is enjoyed by both parishes alternately. In several parts of the parish are numerous remains of cottages, or huts, probably the residences of the aboriginal inhabitants at some period of very remote antiquity: they are generally in clusters of eight or ten each, and appear to have formed distinct villages. They are called *Cyttiau'r Gwyddelod*, or "the Irishmen's huts," and are generally circular in form: two stones on one side of each seem to mark out the entrance, and a large upright stone probably points out the fire-place: the walls, which are about two feet high, and three in thickness, are composed of small stones without mortar. Near these huts are frequently found remains of the "quern," or stone handmill, consisting of two stones, one concave and the other convex, with a place for an iron handle; and stone and brass celts have also been found in the vicinity of these ancient habitations, which are generally distributed through the parish, and of which the number of circular foundations exceeds three hundred. Davydd Thomas, the celebrated Welsh bard, better known as "Davydd Ddû o Eryri," was interred at this place; and Dr. Edwards, who accompanied Commodore Anson in his voyage round the world, and held the office of surgeon on board the *Tamer* frigate, was a native of this parish, and son of one of its rectors: he also lies buried in the churchyard. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £211. 15.

**LLANRWST (LLAN-RWST)**, a market town and parish, comprising the township of Gwydir, which maintains its own poor by a separate assessment, in the hundred of NANTCONWAY, county of CARNARVON, but chiefly in the Uchdulas division of the hundred of ISDULAS, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 20 miles (W. by S.) from Denbigh, 26 (W. by N.) from Ruthin, and 217 (N. W. by W.) from London, containing 3601 inhabitants. This town is of very great antiquity, and in the year 952 was the scene of an important battle in the contests maintained at this period, for the sovereignty of Wales, between the sons of Hywel Dda and those of Edwal Voel, when the former, assembling their forces in South Wales, laid waste the territory of North Wales as far as the river Conway, but were opposed by the latter at the town of Llanrwst, where, after an obstinate conflict, in which many of considerable rank were slain on both sides, the sons of Edwal Voel were victorious, and pursuing their enemies into South Wales, they retaliated upon their territories for the ravages which had been inflicted on their own.

The town is pleasantly situated on the eastern bank of the river Conway, which here forms the boundary between the two counties, four miles to the north of the road to Holyhead, and in the spacious and beautiful Vale of Llanrwst, environed by majestic and well-wooded hills, the land at the foot of which is well watered and exceedingly productive: it is large, well built, and amply supplied with water, but consists principally of small houses and shops: the streets are spacious and well paved. Over the river is an elegant bridge of three arches, built about the year 1636, under an order from the privy council of Charles I., from a plan by Inigo Jones, who is erroneously stated to have been a native of this place: the expense of its erection, amounting to about one thousand pounds, was conjointly defrayed by the two counties which it connects: two of the arches are exceedingly handsome; the third, having been rebuilt in 1703, is somewhat inferior: the centre arch, which forms a much larger segment of a circle than the other two, is nearly sixty feet in span. Excellent roads have lately been made, communicating with the London, Liverpool, and Holyhead roads, and also with Denbigh and St. Asaph, the improved state of which has caused a considerable increase of visitors, during the summer months, to the picturesque and much admired scenery of this neighbourhood. Llanrwst was formerly noted for the making of harps: at present the spinning of woollen yarn, and the knitting of stockings, constitute the principal branches of trade, the town being situated at the north-western extremity of the hosiery district of North Wales, and, next to Bala, the principal market for that article. The river Conway is navigable from its mouth to Trêvriw, three miles from this town, for vessels of sixty tons' burden, which bring coal, lime, timber, and grocery, for the supply of the inhabitants of Llanrwst and the neighbourhood, and carry back the produce of the slate quarries and mines of the adjoining parishes. The market, which is on Tuesday, is well supplied, particularly with corn, which is not sold by sample, but in small quantities, suitable to the circumstances of the purchaser: it is the general mart for the inhabitants of the surrounding district, to a distance of twenty miles in every direction. Fairs, chiefly for the sale of cattle, corn, and wool, are held on the first Tuesday in February, March 8th, April 25th, June 21st, August 10th, September 17th, October 25th, December 11th, and the second Tuesday after that day: at the June fair a great quantity of wool is sold to the clothiers in Yorkshire, and at the September and October fairs great numbers of cattle are sold to the English drovers. The market-place is a spacious square area, in the centre of which stands the town-hall, a plain substantial structure, erected at the expense of Maurice Wynne, Esq., of Caer Melwr, as appears from a stone over the principal entrance, bearing the arms of the Wynnes, and the initials of the founder, with the date 1661: above this is a clock, with a cupola containing the market bell, and surmounted by a large gilt eagle. The general quarter sessions for the county were formerly held in this hall, which practice has been discontinued since the removal of the assizes from Denbigh to Ruthin. The petty sessions for the Uchdulas division of the hundred of Isdulas are held here; and Llanrwst has, by the late Boundary Act, been made a polling-place in the election of knights for the shire.



The parish is upwards of forty miles in circumference. The living comprises a sinecure rectory and a discharged vicarage, united by act of parliament passed in 1678, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, the former rated in the king's books at £12, and the latter at £6. 5. 5., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Grwst, Rhystyd, or Restitutus, is a small edifice, situated close to the margin of the river: it is said to have been originally erected on ground given by Rhun, son of Nevydd Hardd, one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales, to expiate the murder of Prince Idwal, a son of Owain Gwynedd, by order of Nevydd, to whom Owain had entrusted him to be fostered, according to the custom of the country. The present structure is supposed, from its style of architecture, to have been erected early in the fifteenth century. Adjoining it, on the south side, is the Gwydir chapel, a handsome square castellated edifice, the interior of which is decorated with a profusion of carved work: it was built by Sir Richard Wynne, from a design by Inigo Jones, in 1633, as a burial-place for his family, the deceased members of which had previously been interred in the chancel, and contains several elegantly engraved brasses, exhibiting portraits of several of this family: it has a carved and fretted roof, which is said once to have belonged to the conventual church of Maenan abbey, situated about three miles distant. On the eastern wall is a slab of white marble, recording the pedigree of the founder, and tracing his ancestors to Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales. On the southern wall is a mutilated monument to the memory of Sir John Wynne, Bart., a learned antiquary, and an indefatigable gleaner of materials for the illustration of Welsh history, which were published under the title of the "History of the Gwydir family;" also to that of his father Meredith, and his wife Sidney, daughter of Sir William Gerard, Chancellor of Ireland. In the centre of the chapel, upon the floor, lies the stone coffin of Llewelyn the Great, who died in 1240, and was interred in the abbey which he had founded at Aberconway, thence removed to Maenan, and from that place, at the dissolution, the coffin was brought to the old parish church of Llanrwst, where it remained obscured by rubbish until placed in its present more appropriate situation. The same attention has likewise been paid to another piece of antiquity, placed near it, *viz.*, a recumbent armed effigy of Howel Coytmor, grandson of Davydd, brother to Llewelyn ab Gruffydd: he was owner of the Gwydir estate, which was sold by one of his descendants to the family of Wynne. At Garthgarmon, three miles distant, there is a chapel of ease; and at Gwydir, half a mile off, is a private chapel belonging to Lord Willoughby de Eresby. There are in the parish eleven places of worship for dissenters, of which four are in the town, belonging respectively to the Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, each, except the Wesleyan chapel, having a burial-ground attached.

Divers benefactions of considerable amount have been made for the benefit of the poor of this parish, which are judiciously managed, the proceeds being regularly distributed among the most deserving objects annually on St. Thomas's day. The neighbourhood of the town is delightfully picturesque, being ornamented

with several mansions of noblemen and gentlemen, the principal of which are, Gwydir, the seat of Lord Willoughby de Eresby; the Abbey, that of Lord Newborough; Cyfdŷ, that of Mrs. Davies; Belmont, that of the Rev. J. Nanney; Plâs Madoc, that of Wm. Lloyd Jones, Esq.; Penloyn, that of Peter Titley, Esq.; the Cottage, the property of Robert Read, Esq.; Hêndre House, the seat of the late William Edwards, Esq.; Oaklands, that of — Blackall, Esq.; Beaver Grove, the property of Mrs. Davies, of Cyfdŷ, now in the occupation of the Rev. Maurice Hughes; and Tan y celyn, a neat residence newly built on the banks of the river Conway, the property of G. N. Wright, Esq., of St. Albans. The ancient mansion of Gwydir, beautifully situated amidst extensive woods of oak, which clothe the rocks projecting between the rivers Conway and Llugwy, near the foot of a lofty precipice called Carreg y Gwalch, or "the rock of the falcon," was erected, according to some initials and a date over the gateway, by John Wynne ab Meredydd, in 1555, and comprised an extensive, but somewhat irregular, pile of building, ranged in a quadrangular style, and consisting of an inner and an outer court: this edifice was taken down in 1816, since which time the present structure, on a much smaller scale, has been built: a small portion of the former mansion still remains, and is now being fitted up in an antique and elegant style. Above this stood another edifice, called the Upper Gwydir, erected in 1604 by Sir John Wynne, which was pulled down several years ago. The Vale of Llanrwst, which is neither so widely extended as the Vale of Clwyd, nor so contracted as that of Llangollen, is regarded by the admirers of picturesque scenery as exhibiting the most varied assemblage of beautiful features which the pencil could delineate. The prospect of the dense woods and towering hills which enclose it on each side is enlivened by the sparkling waters of the sportive Conway, which every where present an animated scene, either of small vessels arriving at and departing from the village of Trêvriw, or of the diminutive boats called coracles, which are used in fishing for salmon and smelts, considerable quantities of which are caught in their respective seasons. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor of the entire parish amounts to £1833. 2.: exclusively of the township of Gwydir, it is £1668. 18.

LLANSADWRN (LLAN-SADWRN), a parish in the hundred of TYNDAETHWY, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W.) from Beaumaris, containing 371 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the eastern part of the county, and within four miles of the Menai bridge, comprises a moderate portion of land, of which the whole is enclosed, and the greater part in a state of good cultivation. The houses of the inhabitants are scattered over the parish in detached situations, not forming any village; and the surrounding scenery, though not characterized by any peculiarity of feature, is pleasingly rural. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £7. 6. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Sadwrn, from which circumstance the parish derives its name, is a small but neat edifice, consisting of a nave, chancel, and north transept, and was thoroughly repaired at a considerable



expense in 1829. In the transept, projecting from one of the walls, is the head of an ecclesiastic, well executed in stone; and outside the same part of the edifice is the head of a bear, with a muzzle and chain, also curiously carved in stone. A fragment of stone has been found, which is now placed within the transept under the head above mentioned, bearing part of a mutilated inscription in Roman characters, in which the word "Saturninus," still legible, seems to shew that it was part of the monument of that saint, by whom the church is supposed to have been founded about the year 603. The farms of Bryn Eryr and Rhôs Owen, left by Dr. Rowlands for the support of his almshouses at Bangor, are in this parish. Rowland Jones, in 1715, left a tenement called Gorslâs, the rent of which he appropriated in equal shares to the poor of this parish and that of Pentraeth; and Mrs. Roberts, in 1756, bequeathed £150, the interest of which sum she directed to be given in equal shares to three of the poorest and most deserving housekeepers of Llansadwrn. In a field adjoining Trevor, in this parish, are the remains of two ancient cromlechs; the larger, which was supported on two upright stones more than ten feet high, fell down in 1825. There are some remains of an ancient fortress, near an old family mansion called "Castellior," which, from several relics of antiquity discovered in the immediate vicinity, is supposed to be of Roman origin. In the marsh near the base of Llwydiart mountain, fossil oak trees, acorns, and nuts are found, several feet below the surface, retaining all their original freshness. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £137. 10.

LLANSADWRN (LLAN-SADWRN), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of PERVETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (N.N.W.) from Llangadock, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, each of which separately supports its poor, and containing 1221 inhabitants, of which number, 657 are in the Upper, and 564 in the Lower, division. This parish, which is pleasantly situated in the north-eastern part of the county, is intersected by the turnpike road from Llandilo-Vawr, by the ford, to Llandovery, and by a small rivulet tributary to the river Towey. The surface is varied, comprising a mountainous district of considerable extent, and a large portion of common land, with the exception of which the grounds are enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The scenery is finely diversified, and the views from the higher grounds are extensive, embracing a rich prospect over the surrounding country. Abermarlais, the seat of Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas Foley, is a handsome modern mansion, erected by the present proprietor, on the site and from the ruins of an ancient mansion, which originally formed the baronial residence of Sir Rhys ab Thomas, and is noticed by Leland: the present edifice is beautifully situated in grounds finely varied and comprehending much picturesque scenery. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Llanwrda annexed, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 10., endowed with £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Admiral Sir Thomas Foley, G. C. B. The church is dedicated to St. Sadwrn. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Sir Thomas Foley pays to

the poor of the parish forty gallons of barley per month, charged on the estate of Abermarlais, also £5 per annum for instructing poor children, and £5 per annum for apprenticing them: the children of this parish are also entitled to admission into the endowed free school at Llanwrda. Lady Letitia Cornwallis, in 1739, bequeathed £400 for teaching poor children, and £779. 19. 11. for purchasing lands for charitable uses: these sums not having been applied to the purposes prescribed by the will of the testatrix, a decree for the payment of them was obtained from the Court of Chancery, towards the close of the last century. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £313. 3., of which sum, £161. 1. is raised on the Upper, and £152. 2. on the Lower, division.

LLANSADWRNEN (LLAN-SADYRNIN), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of DERLLÛS, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (S.W.) from Laugharne, containing 234 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is pleasantly situated on the bay of Carmarthen, and is but of small extent: the land is enclosed and in a tolerable state of cultivation. Limestone is found in the rocks near the coast, but the inhabitants are principally employed in agriculture. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied; and the views, extending over the bay and the adjacent country, are interesting, and combine some features of picturesque character. The living is a rectory, annexed to the vicarage of Laugharne, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. In this parish are the remains of Broadway House, an ancient mansion, formerly the residence of John Powel, Esq., Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and Keeper of the Great Seal in the reign of James II.; he was one of the judges who sat on the trial of the seven bishops that were committed to the Tower by order of that monarch, in 1688, and by his inflexible integrity they were absolved of the charge laid against them: he died in 1696, aged sixty-three, and was buried in the chancel of the church of Laugharne, where a monument was erected to his memory, bearing an inscription eulogising his conduct on that memorable trial. In the limestone rock near the coast is a curious and beautiful cavern of large dimensions, which was formerly a retreat for smugglers. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £127. 14.

LLANSAMLET (LLAN-SAMLED), a parish in the hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3½ miles (N.E. by N.) from Swansea, comprising the Higher and Lower divisions, which separately maintain their own poor, and containing 3187 inhabitants, of which number, 1076 are in the Higher, and 2111 in the Lower, division. One of the most picturesque features of this parish is Glanbrane, the seat of Capt. W. Jones, a good house situated near the summit of a lofty eminence, and commanding a fine marine view over Crymlyn hill, the grounds surrounding which are very tastefully laid out. Gwernllwynwith, formerly the property of the Morgans of Birch Grove, is a substantial mansion, the residence of C. H. Smith, Esq. The lands of this parish, which is intersected by the river Tawy, and by the turnpike road

*hic jacit Sanctus Saturninus et sua conjux*



from Swansea to Neath, are, with the exception of a small portion, enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. Here are some extensive collieries, the principal of which, belonging to C. H. Smith, Esq., afford constant employment to about five hundred men. There are also, in the Lower division of the parish, three copper-works upon an extensive scale, belonging to three several companies, affording employment to a great number of persons: their produce is conveyed to the port of Swansea by a canal and tram-road which pass through the parish, and by the river Tawy, which is navigable to the works. A large portion of the parish is included within the new limits of the borough of Swansea. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Samled, is a small edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, neatly fitted up for divine service. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Wesleyan Methodists. A school-room was erected, and a school is supported, at the expense of the three copper companies, for the gratuitous instruction of the workmen's children. Mr. Lewis Thomas, in 1708, bequeathed a sum of money to the poor, now producing £2 per annum, which, with another trifling benefaction by Mr. John Jenkin, is annually distributed among them. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £1025.12., of which sum, £489.3. is raised on the Higher, and £536.9. on the Lower, division.

**LLANSANNAN (LLAN-SANNAN)**, a parish in the Higher division of the hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (W.) from Denbigh, containing 1383 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Sannan, the intimate friend and companion of the father of St. Winifred, who lived here in religious seclusion, and was buried near the remains of the latter at Gwytherin. The village is pleasantly situated at the head of the narrow vale of the river Aled, which rises in Llŷn Aled at no great distance, and in its course through the vale forms some interesting and picturesque cascades. The parish comprises a very considerable tract of arable and pasture land, of which by far the greater portion is enclosed; the soil, though various, is tolerably fertile. The surrounding scenery is almost totally devoid of natural beauty, and the country adjacent presents little more than an uninviting prospect of dreary wastes and mountainous ground. In the small vale near the village stands Dyfryn Aled, the seat of Pierce Wynne Yorke, Esq., a splendid mansion, built by his mother, the heiress of the estate: it is situated on the slope of a hill opposite the old house, which was for several generations a seat of the Wynne family. Fairs, chiefly for the sale of cattle, horses, sheep, and wool, are held annually on May 18th, August 17th, October 26th, and November 30th. The living consists of a rectory in two comportsions, and a vicarage, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph; each portion of the rectory, of which one was united to the vicarage by act of parliament in the 29th and 30th of Charles II., is rated in the king's books at £6.10.5.; and the vicarage is rated at £5.0.10.;

and both are in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church is an ancient edifice, occupying a somewhat romantic situation, but possessing no architectural details of importance. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported by the vicar, and there are at present twenty boys and twenty girls in it. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £973.4.

**LLANSANNOR (LLAN-SAN-NWR)**, otherwise **THAW**, a parish in the hundred of **COWBRIDGE**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N.) from Cowbridge, containing 184 inhabitants. This place is situated on the river Thaw, which rises in the parish, and, proceeding by Cowbridge, in its course to which place it occasionally forms the boundary between Llansannor and Penllyne, falls into the channel, about six miles distant, where it forms the little harbour of Aberthaw. The soil is chiefly sandy, and the parish, which comprises about twelve hundred acres, is for the most part flat: the lands are, with the exception of a very small portion, enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. Llansannor House, formerly the residence of the lord of the manor; and Brigam, the property of Sir Charles Taylor, are both now in a greatly dilapidated condition, and in the occupation of tenants: near the latter are the remains of an ancient castle, formerly of some note in this part of the principality. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £7.15.7½., and in the patronage of J. F. Gwyn, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Senewyr, is a small ancient edifice: at the south end of the chancel is an ancient recumbent effigy of a warrior clad in armour, with a sword and shield, the head resting on a lion, and at the feet a dog. Mr. Edward Thomas, of Argoed, in this parish, bequeathed to the poor half the rent of a house and croft in the parish of St. Mary Hill, now producing £4 per annum. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £130.17.

**LLANSANTFRAID (LLANSANTFREAD)**, a parish in the hundred of **PENCELLY**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S.E.) from Brecknock, containing 190 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Fread, an Irish female saint, who appears to have been so highly venerated in Wales, that no fewer than nineteen churches in the principality have been consecrated to her memory. The western part of the parish obtained the appellation of Skethrog, by which it is at present distinguished, from Brochwel Ys-cythrog, Prince of Powys, to whom it descended by inheritance from his mother, who was a daughter of Brychan, Prince of Brycheiniog. It does not appear that Brochwel ever resided upon this lordship, although tradition states that he was buried in the neighbouring parish of Llandeivailog-Vâch, where a rudely carved stone of very ancient character commemorates the interment of some British warrior. After the conquest of the ancient Brycheiniog by Bernard Newmarch, the lordship of Skethrog was conferred on one of his followers, named Miles Pitcher, or Pychard, by whom, or by one of his immediate descendants, a castellated mansion was erected on the bank



of the river Usk, which was subsequently called the Tower, and of which there are still some remains incorporated with a farm-house of that name, which has been built upon the site. The parish is pleasantly situated on the north bank of the river Usk, by which it is bounded throughout its whole length, and is intersected, in the same direction, by the turnpike road from Brecknock to Crickhowel and Abergavenny. The lands, with the exception of a comparatively small portion, are enclosed, and in a good state of cultivation; and the soil is in general fertile and productive. The adjacent country abounds with richly varied and pleasingly picturesque scenery; and the views from the higher grounds comprehend many objects of interest and beauty. Among the most prominent of these may be noticed, in the foreground, the fertile and romantic Vale of Usk, with the river winding through a long succession of varying scenery, having richly wooded eminences on its opposite banks; and, in the distance, the majestic range of the Brecknockshire Beacons, with which the softer aspect of the vale is finely contrasted. Buckland, a spacious mansion originally erected about seventy years ago, by the late Roger Jones, Esq., then member for the county, and now, by marriage with the daughter of the late Thynne Howe Gwynne, Esq., whose father purchased it from the devisees of the original proprietor, the property of James Price Gwynne Holford, Esq., is beautifully situated on the banks of the river Usk, and sheltered by a lofty mountain, barren towards the summit, but having the acclivities, near its base, richly clothed with wood: the house has two fronts, of which that towards the river commands an extensive view down the Vale of Usk, and the other a more confined but romantic view of the mountains which enclose the vale on the south.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6.4.7., and in the patronage of the Earl of Ashburnham. Previously to the Reformation, the advowson was vested in the lord of the manor of Skethrog: it was subsequently granted to Roger Vaughan of Porthaml, from whom it descended to its present proprietor. A portion of the tithes, anciently appropriated to the free chapel of Pencelly, are now held by the lord of the manors of Buckland and Skethrog. The church, which was rebuilt in 1690, is a small edifice, consisting only of two low aisles, with a cupola at the west end, and is situated close to the road side: a gravestone to the memory of David Watkins, of Skethrog, who died on the 2nd of November, 1618, aged eighty-eight, records that he, his father, and his grandfather, lived in this parish for three hundred years: probably it may signify, only, that they were severally living in three different centuries. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. Some small bequests have been made for the benefit of the poor, but having been neglected, they are now entirely lost. The Roman road from Caerlleon to the Gaer near Brecknock passes through the parish, from Cathedine on the east to Llanhamllèch on the west; and about half a mile from Skethrog, on the side of the London road, is a cylindrical stone, rising about three feet and a half out of the ground, bearing an inscription in Roman characters, of which only the letters VICTORINI are legible, and supposed to commemorate the interment

of a son of Victorinus. The walls of the castellated mansion erected by Miles Pychard, and the small remains of which are incorporated in the walls of a farm-house, as above noticed, appear to have been from two to three yards in thickness; and a stone near the farm-house is said to bear a date, now covered with whitewash, of from seven to eight hundred years old: traces of a moat are still visible. Just above the turnpike road is a good house, called Skethrog, the property of Sir William Keppel, which, though not kept up as a family seat, is superior to many in the principality. The Rev. Thomas Vaughan, a man of eccentric habits, but of great genius, was a native of this parish, of which he was rector: he was ejected from his living during the usurpation of Cromwell, and subsequently became eminent for his skill in experimental philosophy, chemistry, and oriental literature; he was also a respectable Latin and English poet: a catalogue of his numerous publications has been preserved by Wood, in his "*Athenæ Oxonienses*." His brother, Henry Vaughan, Esq., M.D., author of the "*Olor Iscanus*," and several other poems, resided for some time in the parish, where he died in 1695, and was interred in the churchyard. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £110.16.

LLANSANTFRAID (LLAN - SANT - FRAID), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of LLAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (S. by W.) from Aberystwith, containing 1206 inhabitants. The village, which is situated on the road from Cardigan to Aberystwith, consists only of a few houses of mean appearance: the parish is noted for its abundant produce of barley. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6.13.4., endowed with £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Bridget, is a commodious edifice, agreeably situated near the shore of Cardigan bay. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. Leland has recorded the existence here of a large building, but he was unable to determine whether or not it was the abbey of Llanfride, of which mention is made in the book "*De Dotatione Ecclesiæ S. Davidis*." Giraldus also speaks of Llansanfride nunnery, but it is equally uncertain whether this was situated here. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £304.5.

LLANSANTFRAID-CWM-TOYDDWR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES.—See CWM-TOYDDWR.

LLANSANTFRAID-GLÂN-CONWAY (LLAN-SANT-FRAID), otherwise DISERTH, a parish in the hundred of ISDULAS, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S. E. by E.) from Aberconway, containing 1306 inhabitants. This parish is situated in the pleasant Vale of Conway: the village stands on the eastern bank of the river, on the road from Aberconway to Llanrwst, within five miles of the Irish sea. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £7.6.8. and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Bridget, is a spacious edifice, consisting of a nave, chancel, and south aisle, with two good east windows, containing some elegant remains of ancient stained glass. There are



two places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, and one for Baptists. Four poor boys, the sons of parishioners, are instructed, in a school-house in the village, from an endowment of £2 per annum, being the interest of several small sums left for that purpose, amounting in the aggregate to £45. In a wood near Bryn y Pobty is an entire cromlech of considerable size; and in the farm-yard at that place is a copious spring of water, strongly impregnated with saline particles, and, within a few feet of it, a strong chalybeate spring, which deposits also a considerable quantity of sulphur on the sides of the well. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £495. 17.

**LLANSANTFRAID-GLYN-DYVRDWCY** (**LLAN-SANT-FRAID-GLYN-DYVRDWCY**), a parish in the hundred of EDEYRNION, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (E.) from Corwen, containing 60 inhabitants. This parish, which was anciently a chapelry to that of Corwen, is pleasantly situated in the north-eastern extremity of the county, bordering upon that of Denbigh, and upon the banks of the river Dee. It comprises only four hundred and fifty acres, consisting of enclosed arable and pasture land, the whole of the waste lands within its limits having been enclosed by private agreement among the landholders, in the year 1807: the soil is principally stony and argillaceous. The surface is for the most part hilly, only a small tract on the margin of the Dee being subject to inundation: the Dee, which bounds the parish on the south, is here joined by a little rivulet called the Morwynion, which descends along its eastern border. The surrounding scenery is finely varied, and in many parts beautifully picturesque. From Tŷ'n y Caerau, above Rhagatt, in this parish, is a fine view, extending over the fertile vale of Edeyrnion, through which the Dee, in its numerous windings, appears and disappears amidst flourishing woods and plantations, assuming the appearance of small lakes scattered through the vale, in which the town of Corwen forms a prominent and interesting feature, and beyond which the Berwyn range of mountains is seen with peculiar advantage. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £1. 17. 1., endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Fraid, or St. Bride, who flourished about the middle of the seventh century, is a neat and ancient edifice, in the early style of English architecture, and appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service: in the churchyard are three ancient yew trees of remarkably fine growth. In the village is a small building, now a dwelling-house, called Carchardy Owain Glyndwr, or "Owain Glyndwr's Prison House," in which that renowned chieftain is said to have confined the captives whom he took in battle. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £22. 7.

**LLANSANTFRAID-GLYNN-CERIOW** (**LLAN-SANT-FRAID-GLYN-CEIRIOW**), a parish in the hundred of CHIRK, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S. S. W.) from Llangollen, containing 543 inhabitants. This parish, as the name implies, is situated on the river Ceiriog: the village occupies a low and very retired situation, entirely encompassed by lofty mountains. It contains slate of excellent quality and in abun-

dance, in procuring which some extensive quarries are now being worked with much profit to the proprietors. The manufacture of flannel is carried on to a considerable extent; and on the stream of the Ceiriog are two fulling-mills, to which extensive bleaching-grounds are attached. Fairs are held on February 14th, May 1st, August 1st, and November 1st. The living is a perpetual curacy, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Viscount Dungannon. The church, dedicated to St. Bridget, has been recently rebuilt in the Grecian style of architecture: it is a handsome edifice, with a small square tower, and is situated on an eminence at some distance from the village. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school has been established for the gratuitous instruction of poor children of the parish, but it has no endowment, and is supported solely by subscription. A chalybeate spring in this parish, formerly in great repute for its medicinal efficacy, is now nearly lost by drainage. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £239. 17.

**LLANSANTFRAID IN ELVEL** (**LLAN-SANT-FRAID YN ELVAEL**), a parish in the hundred of COLWYN, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N. E. by E.) from Builth, containing 343 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is pleasantly situated on the turnpike road from Builth, through New Radnor, to Kington in the county of Hereford, and is surrounded by mountains of various elevation, interspersed with fertile tracts of land and denuded eminences. The surface is boldly undulating, and the hills present a singular, and in some instances a fantastic, variety of form and aspect. The lands, with the exception of the more hilly parts, are enclosed and in good cultivation: the soil in the lower grounds is of a clayey nature, but not unproductive; and the acclivities of the hills afford pasturage for sheep. The surrounding scenery, though in some parts pleasingly varied, is distinguished rather by features of wildness than of beauty. Within less than a mile of the church is a neat house, the residence of Hugh Vaughan, Esq., pleasantly situated, and forming a pleasing object in the scenery of the place. Colwyn, in this vicinity, has recently been made a polling-place in the election of a knight for the shire. This parish constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, valued in the king's books at £1. 6. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 14. 9½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Fread, or St. Bride, is a small ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a tower at the west end, the upper part of which, having fallen, has been replaced by a slanting roof: the churchyard, which contains some fine old yew trees, has a very picturesque appearance, and commands a fine view of the surrounding mountains. A Sunday school is supported under the superintendence of the vicar of the parish and a few of the principal inhabitants, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children. An estate called Forest Colwyn, which is partly in this parish, and partly in that of Caregrina, adjoining, forms part of the en-



dowment of the Boughrood charity, bequeathed by the Rev. Rees Powel, for the apprenticing of poor children and other charitable uses. There are but slight vestiges of Colwyn castle, erected here in 1242, by Ralph Mortimer, on the site of an ancient encampment supposed to have been of British origin, for the protection of his newly acquired lordship of Maelienydd, from which fortress the circumjacent hundred derived its name: they consist chiefly of the ancient lines of defence, and of a mound now covered with underwood and fir trees. A barrow near the site of this fortress, on being opened a few years ago, was found to contain a rude urn with burnt bones, &c. Near a stream in this parish, called Cam-nant-Rhôs, which is tributary to the river Edw, is a mineral spring, of which the water is strongly impregnated with sulphur. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £169. 5.

**LLANSANTFRAID YN MECHAN (LLAN-SANT-FRAID-YN-MECHAIN)**, a parish partly in the upper division of the hundred of DEYTHUR, and partly in the lower division of the hundred of POOL, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (E. by N.) from Llanvyllin, containing 1365 inhabitants, of which number, 808 are in the main body of the parish, on the northern side of the river Vyrnwy, and the remainder in the several townships of Collvryn, Llanerchilla, Tredderwen-Vawr, and Trewylan, on the southern side of the same stream: the portions in the several hundreds maintain their poor by a separate assessment. The parish is beautifully situated in a very picturesque part of the Vale of Vyrnwy, and is divided into two parts by the river which gives name to that rich and fertile vale: it comprises a very extensive tract of rich arable and pasture land; and in some parts of it is found abundance of peat, which forms the principal fuel of the inhabitants. The surrounding scenery is beautifully varied, and from the higher grounds the extensive vales of Salop and the Severn, with the lofty hills by which they are bounded, are pleasingly conspicuous. The turnpike road from Shrewsbury, through Llanvyllin, to Bala passes through the village, in which fairs are annually held on the Tuesday before Easter, May 22nd, and October 3rd. The living consists of both a rectory and a vicarage, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph: the rectory, which is a sinecure, is rated in the king's books at £14. 6. 8., and the vicarage, which is discharged, at £5. 17. 6.: both are in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, which appears to have been built at different periods, is a neat structure, principally in the early style of English architecture, and contains some good monuments: the interior was greatly improved in 1830, by the removal of the old benches and the substitution of regular pews. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school is supported by subscription, and from sixty to eighty children are at present gratuitously instructed in it. There are remains of several ancient British camps in this parish. In the hamlet of Trewylan, in a meadow of which the situation is very low, and has the appearance of having once been a morass, is a post corresponding exactly with the description given by Cæsar of the ancient British posts: it is seen very distinctly from the Meivod road, about a quarter of a mile from

Pont y pentre. On the hill called the Voel, on the Llanvyllin road, are the remains of an old British camp, the site of which is in some degree concealed by the partial plantation of the hill; but the fosse and dyke are clearly discernible from Pont y pentre and the Llangedwin road. There was also a post on the latter road, occupying the summit of Winllan hill, of which the intrenchments, though not so clearly defined, may still be traced. About two miles distant are the remains of an ancient encampment, called Clawdd Côch, which from its form is supposed to have been of Roman construction. The situation of this post near the confluence of the rivers Tanat and Vyrnwy, and commanding the entrance into the vales of the Severn and Tanat, and also into that of Llsantfraid, was highly advantageous for the defence of the mines of Llanymynech, which are supposed to have been worked by the Romans. Being so close to the river Vyrnwy, it has suffered some demolition, part of the intrenchment on that side having been washed away by the river. This post, which is but little known, has been thought by some antiquaries to be the *Mediolanum* of Antoninus; but its relative distance from *Heriri Mons*, or *Tommen y Môr*, on one side, and from *Rutunium* and *Uriconium*, on the other, does not agree with that mentioned in the Itinerary. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £636. 9., of which sum, £253. 6. is raised on that portion of the parish which is in the hundred of Deythur, and £383. 3. on that which is in the hundred of Pool.

**LLAN-SANT-SIOR**, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES.—See KEGIDOCK.

**LLANSAWEL (LLAN-SAWEL)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (N.) from Llandilovawr, on the road to Lampeter, comprising the hamlets of Edwinsford with Glynn, and Wen with Genol, separately supporting their own poor, and containing 1024 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the small river Cothy, and is intersected by a tributary of that river, which falls into it near the village: over each of these streams is a neat bridge. The lands are for the greater part enclosed and in a state of good cultivation. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified with wood and water, and from some of the higher grounds are fine prospects extending over a tract of well-cultivated country. Edwinsford, called in Welsh "Rhŷd Odyn," the seat of the family of Williams, whose ancestors have represented the county in parliament for several ages, and now the seat of Sir James Hamlyn Williams, Bart., is in this parish. It is beautifully situated on the eastern bank of the river Cothy, and is approached by a stately avenue of lofty trees: the mansion appears to have been formerly of greater magnitude; the grounds, which are extensive and judiciously disposed, comprehend much beautiful scenery. Upon one of the highest hills, a structure, erected by an ancestor of the present proprietor, probably as a fortress, though subsequently used as a place of amusement, and which formed a conspicuous object in the view, has long since been suffered to fall into decay. A market, which was formerly held here, has been for many years discontinued; but fairs are still held annually on the first Friday after the 12th of May, July 15th, October 23rd, and on the first Friday after the 12th



of November. By the late Boundary Act this has been made a polling-place in the election of a knight for the shire. The living is annexed to the vicarage of Cayo, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's. There is a place of worship for Methodists. A school is partly supported by subscription. William Jones bequeathed £10, directing the interest to be divided annually among the poor communicants of this parish. John Thomas Philipps, preceptor to William Duke of Cumberland, and other members of the Royal Family, and author of some well-known Latin Epistles, was a native of this parish, to which he bequeathed £60 per annum for the support of a school for the gratuitous instruction of the children of the poor inhabitants, but, dying before his will was duly signed, the legacy was lost. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor of the entire parish is £344. 16.

LLANSILLIN (LLAN-SILIN), a parish principally in the Cynlleth and Mochnant division of the hundred of CHIRK, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, extending also into the English county of SALOP, in which it comprises the township of Sychdin, or Soughton, which separately maintains its own poor, 6 miles (W.) from Oswestry, and containing 1951 inhabitants, of which number, 1704 are in that part of the parish which is in the county of Denbigh. This parish, which is eight miles in length and averages about seven miles in breadth, is finely situated on the river Cynlleth: the lands are enclosed and in a high state of cultivation, and the soil is fertile and productive: the surrounding scenery is richly varied, and the views over the adjacent country abound with interest and variety. Glâscoed, an ancient seat of the family of Kyffin, afterwards conveyed by marriage to Sir William Williams, Speaker of the House of Commons, and now the property of his descendant, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., forms an interesting feature in the scenery of the place. Plâs Newydd, formerly the seat of a branch of the Myddeltons of Chirk Castle; and Pen y Bont, at one period the property of the family of Maurice, are also within the parish. Here was likewise an old residence of Owain Glyndwr, called Sycharth, which was seated on an eminence and surrounded by a park, containing fishponds, deer, &c., the beauties of which are described by his bard, Iolo Gôch, in a poem still extant. It was occupied by this chief before his removal to Glyn-Dyvrwy, or the Valley of the Dee, between Llangollen and Corwen, where Sycharth has commonly, but erroneously, been supposed to have stood. The court of the manor of Cynllaith Owain was kept in the parlour of the mansion, until towards the close of the last century: at present there are scarcely any remains of the building. Above the house are the ruins of a keep, or castellet, surrounded with a high mound and deep ditch. The manufacture of flannel is carried on to a considerable extent, affording employment to many of the inhabitants, and on the river Cynlleth is an extensive fulling-mill. Fairs, chiefly for the sale of live stock, are annually held in the village on Easter Tuesday, July 10th, and October 2nd. The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £8, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Giles, is a spacious and handsome struc-

ture, in the later style of English architecture, with a low tower. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Watkin Kyffin, in 1700, bequeathed £52, the interest of which he directed to be distributed in bread to the poor. Sir W. Myddelton, Bart., in 1717, gave £20; Sir William Williams, in 1740, bequeathed £200; Mrs. Ann Myddelton bequeathed £42; and Mr. Pryce Maurice, in 1775, gave £27, the interest of which sums, together with the produce arising from some portions of land severally bequeathed by Edward ab Thomas, in 1657, Edward Maurice, in 1732, Mrs. Rogers, and others, is annually distributed among the poor. This parish is incorporated with the adjacent one of Chirk and with nine or ten others in the county of Salop, for the common support of their poor in the house of industry at Oswestry: the average annual assessment upon it amounts to £350. 4.

LLANSPYTHID, or LLANSPYDDID (LLAN-SPYDDYD), a parish comprising the hamlets of Llan-spythid, or the "Church Hamlet," Modrŷdd and Penpont, each of which separately maintains its own poor, in the hundred of DEVYNOK, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, and containing 514 inhabitants, of which number, 204 are in the hamlet of Llan-spythid, 2 miles (W.) from Brecknock. The name of this place, originally "Llan y Spitty," of which its modern appellation is said to be a corruption, is derived from an ancient *hospitium*, formerly supported here by the priory of Malvern, in the county of Worcester, to which establishment Milo Fitz-Walter granted the manor and advowson. The parish is bounded on the north by the river Usk, over which are three bridges, situated respectively at Aber Brân, Abercamlais, and Penpont: of these, the first was built and is kept in repair at the joint expense of the hundreds of Devynock and Merthyr-Cynog, and the other two, which are private property, are repaired by the proprietors of the lands in which they are situated. In the eastern part the parish is bounded by the river Tarell, which falls into the Usk near Brecknock; and in the lower part it is intersected by the turnpike road from Brecknock to Carmarthen, from which, near the former town, a branch leads through the upper part of the parish to Merthyr-Tydvil. The village is beautifully situated on the south bank of the river Usk, embosomed in a luxuriant grove of stately trees: the surrounding scenery is highly picturesque, and the views over the Vale of Usk and the adjacent country are rich in every variety of romantic beauty. From the village towards Aber Brân the vale is exceedingly narrow; but the view of the river below Venni-Vâch wood, with the richly wooded heights which enclose the vale, is beautifully picturesque, to which the church of Aberyscir forms a pleasing addition. Beyond Aber Brân the vale expands considerably; and the river is seen winding its devious course through the fine grounds of Penpont, the seat of Penry Williams, Esq., situated in the hamlet of that name, which is noticed under its own head, and in which it forms an interesting and highly ornamental feature. Abercamlais, the seat of the Rev. John Williams, and the remains of Aber Brân, the ancient seat of another branch of that family, are also in the hamlet of Penpont; and all three are situated within a mile of each other, on the south bank of the river Usk.



The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5.17.8½., and in the patronage of Marquis Camden, who is impropiator of the great tithes. The church, dedicated to St. Cattwe, and situated near the high road, is a long low building, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a small belfry at the west end: the churchyard is planted with yew trees, several of which have attained a prodigious growth, but are now beginning to decay: one of these, which are considered to be some of the finest in the county, is twenty-seven feet in girth: in the cemetery was formerly an ancient stone, inscribed with a rude cross, which is said to have commemorated Brychan, Prince of Brycheiniog, or his father. The vicarage-house, to which about five acres of glebe land are attached, is a very indifferent building, situated in the village. In the hamlet of Penpont is a chapel called Capel Bettws. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists, the latter of which is in the hamlet of Mordrydd. Mr. Tobias Williams, in 1657, bequeathed a small portion of land, the produce to be distributed in bread to the poor of this parish; and Mrs. Catherine James, in 1721, bequeathed the sum of £260, since laid out in the purchase of land, the produce to be distributed in bread, in equal proportions, among the poor of the parishes of Llanspythid and St. David's, and of the chapelry of St. Mary's. On a hill above Aber Brân are the remains of a small encampment, called the Gaer, apparently of British origin: it is nearly of an oval form, and is defended by a single rampart: this fortification, which crowns the summit of the hill, commands a magnificent view of the Vale of Usk, with the windings of the river, on the opposite bank of which, and immediately in front of the Gaer, is another eminence, crowned with a similar intrenchment. In the vale, near the influx of a small rivulet into the Usk near Penpont, was a castle, built by Einon Sais, a Welsh chieftain who attended Edward III. in most of his wars, and was present at the memorable battles of Cressy and Poitiers: this castle afterwards descended to Sir David Gam, but not a vestige of it is now distinguishable. At some distance to the south-west, at a place called Blaengwithid, are traces of the "Sarn Lleon," a Roman road, originally extending from the station *Deva* (Chester) to *Nidum* (Neath); but after passing an artificial mound, supposed to have been the site of an exploratory station, and subsequently of a fort, or keep, probably constructed in the reign of John, by Maud de St. Valeri, wife of William de Breos, it is lost in its course into the Vale of Usk, where it crossed the *Via Julia Montana* from Caerlleon, by the "Gaer" near Brecknock, to *Maridunum*. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £401.1., of which sum, £153.15. is assessed on the hamlet of Llanspythid.

LLANSTADWELL (LLAN-STADWELL), a parish in the hundred of Rhôs, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (E. by S.) from Milford, containing 733 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the northern shore of Milford Haven, comprises a considerable tract of fertile and well-cultivated land, with some portions of hilly ground, which, from its steepness, is but ill adapted to repay the expense and labour of cultivation. At Nayland, which is situated within

its limits, it was once in contemplation to construct a dock-yard, for which purpose some lands in the vicinity were purchased, on both sides of the harbour, on which to erect works for its security and defence. Considerable progress had been made in the erection of one of the fortresses on the opposite side of the haven, but upon the death of the late Sir John Philipps, father of the late Lord Milford, who was the principal promoter of the design, the plan was abandoned, after two ships of war only had been built, both of which, the "Prince of Wales," of seventy-four guns, and the "Milford" frigate, were built by contract. The surrounding scenery is finely varied, combining the fine expanse of water in the haven on the south, and the spacious open channel on the west, with extensive tracts of richly cultivated country on the north and east. In the vicinity are several good houses, of which there are within the parish, Jordans-ton, the property of the Rev. Thomas Wilson; Hays-ton, the residence of R. Matthias, Esq.; and Newton, a dilapidated old house on a valuable estate belonging to Lewis Child, Esq. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7.17., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Lewis Child, Esq., to whom two-thirds of the great and small tithes were impropriated, the remaining third belonging to the vicar. Mr. Child has recently disposed of the greater part of his tithes to the respective proprietors of the lands. The church, dedicated to St. Tudwal, is an ancient structure in good repair, pleasantly situated on the margin of the haven, in the southern part of the parish. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. Some remains of two ancient British encampments, comprising each an area of about one acre, are visible; one is situated at the north-eastern extremity of the parish, nearly opposite the village of Rhôsmarket, and the other at its south-western extremity, on a point on the shore of Milford Haven. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £267.13.

LLANSTEPHAN (LLAN-STEPHAN), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S. S. W.) from Carmarthen, containing 1274 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Stephen, was distinguished at a very early period for a fortress of great strength, erected on the summit of a bold eminence projecting into the bay of Carmarthen, and defending the entrance of the river Towy, which falls into the bay at this place. By whom, or at what precise time, it was founded is unknown. Cadell, Meredydd and Rhŷs, sons of the late Gruffydd ab Rhŷs, Prince of South Wales, having, in 1143, possessed themselves of Carmarthen castle, were encouraged to appear before that of Llanstephan, the relief of which was attempted by a large body of Anglo-Normans; but success still attending the arms of the Welsh chieftains, these forces were defeated, and the fortress was taken. Meredydd, to whom its custody was entrusted, was here vigorously assailed by the Normans, who soon after laid siege to it. The Welsh commander suffered them to complete their preparations for the attack; the scaling ladders were fixed and manned; but just as the assailants were gaining the battlements he brought certain engines, which he had contrived for that purpose,



to bear upon the enemy, and precipitated them to the ground. The Normans, frustrated in their attempt upon the castle, raised the siege and retired; but after a short time renewing their attempts, they ultimately obtained possession of it. In 1216, it was taken and destroyed by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth; and after being rebuilt, it was successfully attacked, in 1254, by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd.

The parish is beautifully situated on the shore of Carmarthen bay; an excellent turnpike road leads from the village to Carmarthen, and a ferry across the river Towy communicates with the village of Ferry-side, on the opposite shore, in the parish of St. Ishmael's. The waste lands were enclosed by act of parliament obtained in 1807, under the provisions of which a very considerable portion was allotted to the respective landowners. The appearance of the village is peculiarly interesting; but, from its retired situation, being distant from any great thoroughfare, it is not much frequented by visitors: it unites all the advantages of a maritime situation with the tranquil retirement of an inland village, and has a greater number of opulent families resident in it than any other village in the neighbourhood of Carmarthen. The surrounding scenery is highly pleasing, and, in many parts of the parish, beautifully picturesque; the views over the fine open bay are interesting and extensive; and the course of the river Towy, with its richly wooded banks, still further enlivens and diversifies the prospect. Within the parish are some elegant seats and handsome residences, which add greatly to the beauty and to the variety of the scenery. Llanstephan Place, the seat of George Mears, Esq., is an elegant modern mansion, built upon an estate formerly belonging to the family of Lloyd: it is beautifully situated in a richly wooded demesne, with a fine open lawn sloping gradually from the front of the house to the margin of the Towy. Laques, the seat of William Lloyd, Esq., descended from the ancient family of that name, the former proprietors of Llanstephan Place, is a substantial family residence, now much neglected, in a very sequestered part of the parish, containing some pleasing rural scenery. Llanstephan Cottage, the residence of Thomas Morris, Sen., Esq., is finely situated near the river, sheltered in the rear by rising grounds covered with young plantations: the grounds, which are tastefully disposed, open upon the sands, which are peculiarly fine, and in summer afford to the inhabitants an interesting and agreeable marine promenade. The living, rated as a vicarage in the king's books at £8. 13. 4., is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £600 royal bounty, and £1500 parliamentary grant, and in the joint patronage of Messrs. Morris, bankers of Carmarthen, and William Lloyd, Esq., of Laques, who are impropiators of the tithes. The church is dedicated to St. Stephen. In the hamlet of Llanybree was formerly a chapel of ease, which, in ancient records, is called the Marble Church, and is now appropriated to the use of a congregation of Independents. There is also another place of worship for Independents, and one each for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. There are some remains of the ancient castle, consisting chiefly of the shell, which is tolerably entire, especially the principal entrance: from the towers, which are still acces-

sible by means of the ancient staircase, though greatly dilapidated, may be obtained a fine marine view, embracing a portion of the Glamorganshire and Pembroke-shire coasts. St. Anthony's well, in this parish, was anciently in very high repute for the many miraculous cures effected by the water, under the auspices of its patron saint; but it is now entirely neglected. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £709. 15.

LLANSTEPHAN (LLAN-STEPHAN), a parish in the hundred of PAINSCASTLE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. by N.) from Hay, containing 268 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is situated upon the river Wye, which here forms the boundary line between the counties of Radnor and Brecknock, and is separated by the small river Bâchwy from the adjacent parish of Llandeilo-Graban. The greater portion of the land is unenclosed and uncultivated; and the surrounding scenery, though pleasingly varied, and enlivened by the meandering Wye, is not characterized by any peculiarity of feature. An elegant cottage residence, built by the late W. Wilkins, Esq., of Maeslough, and now the property of Miss Elizabeth Walker, forms an interesting object in the scenery of the place. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Archdeacon of Brecknock, to whom the tithes are appropriated. The church, dedicated to St. Stephen, and situated on the summit of a rocky eminence of considerable elevation, is not distinguished by any architectural details. A Sunday school is supported by subscription, and gratuitously superintended by a few individuals of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £160. 4.

LLANSTINAN (LLAN-STINAN), a parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. by W.) from Fishguard, containing 168 inhabitants. The name appears to be derived by contraction from the name of the saint (Justinian) to whom the church is dedicated. The parish is pleasantly situated near the source of the Western Cleddy river, by which it is separated from that of Fishguard, and comprises a large portion of enclosed arable and pasture land: the surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and the views from the higher grounds embrace extensive prospects over the adjacent country, which abounds with interesting features. The ancient mansion of the family of Symmons, which had been suffered to remain in a neglected state for some time, has been modernized or rebuilt, and is now the handsome seat of Col. Owen, eldest son of Sir John Owen, Bart., lord-lieutenant of the county. The turnpike road from Haverfordwest to Fishguard passes through the parish. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Sir John Owen, Bart., who is lessee of the tithes under the subchanter in the cathedral church of St. David's. The church is not distinguished by any interesting architectural details. The annual average expenditure for the support of the poor is £50. 4.

LLANTHETTY, or LLANDDETTY (LLAN-DDETTI), a parish in the hundred of PENCELLY, county



of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (N.W.) from Crickhowel, near the road to Brecknock, consisting of the hamlets of Dyfryn and Vro, which separately support their own poor, and containing 579 inhabitants. This parish extends from the south bank of the river Usk, which forms its northern boundary, to the confines of Glamorganshire: it is separated from the parish of Llangynidr, in the hundred of Crickhowel, by the river Crawnnon, and from the parish of Llanvigan by the river Carvanell. The surface of the surrounding country is irregular, and agreeably diversified with wood and water: the river Usk, the banks of which are in many places richly wooded, forms several pleasing waterfalls in its progress over its rocky channel: several of the adjacent hills are lofty and clothed with wood, and from some of them are obtained extensive prospects. From that called Tâf-Voel it is said that portions of thirteen counties may be seen: on the north are the Black Mountains of Talgarth, and to the east the Sugar Loaf mountain, on the border of Monmouthshire. Llanthetty Hall, beautifully situated in a very secluded part of the Vale of Usk, being embosomed in lofty hills clothed with luxuriant woods, is the neat mansion of Mrs. Overton: the grounds are pleasing, and the views from them, though not extensive, are very beautiful. The village of Llanthetty is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Usk, on the opposite side of which runs the turnpike road from Brecknock to Crickhowel and Abergavenny. On the banks of the Carvanell, just above its confluence with the Usk, two miles eastward from the church, stands the considerable village of Tâl y bont. Here is a carding-mill, connected with the manufacture of the coarse woollen cloth of the country. The Brecknock and Abergavenny canal passes through the parish from north-west to south-east, affording means for the exportation of the coal and limestone procured in the neighbouring parishes, and the importation of articles of merchandise from Bristol and Newport. On its banks, at Tâl y bont, are some limekilns and coal wharfs, to which the above-mentioned minerals are brought by an iron railroad, which, from the mountains to the south, has branches to the Tredegar, Romney, and Bute iron-works. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 10. 7½., and in the patronage of James Gwynne Holford, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Detta, is a neat structure, in the later style of English architecture, consisting only of a small nave and chancel, with a low tower at the western end, and is appropriately fitted up for the accommodation of the parishioners: it is situated within a few yards of the Usk, in the township of Dyfryn. In that of Vro is the chapel of Tâf-Vechan, the living of which is a perpetual curacy, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Rector of Llanthetty. The Rev. John Davies, rector of the parish in 1727, charged certain lands with the annual payment of the interest of £20, for the instruction of poor children of this parish, in the Catechism of the Church of England, and to teach them to write their name, but the bequest has been rendered unavailable through neglect. In constructing that part of the Brecknock and Abergavenny canal which passes through this parish, a Roman sacrificial instrument, called a *secespita*, was dis-

covered; and in digging for the same purpose in a wet and marshy wood several trees were found, at the depth of four or five feet below the surface, entirely black, and of a peculiarly hard consistency. The Roman road from *Tibia Annis*, near Cardiff, to the station at Caer Bannau, near Brecknock, traverses the parish from south to north, inclining to the eastward as it descends into the Vale of Usk and crosses the river Carvanell. Maes-mawr, in this parish, of which he was a native, was once the residence of Jenkin Jones, a colonel in the parliamentary army during the civil war of the seventeenth century, who distinguished himself by his republican principles and determined hostility to the established church: so violent were these that, on being informed of the landing of Charles II., at the Restoration, he is said to have mounted his horse, ridden through the churchyard, and, discharging a pistol at the church door, in which the perforation made by the ball is still shown, he exclaimed aloud, "Ah! thou whore of Babylon, thou'lt have it all thy own way now." The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £327. 13.

LLANTHEW (LLAN-DDEW), a parish partly in the hundred of MERTHYR-CYNOG, and partly in that of PENCELLY, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 1½ mile (N.N.E.) from Brecknock, containing 323 inhabitants. This parish, which takes its name from the saint to whom the church is dedicated, was anciently a residence of the Bishops of St. David's, who had a castellated mansion here, which was in ruins in the time of Leland, who also speaks of a house belonging to the archdeacon of Brecknock, which had likewise fallen into decay. During the Interregnum, the manor was seized by the parliament, and sold to David Morgan, Esq., but was recovered to the see of St. David's after the Restoration. The village is pleasantly situated on the river Honddû, about a mile and a half above its confluence with the Usk at Brecknock, and within half a mile of the high road from Brecknock to Hay, which intersects the parish: it compactly surrounds the church, the cemetery attached to which commands a delightful view of a rich landscape, bounded by the bold eminences on the northern side of the Vale of Usk, and by the heights enclosing the woody glen through which the Honddû flows, the whole for the most part presenting a scene of high cultivation. The Bishop of St. David's holds a court leet annually, at which his steward presides, and anciently a court baron was also held here, but this has long been discontinued. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Mr. Phillpotts, as lessee of the tithes under the Archdeacon of Brecknock. The church, dedicated to St. Dewi, or David, and one of the oldest religious edifices in the county, is a cruciform structure, in the early style of English architecture, anciently spacious, but now greatly dilapidated: from the intersection rises a low tower having a conical roof, erected in 1621: the windows are lancet-shaped, and appear to have been originally surmounted with handsome freestone mouldings. There are some remains of the chapel of the ancient episcopal mansion, consisting of the side walls, in which are three pointed windows, and also of portions of the end walls, in which are windows of the same form: there are likewise slight



vestiges of other portions of the edifice, chiefly of outer walls. In 1188, Archbishop Baldwin, accompanied by Giraldus Cambrensis, when on his tour through Wales to preach the crusades, passed a night at this castle. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £166. 7., of which sum, £62. 13. is raised on that portion of the parish which is in the hundred of Merthyr-Cynog, and £103. 14. on that which is in the hundred of Pencelly.

**LLANTHOYSAINT (LLAN Y DDEUSANT)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of PERVETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. E. by E.) from Llangadock, comprising the hamlets of Blaen-Sawdde with Maes y Fynnon, and Quarter Mawr with Gwydre, each separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, and containing 1006 inhabitants. This place is beautifully situated in the south-eastern part of the county, on the confines of Brecknockshire, from which it is separated by the chain of hills called the Black Mountain, of which a considerable portion is within the parish: the lands, with the exception of this mountainous district, are enclosed and cultivated. The surrounding scenery is strikingly diversified, combining features of picturesque and rural beauty with objects of bold and romantic grandeur. That part of the Black Mountain which is within the parish forms the loftiest elevation in the county; and near the base of its highest summit, called the Van, or "Beacon," is a fine lake of beautifully clear and transparent water, in the form of a parallelogram, nearly a mile in length, and about sixteen fathoms deep. The majestic grandeur of the precipitous rocks which impend over this lake, and the wild character of the surrounding objects, give to this extensive sheet of water a strikingly romantic appearance, which is finely contrasted with the scenery by which the lower grounds in its vicinity are distinguished. Though its situation is so elevated that the snow remains unmelted upon its border for the greater part of the year, yet its waters abound with trout of superior quality, and with eels of extraordinary size. The river Sawdde has its source in this lake, and, after traversing the parish, falls into the river Towy, near Llangadock. A fair is annually held in the village on the 10th of October. The living is annexed to the vicarage of Llangadock, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Simon and St. Jude, is not remarkable for any architectural details. There is a place of worship for Methodists. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £193. 13.

**LLANTRISAINT (LLAN-TRISANT)**, a parish partly in the hundred of MENAI, but chiefly in that of LLYVON, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (W.) from Llanerchymedd, containing 537 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the western part of the island, and is intersected by the small river Alaw, comprehends a tract of about four thousand four hundred and sixty acres of arable and pasture land, of which the greater portion is enclosed. The surface is boldly undulated, rising into abrupt eminences of various elevation and aspect: the soil is for the most part poor, consisting chiefly of a hungry clay, fit only for the cultivation of oats. Copper-ore has been found in considerable quantities upon Meinir farm; but no mines of it have hitherto been opened.

The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacies of Ceidio, Gwredog, Llanllibio, and Llêcheyn-varwydd annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £15, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Avran, St. Ieuan, and St. Sanan, from which circumstance the parish derives its name, signifying the church of three saints, was originally founded in the year 570. The present is a good modern edifice of comparatively recent erection: it contains a neat plain monument to the memory of Dr. Hugh Williams, founder of the families of Wynnstay, Bodelwyddan, and Penbedw. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. A small parochial school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children was founded in 1822: it has an endowment of £8 per annum, for which ten children are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic: the instruction of others is paid for by subscription. Three poor men from this parish are eligible to the almshouses at Beaumaris, under the will of the founder, David Hughes, who endowed them with the farm called Meinir, here situated, and with various other lands for the support of the inmates. The same benefactor, by his will, dated December 30th, 1609, after providing for the maintenance and support of the school and almshouses at Beaumaris, directs that any surplus should be distributed among the poor of this parish; but although a considerable surplus has been accumulating for many years, no distribution has yet been made. The affairs of the charity are at present under the investigation of the Lord Chancellor, and it is expected that a very considerable distribution will eventually be made among the poor, according to the tenour of the will. The above-named David Hughes was a native of this parish, and having by persevering industry amassed a very ample property, thus charitably appropriated a considerable portion of it for the benefit of the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £293. 13.

**LLANTRISSENT (LLAN-TRI-SAINT)**, a borough, market town, and parish, in the hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 10 miles (N. W. by W.) from Cardiff, and 169 (W.) from London, containing 2789 inhabitants. This place, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to three different saints, is distinguished by few historical events of importance. At what time or by whom its castle was originally built, is not accurately known; but it is enumerated among those for which Gilbert de Clare, commonly called "the Red," Lord of Glamorgan, did homage to Edward I., on his accession to the titles and estates of his family, after the death of his father, towards the end of the thirteenth century. Edward II., with his favourite the younger Spencer, was taken prisoner near this town, by the queen's forces, and conveyed to Hereford. The town is romantically situated, on the road from Cowbridge to Merthyr-Tydvil, in a pass over a mountainous ridge, between two lofty hills, and is irregularly and indifferently built; but its whitewashed houses, with the dismantled tower of its castle, form a conspicuous and interesting feature in the scenery on approaching the mountains. The vicinity is indescribably beautiful and highly picturesque; and the views embrace a tract of country abounding with features of



romantic character and almost unrivalled magnificence. The prospect from the brow of the hill on which the town is built embraces the whole of the Vale of Glamorgan, from its eastern extremity to the influx of the river Ogmore into the Bristol channel: among the numerous interesting objects which this extensive tract of country exhibits are the rich woods about Hensol, Glan-elay, and Lanharan; beyond which is discerned the Bristol channel, with the distant hills on the English coast, and in other directions the lofty mountains which bound it on various sides. To the north of the town the appearance of the country becomes more rugged, and assumes a wilder aspect, which is in some degree enlivened by the pleasing appearance of Castella, an ancient seat of the family of Traherne, now the property and residence of Major Smith, which forms a lively and cheerful object in a landscape of which the prevailing character is that of sombre magnificence. At the entrance to the town is a substantial stone mansion, called Llantrissent House, the seat of Richard Fowler Rickards, Esq.

The parish abounds with coal, which is worked to a very great extent for the supply of the great iron-works in the neighbouring districts, and for exportation. Ores of iron and lead have also been found in great quantities, and works have been established here for procuring those minerals; but they have not been conducted with a sufficient degree of profit to remunerate the adventurers, and have consequently been discontinued. The principal of these was the Park mine, about a mile to the south of the town, the ore obtained in which was of the species called galena, or potters' ore, lying in a vein extending from east to west, and contained in a matrix of spar, in magnesian limestone resting upon coal. Some years ago an ancient colliery, not properly filled up, was accidentally discovered by R. F. Rickards, Esq., when a young man, who, by falling into it, was burnt to the bone on the fore part of the foot and leg: it contained a large quantity of pyrites, which had ignited, and had been in a state of combustion for a very long period: it is still burning, and probably will continue to burn, so long as any inflammable matter may remain. A rail-road has been constructed from the Dinas colliery, which communicates with the Cardiff and Merthyr canal at Newbridge. The market, which is only for provisions, is on Friday: the corn market has been removed to Newbridge, five miles off. Great cattle fairs are held on February 13th, May 12th, August 12th, and October 29th. It has not been precisely ascertained at what time the town received its first charter of incorporation: it has a charter dated the 20th of Edward III. The corporation consists of the constable of the castle, a portreeve, twelve aldermen, and an unlimited number of burgesses, assisted by a town-clerk, serjeant at mace, and other officers: the portreeve is annually elected from among the aldermen, who fill up vacancies in their number by a majority of their own body. Llantrissent is one of eight contributory boroughs, namely, Cardiff, Llantrissent, Cowbridge, Aberavon, Kenfig, Neath, Swansea, and Loughor, which returned one member to parliament: the right of election was in the burgesses at large, at present about four hundred and twenty in number. By the late act for amending the representation of the people, the boroughs of Cardiff, Cowbridge, and Llantrissent have been constituted a separate district, returning one mem-

ber; and the right of voting has been vested in the resident burgesses, ninety-eight in number, and in those within seven miles, in number one hundred and twelve, if duly qualified according to the provisions of the act; also in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the present number of tenements of this value, within the limits of the borough, which extend about a mile from the town in every direction, comprising the whole of the town hamlet and parts of other hamlets, and are not altered by the late boundary act, is seventy-two, most of which are occupied by burgesses. The freedom is inherited by all the children of a burgess, and is acquired by servitude of seven years' apprenticeship to a resident freeman, by marriage with a freeman's daughter, and by election of a jury of twelve burgesses upon paying double fees on admission. The corporation are empowered by their charter to hold a court of record for the recovery of debts, but it has been for many years discontinued. The petty sessions for the hundred of Miskin are held in this town every Friday. The town-hall and the market-place are of modern erection, and are neat buildings well adapted to their uses.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £26.14.2., endowed with the vicarial tithes of the parishes of Aberdare, Lantwit Vairdre, Llanwonno, and Ystradyvodog, and in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Gloucester. The church, dedicated to St. Dyvnog, St. Iddog, and St. Menw, is a spacious and ancient structure, in the Norman style of architecture, occupying the summit of the hill above the town. There are two chapels in this parish, one dedicated to St. John the Baptist, the living of which is a perpetual curacy, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £1000 royal bounty, and £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Mrs. Pritchard. The other, called Tâl y garn, after being long suffered to fall gradually into decay, has been recently repaired through the instrumentality of Dr. Lisle, who has a summer residence at this place: the living is a perpetual curacy, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Principal and Fellows of Jesus' College, Oxford. The Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, have each one place of worship in the town; the Independents have also additional places of worship at Cymmer and Crossvaen; and the Methodists one at Velin Vawr within the parish. A National school for the gratuitous instruction of children of both sexes is supported principally by the Marquis of Bute, who contributes fifty guineas per annum, and by subscription among the gentry resident in the neighbourhood. The school is well conducted under the auspices of the Marquis, at whose expense six boys, who are selected as teachers, and clothed with two suits in the year, are apprenticed, when at a proper age, with a premium of £10. Mr. Gibbon, of Newton House, in the parish of Llanblethian, bequeathed £4.19. per annum, to be distributed among the poor of this parish, at the discretion of the vicar; and, under the will of Sir Leoline Jenkins, £20 is distributed in clothing, every fourth year, by the master of Cowbridge school, among the poor of this



parish, of whom the vicar nominates such as he thinks the most deserving.

There are but small remains of the ancient castle, which originally consisted of two wards, and appears to have been a place of great strength: these consist principally of a portion of one of the towers, which, from its elevated situation, forms a very conspicuous and interesting feature in the scenery of the place. In 1829, in clearing away the rubbish which had accumulated about the foundations, the workmen discovered the dungeon which, according to Leland, had anciently formed the prison for the territories of Miskin and Glin Rhondda. At a short distance from the town, to the right of the road leading to Llandaf, are some remains of an ancient religious house, said to have been a monastery dedicated to St. Cawrdav, son of Caradoc Vraichvras, regulus of Brecknock, about the end of the fifth, or the beginning of the sixth, century. Within the limits of the parish are several ancient camps, of which the most important is that called Caerau, or "the fortifications," supposed to have been constructed by the Danes. Castella, the ancient family mansion of the Trahernes, appears also from its name to have been built upon the site of some ancient fortification, which may probably have been an outpost to the castle of Llantrissant. There are chalybeate springs in several parts of the parish. Sir Leoline Jenkins, who, in the reign of Charles II., was eminently distinguished as a jurist, diplomatist, and statesman, was born in this parish, and was buried in the chapel of Jesus' College, Oxford, to which he had been so munificent a benefactor as to be in some degree regarded as its second founder: he endowed the grammar school at Cowbridge, and bequeathed the principal part of his estates to charitable uses. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £1288. 15.

LLANTRITHYD (LLAN-TRYDDYD), a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (E. S. E.) from Cowbridge, containing 221 inhabitants. On the conquest of Glamorgan by Robert Fitz-Hamon, and its subsequent division, the castle and manor of Llantrithyd were assigned to Hywel ab Iestyn ab Gwrgan, with the privilege of exercising *jura regalia* therein. The castle was demolished, in 1151, by Meredith, great grandson of Rhys ab Tewdwr. The village, which stands about a mile to the south of the road between Cardiff and Swansea, occupies a secluded situation in a well-wooded valley, which is watered by a small rivulet. Llantrithyd House, formerly the seat of the Bassets, and subsequently of the Aubreys, is now in ruins: it was a fine specimen of the style that prevailed in the reign of Henry VI., with later additions, and is stated by tradition to have afforded an asylum, during the Commonwealth, to many great and learned men of the Church of England, by whom academical degrees were here conferred. On a rising ground above the village is pleasantly situated Tŷvree, a cottage ornée, the residence of Henry Seymour, Esq., who is proprietor of a considerable part of the parish, and to whom also belongs an extra-parochial farm of about one hundred and twenty acres, called Caer-main, together with twenty-four acres contiguous, also tithe-free. Limestone abounds in the parish, in which also a considerable quantity of lead-ore is found. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of

Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £8.13. 4., and in the patronage of Sir Thomas Aubrey, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Illtyd, is a respectable edifice, containing a few ancient monuments, among which may be particularly noticed a stately one to the memory of a knight and his lady, of the Basset family, in the best character of the style which prevailed in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. In the churchyard is a remarkable yew tree, which, at the height of six feet from the ground, measures twenty-six feet in girth, and near the root, little less than forty feet. The ancient hall, wherein the manorial courts were held, still remains, and having been applied, since the abolition of the independent jurisdictions of the lordships marcher, to the reception of the poor, it is now called "the Church House." Here is a mineral spring, the water of which is said to be efficacious in the cure of fluxes. The poor of this parish are entitled to the produce of two acres of land in the parish of St. Hilary, purchased with £45, the bequest of an unknown benefactor, and to the interest of £50, bequeathed, in 1744, by Mrs. Lougher. The average annual expenditure for their support is £76. 7.

LLANTYD (LLAN-ILLTYD), a parish in the hundred of KILGERRAN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (S. W. by S.) from Cardigan, containing 281 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Illtyd, an eminent teacher of Christianity, who died about the close of the fifth century. It is pleasantly situated in the north-eastern part of the county, near the separation of the two great roads leading respectively from Cardigan to Fishguard and Haverfordwest, and comprises a large tract of arable and pasture land, of which the whole is enclosed. The surrounding scenery, though not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature, is generally pleasing; and the views over the adjacent country are agreeably diversified. The living is a vicarage not in charge, annexed, with that of Monington, or Eglwys Wythwr, to the vicarage of St. Dogmael's, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 royal bounty. The church is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. John Jones, in 1729, bequeathed a small sum of money towards the relief of poor persons of this parish not receiving parochial aid, the interest of which is annually distributed according to the will of the testator. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £77. 18.

LLANTYSILLIO, or LLANDYSILIO (LLANTYSILIO), a parish in the hundred of YALE, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. W. by W.) from Llangollen, containing 842 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Tysilio, a canonized prince of Powys, who was descended from St. Pabo, called *Post Prydain*, "the Pillar of Britain," and who, having devoted himself to a life of religious seclusion, flourished as a writer till the middle of the seventh century. It is pleasantly situated on the river Dee, which forms its southern boundary, and is skirted on the north by the small river Mer Enion; on the west it is bounded by the parish of Corwen; and on the east by a small river running through the Vale of Crucis, by which it is separated from the parish of Llangollen. The surface is boldly undulated, and in some parts mountainous: the soil, though various, is in general



fertile, and the surrounding scenery is strikingly diversified, and in many parts beautifully picturesque. A chain of mountains of romantic appearance and rich in mineral wealth runs through the centre of the parish, which is also intersected by the turnpike road leading from Llangollen to Ruthin. Slate is found in abundance, and some extensive quarries are now being worked, in which about seventy men find constant employment. Lime-works upon a large scale are also carried on adjacent to the canal, and on the banks of the river Dee, which in this part of its course flows over a rocky and rugged bed between two lofty crags, which scarcely afford a breadth of channel sufficient for the passage of its stream. By means of a weir this river is here made to afford a feeder for the supply of the Ellesmere canal, which is carried along the northern bank of the Dee to the main canal at Pont y Cyssyltau, a distance of six miles, throughout the whole of which it is navigable, affording great facilities for bringing in coal for the supply of the neighbourhood, and for conveying the slates from the quarries and the produce of the lime-works to their several destinations. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £400 private benefaction, £800 royal bounty, and £1500 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart. The church is a small edifice, with a cupola, possessing no architectural claims to notice: the walls of the interior are thickly covered with plates, inscribed with the names of persons who have been buried there, and affixed opposite to the several pews of the families of which they were members.

About a mile to the north-east of the village, but within the parish, and in a highly romantic portion of the Vale of Eglwyseg, are the venerable and picturesque ruins of the ancient abbey of Llan Egwest, or Valle Crucis. This beautiful edifice was originally founded about the year 1200, for brethren of the Cistercian order, and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, by Madoc ab Gruffydd Maelor, lord of Bromfield, and of the neighbouring fortress of Castell Dinas Brân, who so richly endowed it, that a native Welsh poet of the fifteenth century, in celebrating the hospitality of the abbot, describes him as living in the most sumptuous style. At the dissolution its revenue was estimated at £214. 3. 5.: it continued in the hands of the crown till the 9th of James I., when the site and remains were granted to Edward Wotton. The present remains consist principally of part of the abbey church, originally an elegant cruciform structure, chiefly in the early style of English architecture, though erected at different periods, and consequently containing portions of the decorated and later English styles; and also of a small portion of the conventual buildings, now occupied as farm offices. Among the most entire parts of this interesting ruin is the west front of the church, remarkable for the beauty of its finely arched entrance, surmounted by a decorated window of elegant design, enriched with flowing tracery, above which is a marigold window of still more exquisite workmanship. The east end of the church is also in good preservation, forming an elegant specimen of the early English style, with narrow lancet-shaped windows. The interior is overgrown with grass, and some stately ash and sycamore trees have taken deep root within the walls of

the roofless edifice. The pilasters of the interior are clustered, and have elegantly carved capitals: the transept contains a small cloister of two arches, and a mural sepulchral arch. A portion of the abbey has long been converted into a farm-house; and in one part of the conventual buildings, now occupied as a cow-shed, is a fine Norman arch, near which is a beautifully pointed window; other portions of the remains also exhibit some elegant specimens of the more highly finished and later periods of the Norman, verging into the earlier period of the early English, style. In front of the inhabited portion is a large pointed window reaching to the ground, with mullions and elegant tracery; and a room which once formed the dormitory is supported by three rows of groined arches, resting on circular pillars. The various buildings are chiefly composed of the schistose materials which every where abound in the vicinity; but the doorways, window frames, and other decorated portions are all of freestone brought from a considerable distance. Within the abbey were interred its founder, his son Gruffydd ab Madoc, and several of its abbots; but their tombs can no longer be distinguished among the mouldering ruins of this once stately and still venerable pile. At no great distance from these highly picturesque and interesting remains, opposite the second milestone from Llangollen, is a monumental pillar of very remote antiquity, raised upon a small tumulus, in which, on its being opened, was discovered a kistvaen, or stone chest, containing human bones: it is commonly supposed to have been erected as a cross, and from it the abbey of Valle Crucis most probably derived its name. This singular piece of antiquity, commonly called the pillar of Eliseg, appears, from an inscription now obliterated, but which was transcribed by Edward Llwyd, the celebrated Welsh antiquary, while it was still legible, to have been erected by Concen, to the memory of his great grandfather Eliseg, the sixth in descent from Brochmael, Prince of Powys, who was slain in a battle fought with the Saxons near Chester, in the year 607. During the civil commotions in the reign of Charles I., this monument was broken and thrown down, and the only legible inscription which it now bears is a modern one in Latin, stating that T. Lloyd, Esq., of Trevor Hall, having found it in that ruined state, restored it in the year 1789. It consists of a round column, standing on a square plinth with a richly carved, but greatly mutilated, capital: the original height is said to have been twelve feet, though at present its elevation is only eight feet two inches. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £400. 4.

LLANUWCHYLLÛN (LLAN-UWCH-Y-LLÛN), a parish in the hundred of PENLLÛN, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (S. W. by S.) from Bala, on the road to Dôlgeley, containing 1178 inhabitants. This parish, which is very extensive, comprises a large tract of mountainous and uncultivated land, including PenllÛn, the highest peak of the Aran mountains; and abounds with scenery of picturesque beauty and romantic grandeur, of which one of the most remarkable features is Bwlch y Groes, or "the pass of the cross," one of the most difficult and arduous in North Wales, environed by precipitous mountains, occasionally relieved with verdant hills and narrow sheepwalks: the pass



itself is a dreary flat, to which is an ascent by a steep narrow tortuous path, terminating at the crucifix from which it took its name. Near it is a beautiful cascade formed by the Twrch, an impetuous mountain torrent rushing from the Arans, and precipitating itself with violence over huge masses of broken rock, which, heaped on each other in its bed, arrest its violent progress: the water, diverted from its course, forces itself through the fissures in the rocks, which are occasionally interspersed with various plants that have taken root in the crevices, and descends with renewed violence into its channel, which crosses the road. A craggy perpendicular cliff, rising from the margin of the stream, about a quarter of a mile above this fall, adds another romantic feature to the scene. From the summit of Aran Penllyn are obtained fine views of other mountains of North Wales, and of many in the southern part of the principality. The village is pleasantly situated on the public road, near the south-western extremity of Bala lake, called by the Welsh "Llyn Tegyd," and by the English "Pemble Mere." Slate is quarried in the parish, and peat and turf are found in abundance. Fairs are held here, chiefly for cattle, horses, and sheep, on April 25th, June 20th, September 22nd, and November 22nd. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £1400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart: the rectory, rated in the king's books at £8. 10. 2½, is in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Deiniol, is an ancient structure, and was newly pewed and seated in 1820: on the north side of the chancel is the effigy of an armed warrior, with the following mutilated inscription, as read by Mr. Pennant:—"Hic jacet Johannes ap \*\*\*\* ap Madoc ap I-eth, cujus animæ pr-etur Deus. Amen. anno Domi. MCCC. V. 88. In the churchyard is a yew tree of remarkably fine growth. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. The Rev. Maurice Vaughan, one of the canons of the Royal Chapel of Windsor, in 1721, erected almshouses here for three aged men and the same number of aged women, which he endowed with two tenements in the parish, and with £200 for keeping them in repair. Mr. Thomas Owen of Talardd bequeathed £5 per annum for the instruction of poor children of this parish, which sum he ordered to be applied every third year to the instruction of children of the adjoining parish of Llanymowddwy. The sum of £5 per annum is also paid out of the estate of Glân Llyn, for apprenticing one poor boy, bequeathed for that purpose by a former proprietor. A school for children of the Independent congregation is endowed with the moiety of an estate, given by the Rev. Daniel Williams, for teaching twenty children, and for apprenticing two or three of them annually, according to the state of the funds. This parish is supposed to have been known to the Romans; and Camden conjectures that an ancient fortress called *Caer Gai*, on the north side of the small river *Lliw*, supposed to be Roman, from the number of coins found there, was originally erected by a Roman commander named *Caius*—an opinion formed from its name. Among the coins which have been found here at various times were some of the emperor *Domitian*, discovered within the last few

years; and a stone has also been dug up, bearing the inscription *Hic jacet Salvianus Bursocavi Filius Cupetian*. The Welsh attribute the origin of this fortress to *Cai Hir*, foster brother of King Arthur, and his companion in arms; and Spencer, who appears to have been well versed in the traditionary legends of his time, makes this place the seat of the early education of that renowned hero, under his foster father, who lived at the foot of the Aran mountain, and to whom the poet gives the more classical name of *Timon*. In the vicinity of this station are vestiges of roads resembling those of the Romans, leading from the station *Eryri Mons*, at *Tommen y Môr* near *Festiniog*, and from *Castell Prysor*, in the parish of *Trawsvynydd*, to the ancient *Mediolanum*, probably near *Meivod*. Within the area enclosed by the fortification was erected, several centuries ago, a large mansion subsequently belonging to *Rowland Vaughan, Esq.*, a zealous royalist, which was burnt in 1645, by the parliamentarians, and the outer walls of which, with more modern additions, now form a large farm-house. On the opposite bank of the river, and occupying the summit of a rocky eminence, are the remains of a fortress called *Castell Corn Dochen*, of the foundation of which no authentic particulars are on record: it was of considerable extent, built of mortar made of sea shells mixed with gravel, and faced with freestone. Mr. Pennant thinks it not improbable that this was the castle of *Ririd Flaidd*, lord of the hundred of *Penllyn*, whose armorial bearings decorate an effigy in the church: the other armorial bearings, with which that monument is adorned, the same writer considers to be those of *Cunedda Wledig*, a Cumbrian prince, whose sons, after his defeat by the Saxons, established themselves in various parts of the principality, and from whose grandson *Meirion* is derived the name of the county. *Rowland Vaughan*, who translated into Welsh Bishop *Bailey's "Practice of Piety,"* and Dr. *Brough's "Manual of Prayer,"* resided at *Caer Gai*, in the latter part of the seventeenth century. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £560.

**LLANVABON**, a parish in the hundred of **CAERPHILLY**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 9 miles (S. S. E.) from *Merthyr-Tydvil*, containing 853 inhabitants. This parish comprises a surface of about five thousand acres, in general mountainous: it is bounded on the west by the river *Tâf*, and on the east by the *Romney*: the soil consists of gravelly clay and peat. A colliery belonging to *Sir C. Smith, Bart.*, from which a tram-road communicates with the *Glamorganshire canal*, affords employment to about twenty men. The parish is intersected by the road from *Cardiff* to *Merthyr*, which passes about two miles and a half westward from the church, and by the *Glamorganshire canal*, on the banks of which, within its limits, is situated the *Navigation House*, where this important line of communication is joined by the *Aberdare canal*, and by the tram-road from *Merthyr-Tydvil*: at this point of junction is a spacious quay. The living is consolidated with the vicarage of *Eglwysilan*, in the archdeaconry and diocese of *Llandaf*. The church is dedicated to *St. Mabon*. There are two places of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists, and one for Wesleyan Methodists. *James Thomas*, in 1730, gave by will a rent-charge of £2 for the benefit of the poor of this parish.



The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £213. 19.

**LLANVACHRETH (LLAN-VACHRETH)**, a parish in the hundred of TAL Y BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N. W. by N.) from Bôdedern, containing 424 inhabitants. This parish is situated in a fertile district, near the eastern shore of Holyhead bay, and is bounded on the south by the little river Alaw: it contains a considerable portion of enclosed and well-cultivated land, and formerly derived advantages from its proximity to the old Holyhead road, which, since the construction of the new line of road, have been materially lessened. The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacies of Llan-enghenedl and Llanvigael annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £14. 2. 1., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Machraeth, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, of which it exhibits some good details, and is ornamented with an east window of elegant design. There are places of worship for Independents, and for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Numerous charitable bequests have been made to the poor of this parish, but many, and the most important of them, have long been lost. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £110. 10.

**LLANVACHRETH (LLAN-VACHRETH)**, a parish in the hundred of TALYBONT and MOWDDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 3½ miles (N. N. E.) from Dôlgelley, containing 948 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, occupies a sequestered situation nearly in the centre of the county, and extends about nine miles in length and six in breadth. The surface is boldly varied, rising in some parts into rocky eminences and mountainous elevations, the latter affording pasturage for young cattle and sheep, for which they are more adapted than for agricultural purposes, though in the lower parts of the parish considerable portions of arable land are in a good state of cultivation. An act of parliament was obtained in 1806, under the provisions of which nine thousand eight hundred and ninety-six acres of waste and common land were enclosed; and a considerable part of it has since been brought into cultivation. The surrounding scenery is strikingly diversified, combining features of rugged grandeur with objects of rural and picturesque beauty, and enriched with some well-wooded hills and extensive plantations: the numerous farm-houses, built of stone in the ancient English style, which are scattered through the parish, have a very pleasing effect on the general appearance of the scenery; and the stream issuing from the waterfall of Pistyll Mawddach, of which a description is given in the article on DÔLGELLEY, forms one of the natural boundaries of the parish. Nannau, for many years the venerable seat of the ancient family of Nanney, and now the property and residence of Sir R. W. Vaughan, as an inheritance from his paternal grandmother, is a handsome and substantially built mansion of stone, and has been recently repaired and greatly enlarged by the present proprietor. It is finely situated about two miles and a half from Dôlgelley, on elevated ground, more than seven hundred feet above the level of the sea; and on the road leading to it from Dôlgelley, which is an uninterrupted

ascent, was formerly an ancient and venerable oak, called Derwen Ceubren yr Ellyll, "the Goblin's Hollow Tree:" this tree, which measured twenty-seven feet and a half in girth, and in which an aperture had been worn by time, in the form of a pointed arch, fell down in July 1813, from natural decay. The park contains some fine old timber, and is remarkable for its small but excellent venison. Within its limits may be seen the remains of the house of Howel Sele, kinsman of Owain Glyndwr, who, while pretending to shoot at a deer in the park, in company with Owain after a professed reconciliation had taken place between these two chieftains, who had previously been at enmity with each other, turning suddenly round, aimed his arrow at the breast of Glyndwr, whom he must have killed, but for the armour which he wore under his clothes. Owain, enraged at the perfidy of Howel, seized him on the spot, and, having burnt his house, hurried him away from the place, nor was he again heard of, till about forty years afterwards, when a skeleton resembling Howel Sele in stature was discovered in the oak above mentioned, and is generally reputed to have been his: this tragical event, the recollection of which was afterwards preserved by tradition in the family of Vaughan, gave rise to a belief among the peasantry that the spot was haunted by the ghost of the murdered Sele, and the tree was accordingly popularly denominated "The Haunted Oak." Close to the remains of Howel's house Sir R. W. Vaughan has erected a handsome Gothic lodge; and behind the mansion is a beautiful mountain lake, called Llŷn Cynwch, round which a fine carriage road has been recently made by the proprietor, who has also greatly improved the vicinity, by the construction of many miles of excellent roads through the parish, and the erection of stone walls for enclosures and fences, of which, within a period of twenty years, he raised an extent of more than fifty-five miles.

The parish abound with peat, which is dug as the principal fuel of the inhabitants. Copper-ore is supposed to exist in abundance in the mountainous parts of it, and considerable quantities have been obtained in a very singular manner. A gentleman residing in Dôlgelley, learning that the ashes of peat procured near Dôlvrwynog, in this parish, could not be applied with advantage as a manure, but had the effect of injuring the land, applied a chemical test to them, by which he discovered that they contained a considerable proportion of copper. He then employed men to cut and pile up in stacks the peat from which these ashes were produced, and shipped it to Swansea, where, upon being smelted, it was found to yield copper of very excellent quality. The surrounding mountains are from this circumstance supposed to be richly impregnated with copper-ore, which, through the medium of springs or otherwise, has saturated the peat in the hollows with a solution of sulphate of copper, from which many thousand tons of excellent metal have been produced. The village is in a very retired situation, remote from any turnpike road, and chiefly inhabited by families employed in agricultural pursuits. Fairs are held on April 22nd, June 30th, and August 15th, and at Drws y Nant, in the neighbourhood, on October 23rd. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese



of Bangor, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Sir Robert Williams Vaughan, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Machreth, is a neat stone edifice, with a low square tower, surmounted by a spire, and consists of a nave, chancel, and south transept, the two latter of which were built, in 1820, by Sir R. W. Vaughan, in testimony of his respect for the memory of his Majesty King George III., as expressed on two tablets, one inscribed in Welsh, and the other in English: the more ancient portion of the edifice was newly seated, roofed, and otherwise thoroughly repaired in the year 1800. There are three rent-charges of £2 each left by unknown benefactors, bequeathed in trust to the minister and churchwardens for distribution among the poor of this parish. Above the seat of Nannau is a lofty rock, the summit of which is encircled with a rampart of loose stones: it is called *Moel Ofrwm*, "the hill of sacrifice." There is an old house in this parish, called Cynmarch, or Cae March, which is surrounded by a moat, but of which little is known. At Cwmeisen is a chalybeate spring, called Fynnon Gôch; and there is also, in the parish a spring of excellent water, called Fynnon Capel. Rice Jones, a noted Welsh bard, author of a work called "*Gorchestion y Beirdd*," who was a native of this parish, lived and died at Tŷ ucha Blaenau, and was buried in the church of this place. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £415. 9.

LLANVAELOG (LLAN-VAELOG), a parish in the hundred of LLVON, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (W. by S.) from Llangenvi, containing 615 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the bay of Carnarvon, which abounds with soles and turbot, of which considerable quantities are taken during the summer: the shore is rocky and difficult of access. The soil is generally good and in a state of cultivation. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llanbeulan, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Maelog, is a very ancient structure, supposed to have been built in the early part of the seventh century. There are places of worship for Independents and for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Several charitable donations and bequests have been made to the poor of this parish by various benefactors; but many of them are lost. Not far from the church, on an elevated spot of ground, is a large cromlech, consisting of five upright stones, supporting a large stone nearly in a horizontal position, about twelve feet long, beneath which is a small cell or cavity. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £167. 11.

LLANVAELRHÛS (LLAN-VAELRHÛS), a parish in the hundred of COMMITMAEN, Llyn division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 14 miles (S. W.) from Pwllheli, containing 258 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the shore of St. George's channel, at the southern extremity of the great promontory of Llyn, is but of inconsiderable extent, and is not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature, or connected with any events of historical importance. The views embrace an extensive prospect of the adjacent country, which is finely diversified, and of the channel, by which it is bounded on the south and south-east. Manganese has been found within the parish, but no mines of it

have yet been opened. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Abêrdaron, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. MaelrhÛs, is a very small edifice, and in a very dilapidated condition. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. A circulating charity school, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, is held in the village every fourth year, in turn with the parishes of Aberdaron, Brÿncroes, and Rhiw, for the support of which a tenement was bequeathed in the parish of Brÿncroes. There are some small charitable donations and bequests for the relief of the poor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £57. 18.

LLANVAES, a parish in the hundred of TYNDATHWY, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 1 mile (N. N. E.) from Beaumaris, containing 271 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the shore of the Menai strait, is supposed to have derived its name, which signifies "the church of the field," from a memorable battle said to have taken place here, early in the ninth century, between Egbert, King of the West Saxons, who had effected a landing in Anglesey, near the site of the present town of Beaumaris, and a body of Welsh forces, whom he totally defeated in a sanguinary engagement; and although he was shortly after compelled by Mervyn Vrych, the sovereign of North Wales, to retreat into England, this victory ensured to him so long possession of the entire island, that its ancient name of Mona was abandoned by the Anglo-Saxons for its present appellation, signifying "the Englishmen's Isle." In 1237 died Joan, wife of Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, and daughter of John King of England, who was buried, agreeably to her own desire, on the sea-shore at this place. Llewelyn, either to do honour to the English monarch, her father, or as a tender memorial of regard to her memory, erected over the grave of this princess a monastery of Franciscan friars, which was consecrated by Howel, Bishop of Bangor, prior to the year 1240, in which occurred the decease both of this prelate and of Llewelyn himself. It was dedicated to St. Francis, and became the place of interment of many barons and knights slain in the Welsh wars: the conventual chapel was erected over the tomb of the princess Joan. During the insurrection of the Welsh under Madoc, in the reign of Edward I., this house was burned to the ground by the insurgents, and lay in ruins until restored by Edward II., who, in consideration of the misfortunes sustained by the friars, remitted to them the annual payment of £12. 10., which they had made to the crown previously to this war. The monks of Llanvaes favoured the insurrection of Owain Glyndwr against Henry IV., who, in revenge for this conduct, in his first march against Owain, plundered the convent, put several of the friars to the sword, and carried away the rest prisoners. He afterwards, however, set them at liberty, and made restitution to the priory of its ancient privileges and possessions; but at the same time he placed in it monks of English birth. It appears after this either to have suffered further molestation, or to have fallen into decay, for it was again restored by patent of Henry V., who ordained that the establishment should consist of eight friars, of whom only two were to be natives of Wales. From this period it continued to



flourish till the dissolution, at which time its revenue was estimated at £96.13.2. The site was granted by Henry VIII., in the 32nd year of his reign, to Nicholas Brownlow, and was afterwards purchased by the family of White, now extinct, who erected an elegant mansion on the spot, which has been greatly enlarged and modernized by its present proprietor, Sir R. B. Williams Bulkeley, Bart., who occasionally makes it his residence. This mansion, which is spacious and handsome, is called the Friary, from its situation on the site of the ancient priory: over an arched gateway in the inner court is a shield charged with the armorial bearings of Collwyn ab Tagno, lord of Eivionydd and Ardudwy, founder of one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales, and ancestor of the family of White: the date underneath (1623) probably refers to the time of the erection of the original mansion by that family.

The rich and fertile vale in which the parish is situated abounds with pleasingly diversified and beautifully picturesque scenery, and is enlivened with several handsome seats, of which Baron Hill, near the town of Beaumaris, and the Friary above-mentioned, now the residence of Lady Williams, are the principal: besides these, it contains also the seats of Hênllŷs and Cichle. The parish is of small extent: the soil is fertile, and on the whole well cultivated, consisting of rich meadows and corn-fields, with a few acres of woodland. The greater portion of the parish is within the limits of the borough of Beaumaris. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £400 private benefaction, £800 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Sir R. B. Williams Bulkeley, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Catherine, is an ancient and spacious structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a lofty square embattled tower, surmounted with pinnacles, which was built in 1811, at the sole expense of Lord Viscount Bulkeley: the interior is well arranged, and the chancel, which is spacious and lofty, has a good east window of elegant design. Here is an almshouse for ten poor old men, founded by Mr. David Hughes, about the year 1610. Lady Bulkeley bequeathed £1000 in trust to the archdeacon of Anglesey and the minister of Llanvaes, to distribute the interest annually among the poor of this parish: this sum has been invested in the purchase of stock, the dividends on which are distributed half-yearly among the poor, according to the will of the benefactress. The remains of the ancient conventual buildings of the priory consist only of a portion of the walls of the chapel, forming part of a building situated about a furlong south of the church, and now used as a barn, the details of which show it to have been originally a stately edifice in the early style of English architecture. The stone coffin in which the princess Joan was originally interred, after the dissolution, was placed near a small brook on the farm, and for more than two centuries and a half used as a watering trough for horses, till the late Lord Bulkeley directed it to be removed, and placed under an arch in the grounds of Baron Hill, where it still remains. At a short distance from the village is Castell Aber Llienawg, a small quadrilateral fortress, with the remains of a circular tower at each angle, and surrounded by a fosse, from which a hollow way extends to the shore,

where there is a mound of earth thrown up to defend the landing. This fortress was founded by Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, and Hugh Earl of Shrewsbury, in 1098, when they made an invasion of North Wales, and committed the most barbarous outrages on the inhabitants of this part of the principality. During the parliamentary war in the reign of Charles I., this fort was garrisoned for the parliament, but was taken by Colonel Robinson, in 1645, and kept for the king. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £124.8.

LLANVAES, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES.  
—See LLANMAES.

LLANVAETHLU (LLAN-VAETHLU), a parish in the hundred of TAL Y BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N. by W.) from Bôdedern, containing 433 inhabitants. This parish, which is of very considerable extent, is pleasantly situated on a tract of rising ground above Holyhead Roads, and commands an extensive view over the Irish sea, by which it is bounded on the west. It is supposed to have been known at a very early period to the Romans, who are thought to have had a smelting place here, for the ore of the Parys mountain. This supposition is confirmed in some degree by the discovery of a cake of copper-ore, weighing fifty-four lb., and stamped with a mark resembling the Roman letter L, about the year 1757, and by the quantities of charcoal and scoria of copper which are frequently turned up by the plough in tilling the land upon the higher grounds. The surface is enclosed, and, with the exception only of a small proportion, in a good state of cultivation: the soil is in general fertile. The immediate neighbourhood is enlivened with some handsome seats. Within the parish is Carreg Llwyd, the ancient family mansion of the Griffiths, by whom it has been occupied for centuries: the grounds are extensive, and ornamented with well-grown timber, and within them is a lake of considerable size. Near this spot is a signal station, communicating with Holyhead on the west and Llanellian on the east, and forming a link in the chain of posts between Holyhead and Liverpool. Fullers' earth of very superior quality abounds in the parish, and the procuring of it would be attended with considerable advantage. The living is a rectory, with the perpetual curacy of Llanvwrog annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £16.17.1., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Maethlu, and situated on a lofty eminence overlooking the Irish sea, is a spacious and handsome structure of modern erection; and the interior, which is one of the neatest in the island, is ornamented with a good east window of three oge-headed lights, embellished with modern stained glass: on the south side of the church are some ancient monuments to the memory of deceased members of the family of Griffith. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A charitable bequest of £38 was made to the poor by an unknown benefactor, besides which there are several smaller donations, the produce of which is annually distributed among the poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £212.9.

LLANVAGDALEN, or LLANVAGLAN (LLAN-VAGLAN), a parish in the hundred of ISGORVAI,



county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. S. W.) from Carnarvon, containing 156 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Baglan, is situated on the Menai strait, near its southern extremity, and comprises only a few farms and widely scattered dwellings. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Llanwnda, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor: the great tithes are appropriated to the Principal and Fellows of Jesus' College, Oxford. The church, situated in the centre of a large field, to which there is no public road, is an ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a spacious chapel on the north side: the eastern gable is ornamented with the remains of an ancient cross, curiously sculptured. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £68. 13.

LLANVAIR (LLAN-VAIR), a parish in the hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (S.) from Harlech, containing 385 inhabitants. This parish is situated in the western part of the county, on the road from Barmouth to Harlech, and upon the shore of Cardigan bay, over which it commands a fine and extensive view, and was visited, towards the latter part of the twelfth century, by Archbishop Baldwin, accompanied by Giraldus Cambrensis, in his tour to preach the crusades through the principality, who passed one night at this place in his way from Towyn to Nevin. In 1810, an act of parliament was obtained for enclosing the common and waste lands in the parish, under the provisions of which two thousand six hundred and fifty-nine acres have been enclosed, and of this extent a great part has been brought into cultivation. The surface of the parish is strikingly varied with mountainous eminences, but the scenery is marked rather with features of bold grandeur than of pleasing or picturesque beauty. The distant views present several objects of interest and variety, among which, as seen from the higher grounds, are the remains of Harlech castle, occupying a commanding eminence overlooking the fine open bay. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £6. 10. 10., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is an ancient edifice, romantically situated in a very retired spot under the shelter of some precipitous mountains, which rise immediately behind it to a considerable height. Samuel Pool, in the year 1664, bequeathed a portion of land; Griffith Rowlands, in the year 1732, bequeathed £20 in money; and William Wynne, in the year 1761, and William Morgan, in the year 1778, bequeathed £10 each, to the poor, for whose benefit also several smaller charitable donations and bequests have been made. On the farm of Gwerneinion, in this parish, are the remains of a cromlech. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £216. 11.

LLANVAIR, or LLANVAIR CAER-EINION (LLAN-VAIR-CAER-EINION), a market town and parish, in the lower division of the hundred of MATHRAVAL, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (W.) from Welshpool, 16 (N. W.) from Montgomery, and

$183\frac{1}{2}$  (N. W. by W.) from London, containing 2687 inhabitants. The name of this place is derived from the dedication of its church to St. Mary, and its distinguishing adjunct from an ancient encampment said to have been constructed, in the latter part of the fourth century, by Einion Yrth, tenth son of Cunedda Wledig, King of Cumbria. The town is pleasantly situated on the declivity of an eminence rising from the south bank of the small river Banwy, which falls into the Vyrnwy, and on the turnpike road leading from Welshpool to Machynlleth and Dôlgelley. It consists principally of two streets, intersecting each other nearly at right angles, and is neatly built and of prepossessing appearance. The manufacture of flannel is carried on to a moderate extent: the market, which is abundantly supplied with corn and provisions of all kinds, is on Saturday; and fairs are held annually on Shrove Tuesday, Saturday before Palm Sunday, May 18th, July 26th, October 3rd, November 1st, and on the Friday before Christmas-day, for horses, cattle, sheep, and wares. The town is under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, and the petty sessions for the lower division of the hundred of Mathraval are occasionally held here. The town-hall is a plain, but neat and commodious, building, and the large room over it is appropriated to the use of a school. Llanvair has been made, by the late Reform Act, one of the polling-places in the election of a knight for the shire. The parish extends seven miles in length and six in breadth, and comprises a large tract of arable and pasture land: all the remaining wastes were enclosed under an act of parliament obtained in the year 1810, for the division and enclosure of the waste lands of this parish, and those of Llangyniew and Castle Caer Einion, including all in the manor of Caer Einion is Coed; and considerable portions have been brought under cultivation in this parish, of the entire surface of which, prior to that time, not more than two-thirds had been enclosed. The ground is boldly undulated, rising in some parts into lofty eminences; and the entire district is pleasingly diversified, combining also many features of picturesque beauty, and numerous objects of interest to the antiquary.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £10, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, containing some old monuments, among which is one, under a window on the southern side, bearing the effigy of a knight in armour, well executed in stone. There are five places of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists, four for Independents, two for Wesleyan Methodists, and one for Baptists. A school for the gratuitous instruction of children, held in the room over the town-hall, is partly supported by a rent-charge of £2 on the farm of Derwdege, in the hamlet of Rhiw Hiriaeth, given by William, Mary, and Elizabeth Edwards, for the instruction of ten poor children, and partly by subscription; and there are Sunday schools in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations. Evan James, of Gelligason, in this parish, bequeathed, in



1687, the sum of £50, directing the interest to be appropriated to the apprenticing of poor children of that hamlet and of the hamlet of Penarth; and there are some other trifling benefactions to the poor. The Roman road from *Caer-Sws* to *Mediolanum*, *Banchorium*, and *Deva*, passed through the hamlets of Penarth and Rhiw Hiriaeth, and traces of it may still be discerned near Ystrad, about two miles south of the town. In a field near the river Banwy, a Roman urn was dug up, in 1740, containing a great number of copper coins of several Roman emperors: the urn was broken, but many of the coins are at present in the possession of Mrs. Jenkins, of Crosswood. On the summit of the hill above Rhiw Hiriaeth House are the remains of an ancient encampment, said to be the fortress constructed by Einion, from which the parish derives the distinguishing adjunct to its name. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £1173. 18.

LLANVAIR AR Y BRÛN (LLAN-VAIR-AR-Y-BRÛN), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of PERVETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile (N. E.) from Llandovery, comprising the hamlets of Rhandir Abbot, Rhandir Canol, Rhandir Isâv, and Rhandir Uchâv, each of which is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, and containing 1485 inhabitants. The name of this parish, signifying "the church of St. Mary on the hill," is derived from the situation of its church on an eminence within the lines of a Roman station in the adjoining parish of Llandingat, and which has been already described in the article on that parish. The parish is situated on the turnpike road from Llandovery to Builth. In the hamlet of Rhandir Abbot are some extensive lead mines, the property of Earl Cawdor, situated near Pwll Pradog, a spot remarkable for the romantic scenery by which it is surrounded. These mines, which are among the principal in South Wales, have at different times afforded employment to from one hundred to two hundred workmen; but the number is now materially diminished, owing to the long and laborious land carriage to the port of Llanelly, where it was smelted in works erected early in the present century, expressly for that purpose. The surface of the parish is boldly undulated, and in some parts even mountainous. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Llandingat, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 parliamentary grant. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, and situated in the parish of Llandingat, nearly a mile from its own parish, is an ancient edifice, consisting of one large aisle, with a tower; but it presents no interesting architectural details. In the hamlet of Rhandir Abbot is a neat chapel, called Nant y Bai, the living of which is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Earl Cawdor: the original chapel was at Ystrad Fîn. There are three places of worship for Independents, and one for Calvinistic Methodists, connected with which are Sunday schools affording instruction to one hundred and fifty children of both sexes. The Roman road called the Sarn Helen may be distinctly traced in several parts of its course through this parish to the station *Loventium*, at Llanio, in the county of Cardigan. The

average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £540. 2.

LLANVAIR CLYDOGAU (LLAN-VAIR-Y-CLY-WEDOGAU), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N. E. by E.) from Lampeter, containing 385 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated in the upper part of the Vale of Teivy, and on the eastern bank of that river, at a short distance from the turnpike road from Lampeter to Trêgaron, bordering on the county of Carmarthen. The surrounding scenery is characterized generally by those features which prevail in this part of the principality, and the views from the higher grounds embrace extensive prospects over a richly diversified tract of country: the soil, though various, is in general fertile, and the substratum abounds with mineral wealth. A valuable mine of lead-ore, containing a considerable proportion of silver, and in which also are found quartz, spar, and a small quantity of copper-ore, has been worked for the last twenty years with considerable success, though in dry seasons during that period the works have been frequently suspended from want of water sufficient to give motion to the machinery employed: these works are at present carried on at a depth of two hundred and fifty feet below the surface, and offer sufficient encouragement for the continuance of the operations: the average produce of this mine, which is the property of Lord Carrington, is twenty-five tons of ore per annum, each ton of which contains upon an average from seventy-five to eighty ounces of pure silver. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the alternate patronage of the Earl of Lisburne and Lord Carrington, to whom the tithes of the parish are jointly appropriated. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small and very ancient structure, not possessing any architectural details of importance. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists: a Sunday school is supported by subscription. Contiguous to the lead mines was an ancient family mansion of the Lloyds, one of whom represented the county in parliament in the reign of Charles I., but vacated his seat upon the condemnation of the unfortunate Strafford: a contemporary historian describes Mr. Lloyd as a "gentleman and a scholar, nobly just in his deportment, and naturally fit to manage the affairs of his country." This mansion latterly belonged to the family of Johnes of Hâvod, and was the residence of the father of the late lord-lieutenant of the county till his marriage, after which time it was suffered to fall into a state of decay. It was a building of very great antiquity: the walls were in some parts five yards in thickness, and in several parts of the building there was the date 1080: it is now a ruin, having fallen down within the last few years. On the hills in some parts of the parish are the remains of ancient earthworks, but not of sufficient interest to require minute description. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £99. 2.

LLANVAIR-DYFRYN-CLWYD (LLAN-VAIR-DYFRYN-CLWYD), a parish in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (S.) from Ruthin, on the road to Wrexham and Llan-



gollen, containing 1238 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Clwyd, at the upper extremity of the spacious vale to which it gives name, and abounds with interesting and beautifully varied scenery. It formerly contained a great number of ancient family mansions, occupied by opulent and highly respectable families; and upon one occasion the grand jury for the great sessions of the county of Denbigh consisted entirely of persons chosen from and resident in this parish. But by far the greater number have been deserted by their owners, and converted into farm-houses; those which are still occupied by their proprietors are Eyarth, Brÿnyfynnon, and Pläs-Newydd. The substratum of the parish is limestone, of which great quantities are procured for building, and also burnt into lime: the quarries and limekilns are very extensive, and afford employment to a considerable portion of the population. Courts leet and baron, with view of frankpledge, are held at Easter by the Bishop of Bangor, who is lord of the manor, at which also all the parish officers are appointed: a small portion of the parish is within the limits of the borough of Ruthin. Llanvair forms a prebend in the cathedral church of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £29. 16. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The living is a vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Jesus' Chapel annexed, within the jurisdiction of the Consistorial Court of the Bishop of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £13. 3. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a spacious and handsome structure, in the later style of English architecture: the internal decoration is rich, and in the east window are some fine specimens of ancient stained glass, with the date MCCCCIII., at which time it is supposed the church was built: there are some elegant monuments, among which is an altar-tomb of great antiquity, surmounted with a richly carved canopy of foliage, in the centre of which is a shield bearing the figure of a griffin, and round the border the inscription *Hic jacet David filius Madoc, requiescat in pace*, in Saxon capitals. In the township of Eyarth is Jesus' Chapel, a neat small edifice, founded in 1619 by Mr. Rice Williams, Verger of Westminster Abbey, London, a native of this township, who endowed it with an annual stipend for the minister "to preach in the chapel and to teach school therein:" it was consecrated in 1623, and was conveyed by deed to trustees, in 1626, by the founder. The living is a perpetual curacy, endowed originally with a rent-charge, which has been augmented with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the trustees appointed by deed of the founder. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school, established by Mr. Rice Williams, in 1619, is kept in a house adjoining Jesus' Chapel: about eighty children are gratuitously instructed: it is chiefly supported by subscription in aid of the original endowment by the founder, which is very small. A tenement called Bwlch y Llÿn, in the parish of Llanverras, now producing a rental of £25; another in the parish of Llanarmon, producing £21 per annum; and several rent-charges, with a bequest of £100 by Mrs. Catherine Wynne, and also £100 bequeathed by Mr. John Jones of Chester, are appropriated to the relief of the poor, the produce being annually distributed among them at Christmas, according to the intentions of the

several benefactors. On the summit of Craig-yr-adwy-wynt are some ancient intrenchments, extending in the form of a crescent, and terminating at each extremity in an abrupt precipice: the area of this camp, which is called Y Caerau, "the fortifications," comprises about seven acres, and is defended by huge masses of unhewn stone, rudely put together without cement. Symwnt Vychan, an eminent bard of the sixteenth century, resided at Tŷ-brith, in this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £759. 5.

LLANVAIRISGAER (LLAN-VAIR-ÎS-GAER), a parish in the hundred of ISGORVAI, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N. N. E.) from Carnarvon, containing 379 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Mary, and its position below an ancient fortress, is situated on the Menai strait, and on the high road from Bangor to Carnarvon. The Romans under the conduct of Agricola are said to have forded the Menai from the shore of this parish to that of Llanidan, on their march to the reduction of Anglesey: there are still some remains of a Roman intrenchment, and vestiges of the road formed by that general may be clearly traced within the parish. The regularity of the surface is boldly broken by abrupt and rocky eminences; the lands are partially enclosed and cultivated, and the soil, though varied, is not unproductive. The surrounding scenery is strikingly bold; and the views from the higher grounds, embracing a tract of richly varied country to the east, and the fine bay of Carnarvon on the west, are interesting and extensive. Copper-ore is found throughout the whole of the rocky district of the parish, but not in quantities sufficient to induce any adventurer to open mines, or to establish any regular works for procuring it. The situation of this place is highly advantageous for commerce: within the parish is Port Dinorwig, the shipping-place for the produce of the slate quarries in the adjoining parish of Llandeiniolen, from which it is brought to this place by a railroad seven miles in length. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, which occupies a beautiful and sequestered spot on the eastern bank of the Menai, though small, is a neat and venerable structure, in the later style of English architecture, and is kept in good repair. The interest arising from several charitable donations and bequests, amounting in the aggregate to £147, is annually distributed in winter clothing to the poor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £175. 16.

LLANVAIR MATHAVARNEITHAV (LLAN-VAIR-MATHAVARN-EITHAV), a parish in the hundred of TYNDAETHWY, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 9 miles (N. W. by W.) from Beaumaris, containing 739 inhabitants. This parish, which is not of very great extent, is situated on the shore of the Irish sea: the greater part is in a good state of cultivation, and the common lands have been recently enclosed and several houses erected on them. Black, grey, and variegated marble are found within its limits, the last of which is of very superior quality, and, from the variety and brilliancy of its colours, and the high degree of polish of which it is susceptible, is in very great esti-



mation, and is sent in considerable quantities to various parts of Great Britain. The quarries being near the coast, the produce is shipped without much difficulty; and the procuring of the marble affords employment to a considerable number of the inhabitants. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llanddvyndan, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The interest arising from some small charitable benefactions, the principal of which is one-third of the rental of a farm in this parish, let at £75 per annum, is annually distributed among the poor. In a small cottage in this parish the celebrated bard Goronw Owen was born, on the 1st of January, 1722. He obtained in the free school of Bangor the rudiments of an education which he afterwards completed at Jesus' College, Oxford, and was appointed by the Bishop of Bangor curate of his native parish. He afterwards removed to Oswestry, and subsequently to Northolt in Middlesex; but meeting with no preferment in the church adequate to the support of his family, he obtained from the Cymrodorion Society a sum of money, with the assistance of which he emigrated to Williamsburg in Virginia, of which church he was appointed minister, where he died in 1769. His discourses were eminently distinguished for originality and brilliancy of conception, and his acquirements in classical and oriental literature were of no ordinary extent: his "Search after Happiness," and his "Day of Judgment," are said to be unrivalled by any similar production of the last century. A sum of money has been raised by his countrymen for the purpose of erecting a monument to his memory. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £169. 4.

**LLANVAIR NANTGWYN** (LLAN - VAIR - Y - NANT-GWYN), a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S. by W.) from Cardigan, containing 237 inhabitants. This parish, which is pleasantly situated in the north-eastern part of the county, derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Mary, and its distinguishing adjunct probably from the abundance of white quartz stones scattered over the lands and in the bed of a brook by which it is watered. It comprehends a tract of about one thousand four hundred acres of rather flat but dry land, the whole of which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation: the soil, though light, is in general fertile, and the inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture: the surrounding scenery is not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature, but from the higher grounds are some good prospects over the adjacent country. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Major Bowen. The church, dedicated to St. David, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. There is a place of worship for Baptists. John Jones, in 1729, bequeathed a rent-charge of ten shillings to the poor of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £68. 5.

**LLANVAIR NANTY GOVE** (LLAN-VAIR-NANT-Y-GOV), a parish partly in the hundred of DEWISLAND, and partly in that of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S.) from Fishguard.

This parish is pleasantly situated in the northern part of the county, on the river Gwayn, which, rising in the vicinity, falls into St. George's channel at Fishguard. The living is annexed to the rectory of Letterson, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is not distinguished by any important architectural details. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £126. 11.

**LLANVAIR ORLLWYN** (LLAN-VAIR ORLLWYN), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (E.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, containing 394 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Mary, and its distinguishing adjunct from its situation in a richly wooded district in the south-western part of the county: the road from Newcastle-Emlyn to Lampeter passes through it. It comprehends an extensive tract of arable and pasture land, which, with the exception of a very inconsiderable portion, is enclosed and in a state of good cultivation. The surrounding scenery is richly diversified, and, in some parts, pleasingly picturesque; and the views from the higher grounds embrace some interesting features on the banks of the river Teivy, which flows near the parish. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 13. 4., endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church is a neat edifice, appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service, but not possessing any important architectural details. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £115. 6.

**LLANVAIR PWLLGWYNGYLL** (LLAN-VAIR-PWLL-GWYNGYLL), a parish in the hundred of TYNDAETHWY, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (W. by S.) from Bangor, containing 497 inhabitants. The name of this parish is derived from the dedication of its church to St. Mary, and its distinguishing adjunct from its position nearly opposite to a formidable whirlpool in the Menai strait, formed by the Swelley rocks, which rages with impetuous violence, and of which the term "Pwll Gwyngyll" is emphatically descriptive. The rocks, most of which are visible at low water, obstruct the channel of the strait, and when the lower are covered, the tide, rushing between them with tremendous fury, forms numerous vortices and strong eddies, exceedingly dangerous to vessels navigating this part of the Menai, which are sometimes caught by the rapidity of the current, and dashed against the rocks which appear above the surface. The difficulty of avoiding this impending danger at certain states of the tide, and the roaring noise and violent agitation of the waters, have obtained for this part of the strait the appellation of the Scylla and Charybdis of Welsh mariners, of similar import with its Welsh name Pwll Ceris. At high water this terrific agitation subsides, and the appearance of the surface is smooth and tranquil, differing in no respect from the other parts of the strait. The parish, which is of inconsiderable extent, is situated on the western shore of the Menai strait, and by far the greater portion of it is enclosed and cultivated. The surrounding scenery is marked with features of rugged and romantic grandeur; and the views over the Menai, which near this place forms a noble bend, and of the adjacent country, combine much

*X Contrasted with Pwll Gwyngyll, adjoining*



picturesque beauty and many interesting objects. On the summit of a craggy eminence to the north of the great Holyhead road, which passes through the parish, is a lofty column, erected by the inhabitants of the counties of Anglesey and Carnarvon, to the honour of their countryman, Henry William, the present Marquis of Anglesey: on the north side of the base is an appropriate inscription, commemorating the exploits of that gallant commander, during the campaign in Spain, in the year 1807, and at the memorable battle of Waterloo, in 1815. The village is situated on the new line of road from London to Holyhead, and at no great distance from the Menai bridge: the inhabitants are partly employed in agriculture, and partly in some extensive quarries, which are worked with considerable advantage to the proprietors. The stone dug in these quarries is a compact schistus of good quality and in considerable demand; and every facility is afforded for its exportation by the Menai, on the shore of which a commodious wharf has been constructed. The living is a rectory, with the perpetual curacy of Llandysillio annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £6. 15., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church is a small dark edifice, in a greatly dilapidated condition, and is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported by subscription. Mr. Rowlands bequeathed £21, the interest of which, together with a small rent-charge, is annually distributed among the poor of this parish. In a field near Tŷ Mawr are the remains of a large cromlech, partly thrown down, the table stone of which now lies upon stones which formerly supported it from the ground. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £126. 5.

LLANVAIR TALHAIARN, otherwise DÔLHAIARN (LLAN-VAIR TALHAIARN), a parish partly in the hundred of ISALED, and partly in that of ISDULAS, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (S. by W.) from Abergele, containing 1355 inhabitants. This place derives its distinguishing appellation from Talhaiarn, a noted bard and saint of the early ages of Christianity in Britain, and domestic chaplain of Emrys Wledig, who, after that prince was slain, is said to have built a hermitage here, on the site now occupied by the church (which, on its erection, was dedicated to him), where he passed the remainder of his life in seclusion, and died in the beginning of the sixth century: he composed a prayer, which was adopted as their formula in the sessions of the bards of Glamorgan. This place is also distinguished as having been the residence of Hedd Molwynog, a descendant of Roderic the Great, sovereign of all Wales, and chief of one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales: he joined the standard of Davydd ab Owain Gwynedd, and assisted that prince in driving the English from his territories, and pursuing them into the midland counties. There are no vestiges of his residence, except the moat that surrounded it, which is discernible about one mile and a half westward from the village. The village is delightfully situated in a deep glen, through which flows the small river Elwy, to its junction with the Aled, one mile lower. The seat of Melai was for centuries the principal residence of the

family of Wynne, of which Sir Thomas Wynne, Bart., was created a peer of Ireland by the title of Baron Newborough, in 1776; and Garthewin, an elegant mansion occupying a gentle eminence, commanding rich and diversified prospects, and surrounded by extensive woods of full grown oak, three miles in length, with a large deer park, is the seat of R. W. Wynne, Esq., a younger branch of that family. The parish is composed of two divisions, Upper and Lower; and the portions in the respective hundreds in which it is situated maintain their poor separately. A fair is appointed to be held on Holy Thursday. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph: the whole of the tithes are divided between the Dean and the two comportionate prebendaries of Llanvair, in the cathedral church of St. Asaph: the prebends are each rated in the king's books at £9. 5. 5. The church, dedicated to St. Talhaiarn, is a small edifice, possessing few architectural claims to particular description, erected in 1669, as appears from a Greek cross over the belfry bearing that date: the interior, which presents a neat appearance, is divided in the centre by massive pillars supporting heavy arches: the east windows are good, and there are several elegant and interesting marble monuments to the family of Wynne. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. A free school was founded, in 1708, by the Rev. Sampson Roberts, who gave for its endowment a small sum, which, together with a benefaction by Dr. Jones, Dean of Bangor, was vested in the purchase of a tenement, called Frith yr Hirdir, producing a rental of £6, for which, in addition to a small annual payment from the churchwardens, the master instructs gratuitously twelve poor children of the parish. On a tablet in the church are recorded numerous charitable gifts of benefactors to the poor of this parish, amounting to several hundred pounds, no part of which is now applied to that purpose, except thirty shillings per annum, arising from property in Ceunant. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £732. 14., of which sum, £508. 1. is raised on that portion of the parish which is in the hundred of Isaled, and £224. 13. on that in the hundred of Isdulas.

LLANVAIR-TRËLYGON (LLAN-VAIR-TRËV-HELYGEN), a parish in the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3½ miles (N. E.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, containing 124 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the southern part of the county, comprises but a small extent of arable and pasture land, which is in tolerable cultivation. The surrounding scenery is not distinguished by any peculiarity of features; and the adjacent country, though varied in appearance, is neither remarkable for picturesque beauty nor for objects of antiquarian interest. The living is a rectory not in charge, annexed to the vicarage of Llandyvvriog, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, having been suffered to fall into decay for want of due repair, is now in ruins. On the north side of the church, and at no great distance from it, is a circular tumulus surrounded by a moat, which is said to have been formerly used as a place of defence; but nothing is recorded of any event of

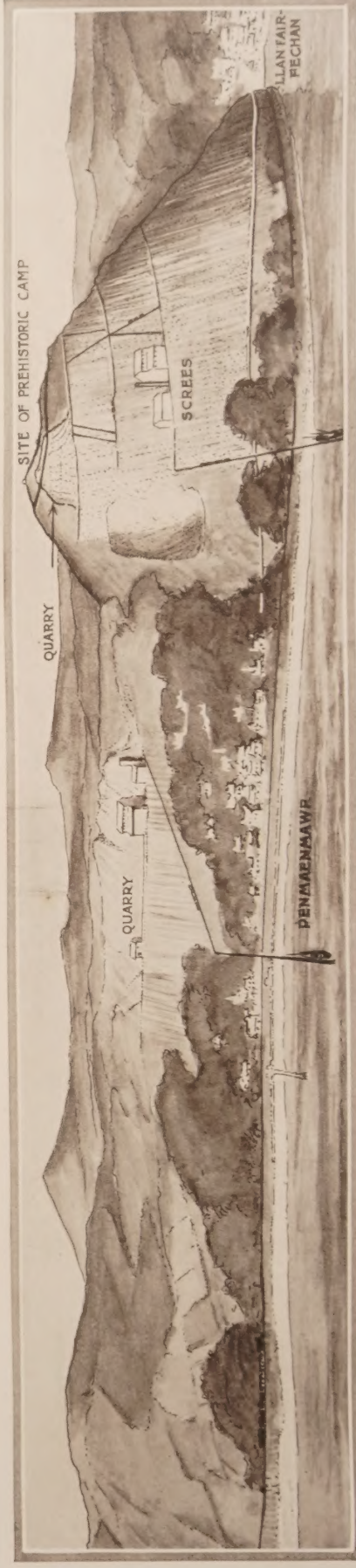


# Destruction of Britain's Oldest Houses:

*Owing to Quarrying on  
Penmaenmawr.*



HOW THE PREHISTORIC CAMP IS PERCHED ON THE SUMMIT OF PENMAENMAWR



HOW THE QUARRIES ARE EATING AWAY THE SLOPE OF THE MOUNTAIN AND DESTROYING THE CAMP PIECEMEAL

See opposite page for description of this archaeological tragedy





MR. EDWARD V. LUCAS  
Illustration by  
Whose new books, "The Second Post" and "Mr. Ingleside," have just been published by the firm of Methuen

# A LITERARY LETTER: A Successful Anthologist—A New Edition of "Our Village"—R. L. Stevenson's Prayers—Mr. John Murray's New Books.

LONDON, November 14, 1910.

I suppose that long before he is fifty years of age some friend will write a critical study of the achievement of Mr. E. V. Lucas as friends have done of the work of Mr. Chertton and Mr. Bernard Shaw. Mr. Lucas has had a most interesting literary career. We met him first—many of us—as the biographer of Lamb. To have written the best, the most exhaustive, life of Charles Lamb, the most thoroughly beloved of English authors, was no small achievement. To have added to this the edition of Lamb's books that most approaches finality was to enlarge our reasons for gratitude.

Then Mr. Lucas appears as a humorist in the pages of *Punch*, the index to which annually reveals to us his co-operation with Mr. Charles L. Graves in many breezy columns. A natural outcome of this co-operation was that popular brochure, *Wisdom While You Wait*, and its successors. To-day a large audience welcomes Mr. Lucas as an anthologist. Ten successive volumes reveal his wide reading and his discriminating taste in literature and ten others his original vein. I prize all these handy little volumes although I care most for those devoted to prose extracts. I am not convinced that Mr. Lucas has a real love for poetry. Who is there to-day that has?

For a time—quite recently—the world was the gay by the existence of a periodical devoted, it almost seemed, to proving that there were only two poets in the world—the editor and assistant editor of the publication in question. And strangely enough both were true poets. Mr. Lucas, if he really loved poetry as a medium of expression, could scarcely have placed side by side some of the versemakers that I find in *The Open Road*. However, this is but carping criticism. In the main the ten volumes are delightful, and not least the two devoted to letters—*The Gentlest Art* and *The Second Post*.

All the ten volumes are published by the house of Methuen, and the new volume, entitled *The Second Post*, is the reason for these notes. Here Mr. Lucas strays as the whim seizes him. Now it is a letter from Madame de Sévigné (borrowed from Miss Janet Aldis's *Queen of Letter-writers*), now one of Mrs. Carlyle's, now one of Lamb's. It gratifies me to find that I had read every one of these letters before. It is very certain that had I—or perhaps even you, gentle reader—made an "anthology" of correspondence no publisher would have issued it and no one would have bought it if perchance it had been issued.

But Mr. Lucas has made a name, and so this "selection" receives universal acceptance and is, I am assured by the booksellers, much in demand. Curiously enough the only things in it that are not very good are the new letters furnished by personal friends. Why, I venture to ask, does Mr. Lucas include four letters by Anna Seward and not acknowledge the names of the always interesting, if sometimes absurd, "Swan of Lichfield"? "A Lichfield Chaplet" is surely a trifle obscure. Darwin the elder might have written these letters, or Day, or Edgeworth so far as the reader is informed.

Mr. Lucas is not only a successful anthologist but he is also a successful novelist. Of the one-and-twenty books that are to be found with his name on them three are described as novels, and *Mr. Ingleside* is the latest arrival. In no sense is it really a novel. Plot there is none, story there is none. But the book contains much good criticism of life, much humorous commentary on persons and events, and I am not surprised to learn that it is being read largely. Mr. Ingleside is a prosperous Civil Servant with two daughters and certain associates. Some of the well-known men of the day are named, others are thinly disguised, and surely in the enthusiast who is "collecting materials for a book about every one of importance called Graham" I recognise a very good friend of my own.

If you are wise you have long since included among your bedside books on a shelf all to themselves the illustrated volumes issued by the firm of Macmillan with illustrations by Hugh

Thomson and other artists. *Cranford*, *Our Village*, *The Vicar of Wakefield*, and *Bracebridge Hall* are four of this valuable series, and they are surely indispensable because not only do we love the books but we love the artists as well. I could have wished that this series had been extended indefinitely. There are lots of good things in literature that Hugh Thomson might well illustrate.

This is prefatory to recalling the fact that Miss Mitford's *Our Village* with the introduction by Anne Thackeray Ritchie, now known as Lady Ritchie, and the hundred illustrations by Hugh Thomson, has been reprinted by the Macmillans as a noble quarto with the addition of sixteen coloured plates and drawings by Alfred Rawlins. *Our Village* is a book of which one never tires. Many have imitated it. We all have a village in our mind about which we could write huge volumes.

Three Miles Cross was the name of the village that Miss Mitford has immortalised. Very interesting is it to read Lady Ritchie's account of her visit to the place. Three Miles Cross she first thought to be one of the most dull and uninteresting of country places, but that was only a superficial view. It is not dull and is even beautiful in Miss Mitford's impressions of it. This volume will make a glorious present.

My congratulations to Chapman and Hall on a new series of very dainty books. They belong to what is to be known as "The Burlington Library." Each volume contains twenty-four coloured illustrations. The first three volumes are *Cranford*, *The Vicar of Wakefield*, and *The Essays of Elia*. In these days one cannot get away from the commercial point of view and I cannot but think what an enormous lot of money our publishers must have made out of those three authors—Lamb, Goldsmith, and Mrs. Gaskell—by these three books.

Would it not be fine if three separate publishers were to agree to honour these three writers by spending a sum of money upon a monument? I will tell them precisely what they should do. They should commission Sir George Frampton to design a monument to Mrs. Gaskell for Manchester; it might stand somewhere near the cathedral. Mrs. Gaskell did far more for Manchester than some of the royal persons who are commemorated in that city by monuments. So perhaps Manchester might do this thing. Then as to Lamb, I would commission Mr. Bertram Mackenall to do a beautiful monument to Lamb for the Temple Gardens.

Goldsmith might be honoured much less expensively than either of the other worthies Outside of Trinity College, Dublin, there is a beautiful statue of him by Foley, which does not belong to the college, by the way, but to the city. This statue of Goldsmith is far superior to any statue we have in London that has been erected within a hundred years. I would have a replica of it cast in bronze and erected near the Temple Church, somewhere in the neighbourhood of Goldsmith's unknown grave.

This is a digression, but if the Dickens stamps are to be a great success, as we all hope, why should not *The Strand Magazine* or some other popular magazine suggest a Goldsmith stamp, a Lamb stamp, and a Gaskell stamp, devoting the money to memorials of these three?

By the way, I see that Mr. George Bernard Shaw suggests a monument to Dickens. Mr. Shaw probably does not know that Dickens in his will expressed the definite desire that there should be no monument erected to him. All the same Mr. Shaw was right. I do not think in matters of this kind a man's will should be taken the least notice of. Robert Emmet's last message to his country was that no monument to him should be erected until Ireland was free. Well, government of Ireland under Castlereagh was not in the least the same thing as government under Mr. Birrell to-day, and I should think better of Ireland if it were to erect a statue to Emmet at once.

Not only by these three charming books has the firm of Chapman and Hall made a departure in the way of the publication of classics but far more so by the production of the series to be known as "The Books of the Verulam Club." The first book of this club is *The Thoughts of Marcus Aurelius Antoninus*. George Long's translation is given, and the book is admirably printed at the Ballantyne Press. I should like a thousand volumes produced like this. Unfortunately most of the books that one

desires are too long. Other volumes promised, however, among the books of the Verulam Club are Bacon's Essays, Lamb's Essays, *The Imitation of Christ*, and Sir Thomas Browne's *Religio Medici*.

A handsome Christmas volume is *The Scottish Fairy Book* (J. Fisher Unwin), uniform with *The Welsh Fairy Book* and *The Irish Fairy Book*. Miss Elizabeth W. Grierson has collected these stories and rewritten them, and Mr. Morris Meredith Williams has provided a hundred charming illustrations. The whole book is printed in red and black, and the result is very effective.

We owe to the firm of Chatto and Windus a beautiful piece of Stevensoniana this season. *Prayers Written at Vailima* has an introduction by Mrs. Stevenson, and the whole book is reproduced in colours and gold after the original illuminated drawings by Alberto Sangorski. This it would seem is not the artist whom we have to thank for an illuminated edition of *Omar Khayyam*, published by Siegle, Hill, as the latter is called F. Sangorski. Otherwise there is a family resemblance in the work. Mrs. Stevenson offers us a welcome glimpse of R. L. S. He alone of the white people on the islands, apart from the missionaries, read evening prayers each day, and the Samoans formed the larger part of his family gathering. The prayers were Theistic only. They have a very striking literary note. Truly it is a thing apart, more interesting even than his books, this Samoan sojourn of the gifted Scot.

The firm of Herbert and Daniel has made itself already a power by some striking books. I believe that these are but the Christian names of two enterprising young men. Their first book was the *Life of Cardinal Vaughan*, which I promise myself the pleasure of reading when the burden of this heavy publishing season be overpast. The book of the moment issued by Herbert and Daniel is *Songs of Innocence*, by William Blake. The Blake cult is a popular one if we may judge by the multitude of books that it has brought forth of late. Here are six books that I have added to my shelves in less than three years:—

GILCHRIST'S "LIFE OF BLAKE." New edition. (John Lane.)  
THE LETTERS OF WILLIAM BLAKE: W. L. Life. By F. Tatham. (Methuen.)  
THE REAL BLAKE. By Edwin J. Ellis. (Chatto & Windus.)  
THE POETICAL WORKS OF WILLIAM BLAKE. Edited by Edwin J. Ellis. Two vols. (Chatto & Windus.)  
WILLIAM BLAKE. By Basil de Selincourt. (Duckworth.)  
WILLIAM BLAKE. By Arthur Symonds. (Hinemann.)

The present edition of the *Songs of Innocence* is simply entrancing. I love the coloured illustrations by Honor C. Appleton. I love the decorated borders in which the poems are enshrined, and I value Mr. Thomas Secombe's introduction to the volume.

What a splendid succession of new books we are constantly receiving from the firm of John Murray. Mr. Murray's house is particularly noteworthy, not only with books that are treasured by the memoir-hunter as in the case of Mr. Monypenny's *Life of Disraeli* and Lord Broughton's *Reminiscences* but also so far as serious action and travel as becomes the first publisher of Southey's *Life of Nelson*. I suppose that book suggests itself to my mind by the fact that one of these new volumes is entitled *Storm and Sunshine in South Africa*, by Rosamond Southey. Miss Southey has travelled all over South Africa with the result that she has written a pleasant narrative that includes local colour, hunting, and plenty of picturesque description of the people throughout the whole of our newly-united state. The book is well illustrated.

Another volume, also by a woman, is entitled *A Behind the Scenes in Peking*. The author is Miss Mary Hooker, who describes the terrible times that occurred during the siege of the legations. Here also is a book that will attract everyone who cares to read about China.

The third volume before me (also published by Mr. Murray) is called *Sea Waves of the Mediterranean*, the author of which is Commander Hamilton Currey. Here is a historical work which tells of the many weird adventures of corsair chiefs from the earliest time to the present. This is a book full of romance and adventure yet of serious historical value to thousands crossing the Mediterranean to-day who may well wish to carry in their mind's eye the exciting conditions under which that beautiful sea was crossed in earlier years. Here is the very book for them. C. K. S.

A list of books received by "The Sphere" will be found on the second page of this issue.



historical importance with which it was connected. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £27. 11.

**LLANVAIR VECHAN (LLAN-VAIR-VECHAN)**, a parish in the hundred of LLÊCHWEDD UCHÂV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (W. S. W.) from Aberconway, on the road to Holyhead, containing 653 inhabitants. This parish, which lies to the east of Traeth Lavan, or the Lavan Sands, which are dry at half ebb, a tract nearly twelve miles in length, and from seven to eight miles in breadth, overflowed by the sea in the sixth century, comprehends the vast mountain of Penmaen-Mawr, near the base of which the village is romantically situated. This mountain, of which the height is one thousand five hundred and forty-nine feet above the level of the sea at high water, rises on one side almost perpendicularly from the bay of Beaumaris, in which it forms a lofty and boldly projecting promontory, and extends for some miles in a north-easterly direction towards Aberconway. It consists of one vast chain of precipitous and rugged rocks of frightful aspect and dreary sterility, wildly and irregularly thrown together in loose and crumbling strata, from which huge masses, frequently detaching themselves with imminent danger to the traveller, threaten to overwhelm him in their descent, or intercept his progress with heaps of scattered fragments. Previously to the construction or improvement of the present road, nothing could be more terrific or more hazardous than the pass over this mountain, in which one false step was attended with certain destruction to the adventurous traveller: numerous fatal accidents have occurred from the steepness of the ascent, the insecurity of the path, and the tremendous precipices on the brink of which the narrow road was continued without the slightest protection. In 1772, application was made to parliament, pursuant to which certain sums were granted for the improvement of this dangerous road, which formed part of the line to Holyhead: a subscription was also opened for the same purpose, to which the city of Dublin largely contributed; and under the superintendence of Mr. John Sylvester, an eminent engineer, the road was sufficiently widened for carriages to pass each other with safety, by cutting through the solid rock, and on the side towards the sea the precipices are guarded by a strong wall, built upon a series of lofty arches of nearly one hundred yards in perpendicular height, over which also the road is carried on a level for several miles, avoiding the almost impracticable descent to Penmaen Bâch, and leading over the chasms formed by the crumbling strata of the mountain. On the summit of the mountain are the remains of an ancient and very extensive British encampment, called Braich y Dinas, a station strongly fortified by nature and by art, and probably erected to defend the passage into Anglesey and the remoter parts of the principality. The ascent is steep and laborious, and near the summit are three strong intrenchments of loose stones of amazing strength, the walls of which are in many places in a very perfect state, having both the external and internal facings in good preservation, and the central wall on the south side in some parts nine feet high and eight feet in thickness; in the intervals between the walls are numerous remains and foundations of circular towers, varying in diameter from seven to twenty

feet, and some remains of others of a square form. The central area on the summit contains also the remains of a circular tower, apparently of lofty elevation, but much reduced by the falling of stones, which are scattered in profusion round its base; and near this tower, which occupies the centre of the area, are other groups of circular buildings, which by dilapidation have become little more than masses of undistinguishable ruins. Near them is a well, excavated in the solid rock, which supplied the garrison with water, and which is constantly full, being fed by the condensed vapours of the mountain. On the north-west side of the mountain may be distinctly traced a narrow circuitous road, walled on both sides, evidently leading up to the fortress: this station, which was regarded as the strongest and the most extensive among the strong holds of Snowdon, was capable of accommodating twenty thousand men, and was deemed impregnable as well from the precipitous acclivity of the mountain, as from the extraordinary strength of the fortifications; and throughout the tortuous path by which alone it was accessible were numerous passes of great difficulty, any of which might be defended by a very small body of men against a whole army of assailants. In this formidable post was placed the remnant of the Welsh army, as in a retreat of inviolable security, during the negotiations which were pending between Edward I. and Llewelyn, previously to the final submission of the principality to the authority of that monarch. This mountain, during the sixth century, was the solitary retreat of Seiriol, a British anchorite, who had his hermitage between the two summits, where his bed and his well are still to be seen; but the hermitage being plundered, St. Seiriol retired to Ynys Seiriol, a small island on the coast of Anglesey, where he built a chapel and a cell, and ended his days. The parish, exclusively of the mountainous parts, contains several large tracts of arable, meadow, and pasture land, in a good state of cultivation: the principal fuel is peat, which is obtained in abundance: in some parts copper-ore has been found, but no mines have hitherto been opened, nor has any sufficient trial been made to work the ore effectually. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £6. 17. 6., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is pleasantly situated in the village, near the road to the pass over the mountain. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The interest of several charitable donations and bequests, amounting in the aggregate to £126. 4., is annually distributed in clothing among the poor, in the winter, according to the intentions of the several benefactors. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £158. 17.

**LLANVAIR Y CWMWWD (LLAN-VAIR-YN-CWMWWD)**, a chapelry in the parish of LLANIDAN, hundred of MENAI, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N. W. by N.) from Carnarvon. The population is returned with the parish. This place, which is pleasantly situated near the right bank of the river Braint, partakes generally of the scenery by which the parish is characterized: the adjacent country is richly diversified, and the views are interesting and extensive. The living is a curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Llanidan,



in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, has been for years in a state of such dilapidation as to preclude the performance of divine service, but is at present being rebuilt, and, when completed, will afford great accommodation to the inhabitants of the chapelry, which is more than four miles distant from the parish church.

LLANVAIR YN EUBWLL (LLAN-VAIR-YN-NEUBWLL), a parish in the hundred of LLYVON, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (S.E.) from Holyhead, containing 319 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Mary, and its adjunct from two small lakes or pools contiguous, is pleasantly situated on the great Holyhead road, and comprises only an inconsiderable extent of fertile land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The western part of it is bounded by the narrow strait which separates it from Holy Island, and over which is the bridge called Rhŷd Pont, connecting it with the opposite shore. The surrounding country is richly diversified, and in some parts highly picturesque; and the views, extending over the town and bay of Holyhead on the north-west, and the adjacent country on the north and east, embrace much interesting scenery. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Rhôscolyn, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, a small irregular edifice, contains some excellent architectural details, which appear to have originally belonged to some more ancient building, the remains of which have been probably incorporated with the present structure: it stands on the western brow of an eminence overlooking a small creek of the Irish sea. There are places of worship for Independents and Wesleyan Methodists. The interest arising from some small charitable donations and bequests is distributed among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £116. 11.

LLANVAIR YNGHORNWY (LLAN-VAIR-YN-NGHORNWY), a parish in the hundred of TAL Y BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (N.W.) from Llanerchymedd, containing 310 inhabitants. This parish, which is of great extent, is situated at the north-western extremity of the Isle of Anglesey, near Camlyn bay, and almost directly opposite to the Isle of Skerries. Its surface is boldly varied, and in some parts rises into abrupt and rugged eminences: the scenery is strikingly diversified, and the views, extending on the west over St. George's channel, and on the north to the Irish sea, comprehend many interesting objects, and are finely contrasted with those over the adjacent country on the east, which embrace a rich variety of rural and picturesque features. Near Camlyn bay is a fine quarry of serpentine marble, of the species called verd antique, which is intersected with veins of asbestos, of a beautiful silky texture: this marble is more highly esteemed than the finest specimens from Italy, and many of the slabs obtained here have produced very large sums: the asbestos found here is superior in softness and brilliancy to any yet discovered in Europe. Among the mineral productions of this parish are likewise steatite, or soap-rock, and amianthus. There is safe anchorage for small vessels on the coast, in Camlyn, or Crooked Pool bay, which

might at little expense be rendered a safe port, and even a serviceable dock might easily be constructed in it. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llandeusan, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a spacious ancient structure, partly in the Norman style, with a lofty square tower of rude architecture at the west end: it consists of a nave and double chancel, the latter divided by a series of massive circular pillars and arches: the south chancel belongs exclusively to the proprietor of the Monachty estate, in this parish; and the north, which is the property of the owner of Caeria, is the sepulchral chapel of the family of Williams, of Friars, and contains many elegant monuments to members of that family, and of the family of the Bulkeleys: upon one of the pillars which separate the chancels is a very ancient inscription in rude Saxon characters. There are places of worship for Baptists and for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Monachty, the estate above mentioned, supposed by some writers anciently to have been the site of a religious house, was granted by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd as part of the endowment of the abbey which he founded at Aberconway, from which circumstance it derived its present appellation, and the exemption from tithes which it still enjoys. Near the church are three upright stones of large dimensions, placed in the form of a triangle, at a distance of six hundred yards from each other, and called Meini Hirion, or "the Stones of Heroes;" and near the same place are the remains of an extensive circular camp, called Castell Crwn, surrounded by a vallum and fosse. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £107. 11.

LLANVAIR YN MHUALLT, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES. — See BUILTH.

LLANVALTEG (LLAN-VALLTEG), a parish comprising two divisions, each separately maintaining its own poor, of which one is in the lower division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, and the other in that of DUNGLEDY, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5½ miles (N.E.) from Narberth, containing 334 inhabitants, of which number, 281 are in that division which is in the county of Carmarthen, and 53 in that which is in the county of Pembroke. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is pleasantly situated near the right bank of the river Tâf, which is here crossed by a bridge, and on the turnpike road from Narberth to Newcastle-Emlyn, and comprises a tract of land which is all enclosed, and of which by far the greater part is in a state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery, though not distinguished by any striking peculiarity of feature, is generally pleasing, and the soil, though various, is not unproductive. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, which is dedicated to St. Mallteg, and situated in that division of the parish which is in the county of Pembroke, has been rebuilt within the last forty years, by a parochial rate, and is a neat edifice appropriately adapted to the performance of divine service. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £83. 15., of which sum, £60. 2. is raised on the portion in the



county of Carmarthen, and £23. 13. on that in the county of Pembroke.

**LLANVAREDD**, or **LLANVARETH** (**LLANVARETH**), a parish in the hundred of COLWYN, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (E.) from Builth, containing 162 inhabitants. The name of this parish is derived from the situation of its church near a small rivulet called the Vareth, which flows into the river Wye at a short distance from its site. The parish is finely situated on the eastern bank of the Wye, by which river it is separated from the county of Brecknock, and comprises an extensive tract of arable and pasture land, in a good state of cultivation. The surface is hilly, intersected with dorsal eminences, and occasionally varied by abrupt conical hills, forming part of the range called the Carneddau, and affording excellent pasturage for sheep of a very fine breed, of which numerous flocks are reared upon them. The soil in the lower grounds is rich, and the inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture. The turnpike road from Builth to New Radnor traverses the northern part of the parish. The living is annexed to the rectory of Aberedw, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a neatly constructed small pierced turret, under which a single bell is suspended, and is situated in a beautiful and romantic spot near the banks of the river Wye, under the shelter of some lofty hills. The poor of this parish share equally with those of Aberedw and Llanbadarn y Garreg in a rent-charge of £12 payable out of a farm called Llanola, bequeathed by Mrs. Gwynne: the average annual expenditure for their support is £101. 4.

**LLANVAWR** (**LLAN-VAWR**), a parish in the hundred of PENLLŶN, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 1 mile (N.E.) from Bala, on the road to Corwen, containing 1749 inhabitants. This parish, which extends for nearly eight miles in length and about the same in breadth, is situated on the river Dee, and abounds with pleasing and picturesque scenery; from Moel Llan, on the high grounds above the village, which stands on the road from Bala to Corwen, a fine view is obtained of the vale of Penllŷn, through which the Dee winds its serpentine course, and of Bala lake, bounded at its western extremity by the lofty Arenig and Aran mountains. On the left is "Rhiwaedog," or the bloody brow, celebrated for a battle which took place there between Llywarch Hên and the Saxons, in which that chieftain lost the last of his sons. Not far from the village is Pabell Llywarch Hên, the tent of Llywarch the aged, in which he is said to have rested on the night after the battle, and where he finished the pathetic elegy in which he laments the loss of all his sons. This place is marked out by a circle of large stones, to which tradition has attributed that name; and near the road to Corwen are also the remains of an exploratory station. Fairs are held on May 20th and August 14th. The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph: the former, which is a sinecure, is rated in the king's books at £11. 5., and the latter, which is discharged, at £5. 1. 5½.; both are in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Deinïol, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture: the north chancel, by an inscrip-

tion on the outside wall, was erected in 1599, at the expense of R. Price, Esq., of Rhiwlas, in this parish, and contains several monuments to that family. Llywarch Hên died in 580, and was buried here. In a window under the gallery is a stone on which is inscribed, in old characters, the words "*Cavos Eniarcii*." There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. Sunday schools, in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations, are supported by subscription. The late William Price, Esq., of Rhiwlas, in 1774, bequeathed £800 for the maintenance of three aged men and three aged women of this parish, £200 for clothing the poor, and £100 for purchasing bread, the interest of all which sums is appropriated according to the will of the testator. Mrs. Margaret Price, of the same family, also bequeathed £100 for clothing the poor; and there are some smaller bequests in land and money for their benefit. Rhiwlas, the seat of the family of Price, is a very ancient building, situated on the left bank of the river Trewern, which falls into the Dee within a short distance: the grounds embrace some pleasingly varied scenery. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £1063. 3.

**LLANVECHAN**, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES.—See **LLANAVAN-VECHAN**.

**LLANVECHAN** (**LLAN-VECHAN**), a township in the parish of LLANWRŶN, hundred of MACHYNLLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 5½ miles (N.E.) from Machynlleth. The population is returned with the parish. Some delightful views of the vale of the Dovey may be obtained from several parts of this township.

**LLANVECHAN**, or **LLAN-YN-MECHAIN**, a parish in the hundred of POOL, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (E. by N.) from Llanvyllyn. The population is returned with that of Guilsfield. The name of this place is derived from its situation nearly in the centre of a beautiful vale in the north-eastern part of the county, of circular form, and about three miles in diameter, watered by the meandering river Cain, and from that circumstance called *Mechain*, or *Mach Cain*, "the tract of the Cain." The parish comprises a considerable portion of fertile arable and pasture land, which is in a state of excellent cultivation; and its entire surface, consisting of about five thousand acres, is now enclosed: the whole of the common and waste lands, together with those in the manors of Mechain Iscoed and Plâs Dinas, were allotted and enclosed under the provisions of an act of parliament obtained in 1789. The turnpike road from Shrewsbury and Oswestry to Llanvyllyn passes near the village, which has a prepossessing appearance, and derives much interest from the beauty of its situation. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £8. 15. 10., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Garmon, is an ancient and venerable structure: near it is Fynnon Armon, the well of the patron saint, the water of which was formerly held in such veneration, that the baptismal font was invariably supplied with it. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school, established in 1832, by the Rev. Thomas Griffith, curate of the parish, in which about eighty children



are gratuitously instructed, is supported by subscription. Mrs. Anne Vaughan, in 1715, and Mr. John Moody, in 1718, severally gave, by deed, certain small portions of land; and Mr. Charles Edwards, in 1727, and Dr. Wm. Wynne, in 1776, each gave £50 in money, to the poor of this parish. At no great distance from the church, and close to the turnpike road, are the remains of an ancient British encampment; and above Bryngwyn, the residence of Martin Williams, Esq., by whom it was rebuilt about twelve years ago, are the remains of another; but of neither of them have any historical particulars been recorded. There are also in the vicinity several other British encampments, among which is "Moel Dinam," which, from the resemblance of the names, Mr. Edward Llwyd vaguely conjectures to have been the *Mediolanum* of the Romans. Within the limits of the parish are the remains of several ancient mansions, now abandoned by their proprietors, among which the principal are, Bôdynvoel, the ancient residence of the Trevor family; and Brongain, the mansion of the family of the Griffiths, descendants of the Idnerths. The Rev. Walter Davies, A. M., rector of the parish of Manavon, eminent as a philologist and antiquary, and profoundly skilled in the literature and antiquities of his country, is a native of this parish: he first rose to a very elevated station as a candidate, and subsequently as an arbiter, in the grand Eisteddvodau of the principality, and has published some useful and interesting works, among which are, a translation of "Gisborne's Familiar Survey of Christianity;" an Agricultural Survey of North Wales, in one volume, 8vo., undertaken at the request of Sir John Sinclair, Bart.; and an Agricultural Survey of South Wales, in two volumes, 8vo., at the request of Lord Sheffield; besides communicating many valuable papers to various Cambrian periodicals, and of late years aiding with his literary and scientific acquisitions divers works relating to Wales and Welsh literature.

LLANVECHELL (LLAN-VECHELL), a parish (formerly a market-town) in the hundred of TAL Y BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (W.) from Amlwch, comprising the township of Llandugwell, which supports its own poor, and containing 976 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is situated on a small stream which falls into the bay of Cemmes on the north; and the village, which is of considerable size, is finely sheltered by a chain of hills on the south and west. The parish extends for three miles in length and two in breadth, and is divided into two unequal parts, called Llanvechell Caerdegog and Llanvechell Llawr y Llan. The surface is boldly varied, and the hills abound with mineral treasure: the lower lands are in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and from the higher grounds are extensive views of the channel, and of the adjacent country, which in some parts is characterized by features of picturesque beauty. To the west of the church, and about a mile distant from it, are three upright stones, ten feet in height, disposed in the form of a triangle, twelve feet distant from each other, and supposed to be the remaining supporters of an ancient cromlech, which must, from the elevation of the stones, have been one of the loftiest monuments of that kind in the island; the table stone,

if ever there was one, has disappeared; but the farm on which the upright stones are found still retains the name of the "Cromlech." The celebrated Mona marble called verd antique is found in this parish, in great abundance and of very superior quality; it is equal in the brilliancy and variety of its colours to the finest specimens of Italy, and was formerly a source of considerable wealth: the best is obtained from the quarries on Maes Mawr farm, and surpasses in beauty all that has hitherto been discovered in other parts of the island. On the same estate, and also in other districts of the parish, steatite, or French chalk, is found in profusion: this mineral has of late become more valuable and important since the discovery that chromate of iron, a pigment of great value, belongs to the same formation. Carding, spinning and fulling, and the weaving of stuffs and of coarse woollen goods, are carried on in the parish to a limited extent. The small creek of Cemmes, in the adjoining parish, affords an opportunity for transporting the produce of the quarries, and for landing coal and other necessary commodities for the supply of the inhabitants. The market, which was well supplied and numerously attended, was formerly held on Friday: fairs are annually held on Holy Thursday, August 5th, September 21st, and November 5th and 26th. The township of Llandugwell was formerly a parish of itself, and is exempt from the payment of church rates to the parish of Llanvechell: the church is now a ruin, and the rectorial tithes are taken alternately by the rectors of this parish and Llanrhyddlad. The living of Llanvechell is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £11. 11. 3., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Mechell, or Macutus, by whom it was originally founded, was rebuilt about the year 1533, and is a spacious and venerable structure, in the later style of English architecture, with a tower surmounted by a low spire: it consists of a nave, chancel, and south transept, and is ornamented with an east window of elegant design, embellished with ancient stained glass of brilliant colour, and contains several good monuments. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school was founded in 1723, by Richard Wynne, Esq., who endowed it with a farm called Nant Glyn, in the parish of Amlwch, for the gratuitous instruction of children of this and the adjoining parish of Llanbadrig: there are at present only four boys in the school. Mr. Owen Williams, in 1657, bequeathed £2. 14. per annum, payable out of the tithes of Llanbadrig parish; and William Davies, in 1751, bequeathed £60, to be distributed in bread and coarse woollen cloth to the poor. David Lloyd, in 1689, gave a cottage and garden in this parish for the support of an aged and indigent man; John Bulkeley, in 1754, bequeathed a portion of land to the poor; and Catherine Bulkeley, in 1764, bequeathed £100 for the relief of poor distressed widows, but the interest of this last bequest has not been paid for several years: there are also some other smaller donations for the relief of the poor. There is a mineral spring near the demesne of Cevn Côch, in this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £433. 13.



**LLANVEDW**, a hamlet in that part of the parish of **MICHAELSTON LE VEDW** which is in the hundred of **CAERPHILLY**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. N. E.) from Cardiff, containing 293 inhabitants. It is situated on the right bank of the river Romney, over which there is a stone bridge. In this hamlet are two ancient family seats, **Ruperrah** and **Cevn Mably**: the former is a substantial square stone mansion, situated on an eminence and backed with stately groves; it is sheltered by the loftier heights towards the north, which form the southern boundary of the vale of **Caerphilly**. This is the property of the **Morgans of Trêdeg**, and generally the residence of the eldest son, having been in the possession of that family from time immemorial: the present house was built after a design by **Inigo Jones**. **Cevn Mably** is the seat of **C. K. Kemeys Tynte, Esq.**, an ancient **Pembrokeshire** family, to whose ancestors it has belonged for several generations. **Sir Nicholas Kemeys**, a member of this family, raised a thousand men in **Glamorganshire**, and joined the royalists, who were defeated at **St. Fagan's** by **Cromwell**, in 1648. He then retired to **Chepstow** castle, which he defended with great gallantry for three weeks, until a breach was made in the walls by the heavy artillery under **Colonel Pride**, who thus obtained possession of that fortress; and **Sir Nicholas** is said to have been put to death with circumstances of great cruelty. A separate assessment is made for the support of the poor of this hamlet, the average annual expenditure amounting to £142. 5.

**LLAN-VERNACH**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**.—See **LLAN-VYRNACH**.

**LLANVERRAS (LLAN-VERAS)**, a parish in the hundred of **YALE**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 4 miles (S. W.) from **Mold**, containing 705 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to **St. Berres**, an eminent disciple of **St. Martin** the Hungarian, whom he succeeded in the bishoprick of **Tours**, about the close of the fourth century. The parish is situated on the north-eastern confines of the county, bordering upon **Flintshire**, and upon the river **Alyn**, which has its source in the neighbouring parish of **Llandegla**, and, flowing northward through this place, adds much interest and beauty to the surrounding scenery: one thousand eight hundred acres of waste land within its limits were enclosed under an act of parliament obtained in 1793. It abounds with mineral treasures, and within its limits are some extensive lead mines, which have been worked from a very early period. These mines, after being for some time entirely discontinued, or in very limited operation, were worked upon a very extensive scale in 1762, and so continued to be, with great advantage, till the year 1790, when they were again abandoned. From that period the works were wholly suspended, or conducted only upon a very limited scale by a few adventurers, till the year 1823, when a new company established themselves in this place, drove fresh levels in the mountain, sunk new shafts, and erected new machinery for carrying on the mining process with effect. This machinery is put in motion by a water wheel, fifty feet in diameter, and of eighty horse power, driven by the stream of the river **Alyn**: the symmetry of this wheel, and its great power, render it the admiration of all visitors to this place; and the beauty of the situation which it occupies, on

the stream of the **Alyn**, derives additional interest from its proximity to **Colomendy**, once the property and residence of **Wilson**, the celebrated landscape painter. The quantity of lead-ore that has been raised from these mines is very considerable: in 1830, more than one thousand tons were procured from the mine of **Maes Isâv** alone. The turnpike road from **Denbigh** to **Mold** passes through the village. The living is a discharged rectory, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of **St. Asaph**, rated in the king's books at £14. 8. 1½., and in the patronage of the **Bishop of St. Asaph**. The church is a small neat edifice, rebuilt in 1772, chiefly at the expense of **Mrs. Jones**, of **Colomendy**. There is a place of worship for **Calvinistic Methodists**. **Mrs. Catherine Jones**, prior to the year 1764, erected a school-house in this parish, and endowed it with £5. 10. per annum, payable out of lands in the parish of **Holywell**, in the county of **Flint**, and also with £4 per annum payable out of lands in this parish: there are likewise some other smaller benefactions to the school, the whole amounting to £15 per annum, which is paid to a master for teaching twelve poor children. **John Robinson**, in 1703, bequeathed £30, the interest of which sum he directed to be distributed in bread to the poor; and **John Wilson**, in 1772, gave by deed a portion of land, the produce of which he directed to be divided among them in bread and money. **The Rev. John Davies, D.D.**, a learned divine, and author of a curious grammar of the **Welsh** language, and also of a **Welsh and Latin Dictionary**, published in 1632, was a native of this parish: he died in 1644. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £ 308. 19.

**LLANVIGAEI (LLAN-VIGEL)**, a parish in the hundred of **TAL Y BOLION**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. N. W.) from **Bôdodern**, containing 146 inhabitants. This small parish is situated on one of the finest rivulets in the isle, called **Avon Alaw**, which adds greatly to its fertility: the lands are enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The scenery is finely varied, and the views from the higher grounds are interesting and extensive, and in some parts highly picturesque. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of **Llanvachreth**, in the archdeaconry of **Anglesey**, and diocese of **Bangor**. The church was situated on the margin of the rivulet which flows through the parish: at present but a small portion of its ruins are remaining. The parishioners attend divine service in the church of **Llanvachreth**; but distinct officers are still chosen, and the public business of the parish is transacted, in the same manner as prior to the decay of the church. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £63. 1.

**LLANVIGAN, or LLANVEUGAN (LLAN-VEIGAN)**, a parish, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, in the hundred of **PENCELLE**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**, 4 miles (S. E. by S.) from **Brecknock**, and containing 631 inhabitants, of which number, 274 are in the Upper, and 357 in the Lower, division. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to **St. Veugan**, or **Meugan**, who, according to the late **Iolo Morganwg**, was preceptor to the renowned **Merlyn Emrys**, and also distinguished himself as a poet. It is situated nearly in the central part of the county, and anciently formed the head of



the extensive lordship of Pencelly, which was afterwards divided into five minor lordships, and gave name to the present hundred. The ancient castle of Pencelly, of which there are at present scarcely any vestiges, was situated in the village, about a quarter of a mile to the east of the church. By whom, or at what time, it was originally built is not known; but in the 28th of Edward I. it belonged to Roger Mortimer, who was in that year summoned to parliament by the title of Baron Mortimer of Pencelly Castle: it is also noticed by Leland, who describes it as existing in his time, in the possession of the Herberts, between whom and the Duke of Buckingham the lordship of Pencelly was then divided. The ancient family mansion of the Herberts, which was afterwards erected on the site of the castle, and of which some portions are remaining, has undergone so many alterations as scarcely to retain any of its original character, and is now in the occupation of a farmer. The manor and site of the ancient castle are now, by marriage with the heiress of the late Thynne Howe Gwynne, of Buckland, Esq., the property of James Gwynne Holford, Esq., of Cilgwyn, in the county of Carmarthen. The village is pleasantly situated at a short distance from the river Usk, which forms the principal boundary of the parish on the north and east; and the surrounding scenery is pleasing and well wooded, and in some parts picturesque. Blaennant, the property of Lewis Morris, Esq., and at present unoccupied, is a handsome modern mansion, surrounded with fine plantations: the grounds are tastefully laid out, and command a fine view of the Brecknockshire Beacons, which form a striking feature in the scenery of this part of the principality. The lands, which in some places are wet and marshy, are principally arable, and the inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture. The Brecknock and Abergavenny canal passes through the village, where there are several wharfs for landing the coal and limestone brought down it for the supply of the neighbourhood. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £20. 10., and in the patronage of C. K. Kemeys Tynte, Esq.: part of the great tithes, anciently belonging to the chapel of St. Leonard, within the castle of Pencelly, has, since the Reformation, been received by the lord of the manor. The church, an ancient and well built edifice, with a square tower of good proportions, is beautifully situated on the declivity of a lofty ridge, at some distance from the south bank of the river Usk, and commanding an extensive view down the Vale of Usk, and of the Black Mountains. The churchyard contains some of the finest yew trees in South Wales; one of them is nine and a half yards, and another seven and a half in girth; and, though generally of very great age, their trunks are mostly perfectly sound. In the upper division of the parish is the chapel of Glyn Collwyn, to which the rector presents. There is a place of worship for Presbyterians. The Rev. Richard Turberville, rector of this parish in 1635, bequeathed to his servant, William David, two closes of land, called respectively Crovtau and Tir y Gengin, both in this parish, charged with the payment of £5 per annum to the poor; both these, after the death of the legatee, were resigned to the minister and churchwardens, who receive the rents and distribute them among the poor, according to the inten-

tion of the testator. Captain Thomas Powell, of Pencelly Castle, about the commencement of the seventeenth century, gave £100 to the poor: this sum was vested in the purchase of lands at Glynderi, now let to Mr. Powell, of the Castle farm, at a yearly rent of £23. 10. A tenement bequeathed to the poor by an unknown benefactor is now let to Mr. Price, of Blaennant, at an annual rent of £11. Mrs. Lettice Parry, by her will in 1721, charged a tenement called Llwynneclyn, in the parish of Llanthetty, with the payment of £1 per annum; and two other benefactors, whose names are not recorded, charged tenements, called respectively Cethinog and Tŷ Newydd, in this parish, with the annual payment of £2 each. The produce arising from these benefactions is annually distributed among the poor on Good Friday, and the rents of the farms on St. Thomas' day. Gilston, or Gileston, was formerly a manor or lordship in this parish, and was conferred by Bernard Newmarch on Sir Giles Pierrepont, whose posterity and name have been long extinct in the principality. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £241. 16.

LLANVIHANGEL (LLAN-VIHANGEL-YN-NGWYNVA), a parish, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, in the lower division of the hundred of LLANVYLLIN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (W. S. W.) from Llanvyllin, and containing 906 inhabitants. The name of this parish is derived from the dedication of its church to St. Michael, and its adjunct from its being situated in Gwynva, a district in ancient Powys: it is more commonly called "Llanvihangel y Gwynt" (St. Michael's the windy), from the bleakness of its surface, to distinguish it from "Llanvihangel yn Nghentyn," as the Welsh designate Alberbury, on the confines of Salop. It comprehends a tract of about six thousand acres, of which two-thirds, being hilly and mountainous, are unenclosed and uncultivated. The soil is various: the lower grounds are fertile and productive; the declivities of the hills afford pasturage for young cattle and sheep; and peat, which constitutes the chief fuel of the inhabitants, is found in abundance. The surrounding scenery is strikingly varied and in many parts highly picturesque; and within the parish are some handsome residences, the principal of which is Llwydiarth Hall, with its extensive and well-wooded park, forming a prominent and interesting feature in the varied landscape. The village is situated about half a mile to the left of the turnpike road leading from Llanvyllin to Cann Office. A fair is held on May 9th. The living is a rectory, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £5. 15. 5., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, which is situated on the summit of a lofty eminence, is an ancient edifice: the pew belonging to the possessors of Llwydiarth is decorated with a canopy, on which are emblazoned the arms of the different branches of that family. A parochial school, which since 1820 has been conducted on the National plan, is supported chiefly by bequests of Mrs. Mary Vaughan, of Llangedwin, and her daughter, Mrs. Strangeways, of the parish of Melbury, in the county of Dorset: in this establishment the poor children of the parish are gratuitously instructed, and



ten of them are annually clothed. Francis Griffiths, in 1684, bequeathed £20, and David Griffiths, in 1690, left £30, the produce of both which sums was to be appropriated to the apprenticing of poor children. David Vaughan, in 1705, bequeathed £20, and Watkin Evans gave £20, directing the interest to be distributed in bread to the poor. Joseph and David Ellis gave £20, the interest to be given annually in flannel; and Mrs. Mary Strangeways bequeathed £200, and the Rev. Mr. Lloyd £10, the interest of which sums is annually divided among the poor. The Roman road from Caer-Sws to *Deva* (Chester) passed through this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £298. 13.

**LLANVIHANGEL ABERBYTHIC** (**LLAN-VIHANGEL-ABER-BYTHYCH**), a parish in the hundred of **ISCENNEN**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. S. W.) from Llandilo, containing 911 inhabitants. This parish derives its distinguishing appellation from its situation at the mouth of the small rivulet Bythic, which here falls into the river Towy: it is within the lordship of Kidwelly, and forms part of the Duchy of Lancaster. The environs comprehend many fine views, and much of that varied and interesting scenery which characterizes the Vale of Carmarthen. The neighbourhood abounds with limestone, which rises from the sea near Kidwelly, and extends to this parish, and is burned in great abundance for manure, which is conveyed to various parts of the principality. For this purpose a rail-road has been constructed from the works at Castell y Garreg, in this parish, to the Bury river, a distance of sixteen miles, crossing the Gwendraeth Vawr river, and supported near Mynydd Mawr by a strong embankment, containing more than forty thousand cubic yards of earth, which have been thrown up for that purpose. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £400 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Earl Cawdor. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, a small neat edifice, was, according to a tablet recording the event, erected in 1617, by Sir John Vaughan, Knt., Comptroller of the Household to Charles I.: it was repaired in 1753, by his descendant, the Hon. John Vaughan, representative in parliament for the county. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. A neat school-room was built at the expense of the late Lord Cawdor, who paid £20 annually to a master for instructing the poor children of the parish, and the same payment is now continued by the present Earl. Golden Grove, the ancient seat of the Vaughans, Earls of Carberry, and now the property of Earl Cawdor, is situated within this parish. During the interregnum, Cromwell, on his route to besiege Pembroke castle, abruptly crossed the country, and came to Golden Grove with a troop of horse, hoping to surprise Richard Earl of Carberry, who was zealously attached to the royal cause, and to seize his person; but the earl, having been apprized of his approach, hastily withdrew and concealed himself in a farm-house in a sequestered spot among the hills; and the Protector, disappointed in his intention, concealed his purpose, and, having dined with the countess, continued his route to Pembroke. The old mansion has been recently taken down by the present Earl Cawdor,

who has erected, in a more commanding situation, a magnificent structure of the black marble found in the vale of Llangendeirn, and in the ancient style of English architecture: it consists of a projecting front, having a lofty tower at the south-western angle, with a wing declining a little from the parallel, and containing an extensive range of offices on one side, corresponding to which, on the other, it is said to be his lordship's intention to erect a similar wing, to complete the design. The principal entrance is in the opposite front, under a lofty and elegant porch of three finely pointed arches, through which the carriage drives directly up to the door. The internal arrangements have been designed more with a view to domestic accommodation than to ostentatious display; but they comprehend on a very liberal scale all the elegancies and decorations suited to the elevated rank of the noble proprietor. The grounds are rather extensive than beautiful, but are well covered with thriving plantations; and from the mansion an almost boundless prospect is obtained, embracing the whole of the beautiful vale from Carmarthen to Llandovery. Among the numerous interesting objects which are visible from this spot are Dryslwyn castle, Grongar hill, and the venerable ruins of Dynevor castle, the ancient seat of the native princes of South Wales: the modern mansion of that name is not within view, but the unrivalled and luxuriant scenery of Newton park is eminently conspicuous. The celebrated Jeremy Taylor, D.D., chaplain to Charles I., and subsequently Bishop of Down and Connor in Ireland, passed several years during the usurpation at Golden Grove, under the protection of the loyal Earl of Carberry, to whom several of his works are dedicated. Within the parish are the remains of an ancient British camp, in a state of tolerable perfection; and in the limestone rock, from which the neighbourhood is supplied with lime for manure, is an extensive cavern, in which bones have been discovered: tumuli of loose stones are of very frequent occurrence in the vicinity, and there is one of these relics of the ancient Britons within the parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £239. 3.

**LLANVIHANGEL ABERCOWIN** (**LLAN-VIHANGEL-ABER-CYWYN**), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of **DERLLŷs**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 9 miles (S. W. by W.) from Carmarthen, containing 864 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its distinguishing appellation from its situation on the river Cowin, near its confluence with the Tâf, both of which rivers partly bound it on the east and west, is intersected by the turnpike road from Carmarthen to St. Clear's, from which last it is distant about two miles and a half to the south-east. Within its limits is a village, forming a kind of suburb to St. Clear's; and it derives a considerable portion of traffic from its situation, and an air of cheerfulness and activity from the frequent passing of travellers. Fairs are held here annually on the 12th of May and the 10th of October. The living is annexed to the vicarage of Mydrim, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, stands very near the confluence of the rivers, but is not distinguished by any architectural features. There are places of worship for Baptists and Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. A parochial school is supported by sub-



scription, in which the children of the poor are gratuitously instructed; and a rent-charge of £10 on some farms in the neighbourhood, bequeathed by Lady Drummond in the reign of Charles I., is annually distributed among the poor of the parish, according to the will of the testatrix. Some very imperfect vestiges of an encampment are visible on a farm near Treventy, in this parish. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £275. 11.

**LLANVIHANGEL ABERGWESSIN** (LLAN-VI-HANGEL ABER-GWESYN), a parish in the hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 14 miles (W. by N.) from Builth, containing 345 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church, and its distinguishing appellation from its situation near the mouth of the river Gwessin. It is separated from the parish of Llanddewi Abergwessin by the river Irvon (both churches being contiguous, on the opposite banks), which forms its boundary on the south and south-west, and is intersected in some places by some small vales distinguished for the picturesque beauty of their scenery. The surface is principally mountainous, its greatest elevation, Drugarn hill, being two thousand and seventy-one feet above the level of the sea; and but a comparatively small proportion of the land is under cultivation. The soil is generally fertile; even on the highest hills it is of considerable depth, and the lower parts of the mountains might, if brought into cultivation, be rendered extremely productive. The commons afford good pasturage for sheep, cattle, and great numbers of colts. The scenery throughout is generally pleasing, and on the banks of the Irvon it is, in many parts, extremely beautiful. Lwyn Madoc, formerly the residence of the family of Thomas, and still the property of Evan Thomas, Esq., of Sully, in the county of Glamorgan, is a spacious mansion, finely situated under the shelter of a lofty eminence, but at present in the occupation of a tenant. The hills are thought to contain veins of lead-ore, but no regular attempt has been hitherto made to work them: slate is procured in the parish. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Llanavan-vawr. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is not distinguished by any architectural features. There are places of worship for Baptists and Presbyterians. William Thomas, in 1709, bequeathed a small farm in this parish, called Cevn Vaes, producing annually £7. 15.; and the late Evan Thomas, Esq., bequeathed £5 per annum, to the poor, which sums are regularly distributed among them. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £87. 14.

**LLANVIHANGEL AR ARTH**, or **YEROTH** (LLAN-VI-HANGEL-AR-ARTH), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of CATHINOG, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (N. by E.) from Carmarthen, containing 2023 inhabitants. According to Giraldus Cambrensis, this place was the scene of an obstinate battle between Hywel and Gruffydd ab Llewelyn, in 1039, in which the former, who had brought his wife to the field to be a spectator of his anticipated triumph, was defeated by the latter, and obliged to seek safety by flight; but, being pursued by the conqueror, he was taken prisoner with his wife, and detained in the power of Gruffydd. Rhys ab Gruffydd, according to the same

historian, held an interview at the same place with Henry II., in 1162, when he made his formal submission to the authority of that monarch. The parish is pleasantly situated on the river Teivy, over which the turnpike road from Carmarthen to Aberystwith is continued by means of a handsome stone bridge, and extends for nearly eight miles in length from north to south, and seven miles in breadth from east to west. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and in some parts highly picturesque; and the soil, though varying in different parts of the parish, is in general fertile. Fairs are annually held, on the 12th of May and the 10th of October, in the village, which, in addition to its public situation on the thoroughfare leading from Carmarthen to Aberystwith, is also intersected by the turnpike road from the former town to Lampeter. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 6. 8., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the alternate patronage of William Lewis and J. R. L. Lloyd, Esqrs. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is situated on an eminence on the southern bank of the Teivy, commanding an extensive and pleasing view of the river and the adjacent country; and in the churchyard is a Roman monumental stone, with the inscription *Hic Jacet Ulcacinus Filius Senomacili*. The chapel of Pencader has been in ruins for nearly a century, but the cemetery is still entire. There are two places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, and one each for Baptists, Independents, and Wesleyan Methodists. Near the village are the remains of an ancient encampment, probably thrown up by Hywel, in his encounter with Llewelyn, in 1039; and on the banks of the Teivy, near the boundary of Llanllwyn parish, is a lofty embankment, the history of which is unknown. There are three tumuli within the parish, but no particulars respecting them are upon record. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £622. 16.

**LLANVIHANGEL - BÂCHELLETH** (LLAN - VI-HANGEL BÂCHELLAETH), a parish in the hundred of GAFLOGION, LLEYN division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (W.) from Pwllheli, containing 332 inhabitants. This parish is situated in a mountainous district in the south-western part of the county, and nearly in the centre of the great promontory of Lleyn, which separates the bays of Cardigan and Carnarvon. The surface is boldly undulated, and the land partially enclosed and cultivated; the soil is generally good, and in the lower grounds fertile and productive. The village, which consists only of one farm-house and two or three scattered cottages, is surrounded by scenery of strikingly varied character. About a mile from the church is Gallt y Beren, the residence and property of the Rev. William Roberts, an elegant mansion embosomed in thriving plantations, and commanding some fine views. Part of *Carn Vadrin* is within the parish: this rocky eminence, rising twelve hundred feet above the level of the sea, was one of the strong holds of Roderick and Maelgwyn, sons of Owain Gwynedd, to whom this part of the county belonged. On the declivities and around the base are numerous foundations of oblong, elliptical, and circular buildings, varying in dimensions from eighteen to thirty-six feet in diameter, the temporary dwellings of the natives, when



driven by any sudden emergency to this retreat, where they remained in safety with their flocks and herds. On the summit, which was surrounded with a strong rampart, of which some portions are still remaining, the chieftains encamped with their forces, to watch the movements of the enemy, and avail themselves of an opportunity to intercept their progress or repel their aggressions. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llanbedrog, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor. The church, which is dedicated to St. Michael, is situated on a gentle eminence beneath a lofty rock, and, though possessing no architectural features, derives from its site a highly romantic appearance. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £143. 15.

LLANVIHANGEL-BRÛN-PABUAN (LLAN-VI-HANGEL BRÛN-PAB-JOAN), a parish, comprising the hamlets of Llanvihangel and Rhôsverrig, which are separately assessed for the maintenance of their poor, in the hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, and containing 385 inhabitants, of which number, 273 are in the hamlet of Llanvihangel, 5 miles (N. W.) from Builth. This parish is situated in a hilly district near the north-western extremity of the county, and is bounded on the north by the river Wye, and on the south by the river Whevri, neither of which is navigable at this place. The Whevri, which rises near Llŷn Varhyn, on the border of the parish of Llanwrthwl, and falls into the Irvon near Park House, abounds with trout, which both in firmness and in flavour are greatly superior to those either of the Wye or the Irvon. During the parliamentary war in the reign of Charles I., this parish suffered greatly from the violence of contending parties; the church was converted into a stable, and the font removed to a farm-house, where it was used as a pig-trough; the minister was expelled from his living, and for many years remained in retirement in the parish of Llanavan-Vawr, but was ultimately restored to it. The lands for the greater part are enclosed and in a good state of cultivation: the soil varies greatly in different parts of the parish; in the hamlet of Llanvihangel it is dry, light, and shallow, and in that of Rhôsverrig richer and deeper, and intermixed with loam in greater proportion, with a small quantity of gravel: the pastures are good, and great numbers of sheep and cattle are reared for the market at Builth. The surrounding scenery is richly diversified, and in many places highly picturesque, and the distant views are extensive and interesting. At the eastern extremity of the parish are the Radnorshire trap rocks, extending for a short distance along the banks of the river Wye; and near Park wells is a small projecting rock, overhanging the same river, which was anciently fortified, probably for guarding the ford of Llêchrŷd, and perhaps in the occupation of the Romans, as the Roman vicinal road over Llandrindod common must have crossed the Wye near this spot. On the tenement of Parc ar Irvon, near Park wood, are three mineral springs, having their sources within a short distance of each other; one of these is saline, another sulphureous, and the third chalybeate: the saline spring is considered by medical men to be one of the most efficacious in the kingdom; but the sulphureous spring is not so powerful as that in the parish of Llanwrtyd. A neat pump-room has been erected for the accommo-

dation of persons resorting to this place to drink the waters, which are raised from the springs by three pumps, each inscribed with the property of its respective water; and adjoining the pump-room are some neatly furnished apartments, consisting only of two bedrooms and one common sitting-room, which have been prepared for the reception of visitors. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Llanavan-Vawr. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a small edifice, situated on an eminence on the road leading from Llanavan-Vawr to Newbridge upon Wye; it displays no architectural details, nor does it contain any monuments of importance. Rees Price, in 1731, bequeathed a small portion of land for the relief of the poor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £114. 16., of which sum, £90. 3. is raised on the hamlet of Llanvihangel.

LLANVIHANGEL-CAPEL-EDWIN, or EGLWYS-VÂCH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES.—See SCYBOR-Y-COED.

LLANVIHANGEL CWM-DÛ, a parish in the hundred of CRICKHOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N. by W.) from Crickhowel, containing 1103 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Michael, and, according to some, its distinguishing adjunct from its situation in a vale bounded on one side by the Black Mountains, and from that circumstance usually called *Cwm dŷ*, or "the black vale." This appellation, however, is on good authority supposed to be a corruption of *Cwm dè*, or "the south vale," a name more applicable to the situation of the southern portion of the parish in an open district remarkable for the beauty of its scenery, and strictly descriptive of its relative situation in the southern division of the ancient lordship of Ystradwy, now the hundred of Crickhowel, with respect to the northern division of that lordship, which now forms the hundred of Talgarth. In the ninth century this parish was distinguished by the appellation of Llanvihangel trêv caerau, or "the church of St. Michael *apud castra*," in allusion to the numerous remains of military fortifications which are still discoverable within its limits. The vale in which it is situated is watered by the river Rhyangoll, or "the sheltered stream," over which are several bridges; and the parish, which is intersected by the turnpike road from London to Milford, extends five miles in length, and is nearly of equal breadth, comprising large tracts of rich arable and pasture land, which are all enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surface is pleasingly varied; and the views from the higher grounds, embracing many objects of interest and features of picturesque beauty, are diversified and extensive. Penmyarth, anciently the seat of the family of the Vaughans, afterwards by purchase the property of William Augustus Gott, Esq., who built the present mansion, and now belonging to Joseph Bailey, Esq., derives its name from its situation on the sloping front of Myarth hill, an isolated eminence in the centre of the Vale of Crickhowel, over which it commands a beautiful prospect. The lawn in front of the house rises gradually towards the east, from the margin of the river Usk, the banks of which are finely rounded on the north and south; and the mansion is sheltered



from the sun's rays, during summer, by a lofty hill which rises abruptly behind it on the west. The prospect from the house is rich and imposing, comprehending almost every variety of scenery; and the view from the summit of the hill is unrivalled for beauty by any in this part of the country.

The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's: the rectory, which is a sinecure, is rated in the king's books at £19. 15. 2½., and in the patronage of the Duke of Beaufort; and the vicarage is rated at £9. 13. 1½., and in the patronage of the rector: the latter is endowed with one-third part of the great and small tithes of the whole parish, with the exception of a certain impropriated portion called the Priory tithes, which were granted to the prior and monks of St. John the Evangelist in Brecknock, by Pycard, a Norman knight, to whom Bernard de Newmarch gave the lordship of Ystradwy. By a late survey it appears that the impropriation extended to the exclusive tithes of six hundred and thirty-four acres, one rood, and thirty-five perches, situated in the hamlets of Trêtower, Cenol, and Kilwych, and is now lay property. The church appears to have been originally founded in the early part of the eleventh century; for, in an ancient register of Llandaf, quoted by Wharton in his *Anglia Sacra*, it is stated that a church, dedicated to St. Michael, in the lordship of Ystradwy, was consecrated by the venerable Herewald, Bishop of that see, who, according to Godwyn, died in 1103, in the 48th year of his prelacy, at a very advanced age, exceeding one hundred years: as there is no other church in that district to which this description will at all apply, it is supposed to relate to the church of this place. The ancient structure appeared, from the varieties in its style of architecture, to have been erected at different periods: it was a spacious and handsome edifice, consisting of a nave with two aisles, and a chancel, with a square embattled tower of grey stone, which probably was the most ancient, and perhaps the only remaining part of the original building. This church was found to be in such a state of irreparable dilapidation that, in 1830, it was judged expedient to take it down, with the exception only of the ancient tower; and in the following year it was handsomely rebuilt in an appropriate style, and opened for divine service in May. It is in the later style of English architecture, and consists of a nave with two aisles and a chancel: the roof is divided into compartments, and the interior is well lighted by ranges of six large windows in the sides, and at the west end by a large window of five lights, with cinque-foiled heads, surmounted by an ogee arch, and by two other windows of smaller dimensions. The chancel is ornamented with a handsome oak screen, which was removed from the front of the ancient rood-loft, and placed around the walls: the mullions of the ancient windows, and the stone work of the old church, as far as was practicable, have been employed in the present edifice, which was erected at an expense of £1600, of which sum, about £225 was raised by subscription. In one of the buttresses on the south side of the church has been inserted, for preservation, by the Rev. Thomas Price, vicar of the parish, an ancient stone which was removed from its original position in a field called Tir Gwenlli, near the Roman camp at Pentre-

Gaer, in 1830, and presented for that purpose by the Rev. T. Lewis: the purport of the original inscription is preserved on a brass plate, also inserted in the buttress. In the churchyard is an ancient stone, about three feet long and sixteen inches wide: it originally formed the sill of the chancel window of the old church, and is evidently a fragment of a larger stone; one side of it is inscribed with a rude cross, apparently of the date of the sixth, seventh, or eighth century, and a mutilated monumental inscription. On a stone which also belonged to the old church, and is now inserted in the south wall of the present building, are a cross fleury within a circle, and two shields of armorial bearings. In the hamlet of Tretower is the chapel of St. John the Evangelist, formerly a chapel of ease to the mother church. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. It is at present in contemplation to erect a school-room by public subscription on a plot of glebe granted by the rector: the estimated expense is £50, of which sum, upwards of £40 has been already raised. A rent-charge of one guinea on a tenement called Pen yr hewl is distributed among poor old spinsters not receiving parochial relief.

At the small village of Pentre-Gaer, in this parish, are unequivocal marks of an ancient Roman encampment; and local tradition affirms that anciently a town of considerable size extended from that spot to a place still called Tre'r Graig, or "the town on the hill." It is quite certain that this space of ground has been formerly occupied by buildings; the foundations of walls have been discovered, and wrought stones, fragments of brick, cement, and pottery have been frequently turned up by the plough. The camp itself was situated on a plot of ground sloping gently towards the south, with a small inclination towards the west, and having at the lower extremity a small stream called the Ewyn: its form was an oblong square, of which the eastern side and the upper end are still traceable by the foundations of the walls; and heaps of rubbish, consisting of fragments of bricks, stones, and masses of cement were till very lately lying on the spot. Coins of the lower empire have been found here at various times, some of which were in the possession of the late Archdeacon Payne. In the garden belonging to the farm on which this encampment is situated, within the last few years, was discovered a vaulted chamber, six feet in length, three feet wide, and three feet high, nearly filled with fragments of human bones; and in an adjoining field some workmen, who were clearing the ground, broke into an arched covered way, which appeared to have been a drain. The Roman road from *Gobannium* (Abergavenny), leading up the Vale of Usk, passed by this station; and a respectable farmer, son of the owner of the land at that time, informed Archdeacon Payne that, about fifty years before, he had himself assisted in breaking up that part of the road which lay to the east of the camp, and distinctly remembered that his father's neighbour, who occupied the land on the opposite side of the camp, was similarly employed. He described it as a causeway of considerable breadth and of great solidity, composed of pebbles deeply imbedded in gravel, and so hard, that it was with difficulty separated by pickaxes and iron bars. In a field about a quarter of a mile to the south-east of the camp was the stone already noticed as being now placed in one of the buttresses



of the church, which was described by the Hon. Daines Barrington to the society of antiquaries in 1773, upon the communication of Mr. Maskelyne, brother of the Astronomer Royal of that name: the inscription, in ancient characters, was CATACUS HIC JACIT FILIUS TEGERNACUS. Archdeacon Payne, struck with all these circumstances, which he had personally investigated, employed a land-surveyor of the neighbourhood, in 1803, to form a plan of the entire precincts, which he sent to the late Mr. Jones, who was at that time engaged in preparing his History of Brecknockshire, in which work an engraving of it may be seen. That there was a line of Roman stations from *Isca* (Caerleon upon Usk) and *Maridunum* (Carmarthen) through the interior of the county, as well as along the coast, is, in the archdeacon's opinion, beyond a doubt; and he considered it strange that it has not been noticed by Antoninus, nor investigated by any modern writer, with the exception only of Sir Richard Colt Hoare, who designates it the *Via Julia Romana*, and with whom he agreed in his opinion that this must have been one of the stations on that line, in which it occupied a situation precisely where a station might be expected. On the hill called Pentir, above the parish church, are the remains of another military post of considerable strength, evidently of Roman origin, and probably the *Campus Æstivus* of the principal station: it encloses a quadrilateral area, one hundred and forty yards in length, and one hundred and five yards in breadth, and is fortified by high ramparts, and defended on the lower side by a deep fosse: below it is a wood, which from the contiguity of this post has obtained the appellation of Coed y Gaer, or "the wood of the encampment." On the little hill of Myarth are vestiges of an ancient strong hold, overlooking the station of Pentre Gaer; it is supposed to be of British origin, but no particulars of its history have been satisfactorily ascertained. In the ninth century, as stated in Dugdale's Monasticon, a considerable tract of land marked by boundaries, which may still be traced, extending from the river Rhyangoll, which runs through the centre of this parish, to St. Keyna's well and Glangrwyney, in the parish of Llangenny, was conferred upon the church of Llandaf, by Tudur, the son of Rhain, a regulus of the principality of Brycheiniog, in expiation of a crime committed by him against the church. Of the ancient castle, manor, and chapel of Trêtower, an account is given under its own head. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £445.10.

LLANVIHANGEL-DIN-SYLWY (LLAN-VIHANGEL DIN SYLWY), a parish in the hundred of TYNDAETHWY, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N.N.W.) from Beaumaris, containing 62 inhabitants. The name of this parish is derived from the dedication of its church, and its adjunct from the ancient British fortification Din Sylwy, or "the exploratory station," adjacent to that edifice. The parish, a part of which is within the limits of the borough of Beaumaris, is situated on the shore of the Irish sea: the surrounding scenery is wild and rudely magnificent, and the prospects from the higher grounds embrace an assemblage of objects more striking from their grandeur than pleasing from their beauty. There are some very extensive quarries of limestone and marble, which are worked upon a large scale, affording employment to a

considerable portion of the poorer inhabitants. The living is annexed, with that of Llangoed, to the rectory of Llaniestyn, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, endowed together with £200 private benefaction, £600 royal bounty, and £900 parliamentary grant. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a small ancient edifice, in a very dilapidated state; the pulpit, which is of great antiquity, is rudely but very curiously carved. The fortress of Din Sylwy, otherwise called Bwrdd Arthur, or "Arthur's round table," is the most extensive in the island, occupying the whole summit of the hill on which it is situated, and is surrounded by a double wall of large stones placed endwise, with their sharp ends uppermost: the intervals between them are filled up with small stones, and the ramparts, which are nearly entire, enclose a level area of almost thirteen acres in extent. It was of impregnable strength, and is evidently of British origin, having been occupied by the Britons prior to the invasion of the island by the Romans; and several brass celts have been found within the camp and in its immediate vicinity. The entrance is from the south by a broad path of easy ascent: within the area, which is perfectly level and dry, are several foundations of circular and elliptical buildings of various dimensions, and beneath the walls on the north side is a fine spring of water. This post, which, from the extensive view which it commands over the surrounding country, was admirably adapted for an exploratory station, was, after their conquest of the Isle of Anglesey, occupied by the Romans. Numerous *fibulae*, coins, and other Roman relics have been frequently discovered here; and, in the summer of 1831, a great number of silver and copper coins was found in this place, among which were some of Nero, Vespasian, Constantius, and Constantine, together with several rings, keys, buckles, and clasps of copper, and other relics of Roman antiquity. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £14.16.

LLANVIHANGEL GENEU'R GLYN (LLAN-VIHANGEL-GENAU-Y-GLYN), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of GENEU'R GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N.E.) from Aberystwith, comprising the townships of Ceulan and Maesmawr, Cyvoeth y Brenhin, Cynnullmawr, Hênllŷs, Scybor y Coed, and Tirmynych, each of which supports its own poor, and containing 3576 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the shore of St. George's channel, is of considerable extent, and is watered by the rivers Lery, Ceulan, Maesmawr, Llyvnant, and Dyvi: the greater part of it is hilly, but that portion which is near the coast is rather flat, and was subject to partial inundation previously to the embankment of the Lery, which took place within the last few years. The river Dyvi, by which the parish is bounded on the north, separates Cardiganshire from Merionethshire, and also forms the boundary between North and South Wales; and the river Llyvnant, which rises in the Plinlimmon mountain, and falls into the Dyvi, separates it from Montgomeryshire. Walter l'Espece, one of the Norman invaders, who had acquired some lands in this part of the principality, erected a castle, for the security of his possessions, on the summit of a lofty eminence near the church: this fortress, called Castell Gwalter, from which the parish also derives a portion



of its name, was destroyed in the year 1135, by Cadwaladr and Owain Gwynedd, sons of Gruffydd ab Cynan, who also took the castle of Aberystwith. This parish is supposed to have been the place of sepulture of the eminent bard Taliesin, whose remains are thought to have been deposited in a kistvaen on the summit of the mountain Pen Sarn Ddû, and thence called Gwely Taliesin, or "Taliesin's Bed:" the popular tradition concerning this bed is that, should any one sleep in it for a night, he would become either a poet or an idiot. The *gwely* is composed of six stones, of which five are so placed as to form an oblong chest, and the sixth, which constituted the covering stone, and was more than six feet long and three feet six inches broad, has been removed and placed on one side: it is in the centre of a circle of stones twenty-seven feet in diameter, which is surrounded by another circle of thirty-one feet in diameter. Taliesin died about the year 570, but these relics are evidently of a much earlier date, and are without doubt of Druidical origin, like numerous other remains which are found in this place. A remarkable sand bank, termed Sarn Gynvelin, or Gwallog, stretches from the coast here, for several miles in a south-western direction, into the bay of Cardigan, and is covered at the ebb tide with only from one to two fathoms of water, though immediately contiguous the soundings vary from three to seven fathoms. Flannel is manufactured here, but on a very limited scale; and lead-ore is found in the parish, but the mines are not worked to any considerable extent. The number abandoned is very great; and among the mines formerly worked were some respectively producing both copper and silver. The river Dyvi, which is navigable to this place, affords facility to the trade, which consists principally in the shipping of lead-ore and bark, and the importation of timber, coal, and limestone. The small village of Carreg, situated on the Dyvi, near its mouth, is well adapted for this purpose, as vessels of nearly three hundred tons' burden can approach its wharfs, where the craft employed are generally stationed. Talybont, which stands on the road between Aberystwith and Machynlleth, at the junction of the river Ceulan with the Lery, is also another considerable village in this parish, the well-wooded scenery surrounding which is remarkably pleasing and picturesque. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £12, and in the patronage of the Bishop. Part of the township of Cyvoeth y Brenhin pays the great tithes to the vicar, who receives only one-fourth part of the small tithes throughout the whole of this extensive parish. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is an ancient and spacious cruciform structure, in the later style of English architecture, and is appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service. A portion of land for an additional cemetery has recently been obtained, through the influence of the commissioners for the building of new churches, without any appropriation of the funds entrusted to their management by parliament. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The interest of £100 bequeathed for the instruction of poor children is distributed among the neighbouring schools, by the vicar of the parish. Traces of part of the ancient Roman road, Sarn Helen, leading from one old mine to another, as well as remains of Roman

stations and encampments, may be discerned on several of the hills in this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £1025. 7.

LLANVIHANGEL-GLYN-Y-MYVYR (LLAN-VI-HANGEL - GLYN - MYVYR), a parish partly in the hundred of EDEYRNION, county of MERIONETH, and partly in the hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 10 miles (N. W. by W.) from Corwen, containing 452 inhabitants. The general aspect of this parish, which comprises about two thousand four hundred computed acres, is extremely rugged and hilly, the greater part being old enclosures, and the rest unenclosed mountain land. The King is lord of the manor of the Denbighshire part, in right of his lordship of Denbigh, and John Wynne, Esq., of Garthmeilio, claims a small manor in the Merionethshire division. The village, consisting of only four houses, is situated on the small river Alwen, a rapid stream issuing from Llŷn Alwen, in the mountains, about five miles to the north-west of the village, and forming, for the greater part of its course here, the north-eastern boundary of the parish: this stream, which abounds with excellent trout, is subject to frequent floods; in 1781 it overflowed its banks, and rose within the church, which is not more than seven or eight yards from its margin, to the height of eight or nine feet, the remembrance of which event is preserved by a mark painted on the wall. The village, through which the road from Ruthin to Pentre Voelas passes, and the church, with about one-sixth part of the parish, are in the county of Merioneth. The surface of the parish is mountainous; and the soil in some parts is a loamy clay, mixed with stone and gravel, and in others chiefly bog and peat. There are some fine meadows on the banks of the Alwen, affording excellent pasturage to divers herds of the black cattle peculiar to this part of the principality, which are kept chiefly for the dairy; and the mountain lands, which are covered with fine heath, are depastured by numerous flocks of sheep of the small Welsh breed: with the exception of a very few acres of wheat and barley, oats are the only species of grain sown. A fair is held on February 16th. The living is a discharged rectory, subject to the payment of tithes, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £6. 12., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture. There are places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. On the bank of the Alwen, in the upper part of the parish, are the remains of a very ancient circular fortification, called *Caer-ddynod*, or the "conspicuous or distinguished fort," occupying a considerable eminence; and nearly opposite to Cerrig y Druidion, which is within three miles of the parish, are the ruins of another, called *Pen y Gaer*. Owen Jones, author of the "*Myvyrian Archaeology of Wales*," was born at Tyddyn Tydyr, in Glyn Myvyr, in this parish; and in compliment to the place of his nativity the epithet *Myvyrian* was prefixed to the title of that voluminous work, from *Glyn y Myvyr*, which in the Welsh language signifies "the valley of meditation." This elaborate compilation, though only embracing the period from 1300 to the close of Queen Elizabeth's reign, extends to upwards of sixty quarto volumes of considerable bulk. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £175. 18.



**LLANVIHANGEL HELYGEN (LLAN-VIHANGEL HELYGEN)**, a parish in the hundred of **RHAIADR**, county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5 miles (E.) from **Pen y bont**, containing 101 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the river **Ithon**, along the banks of which, and those of the river **Dulais**, it extends for about five miles, and is nearly of equal breadth. The high road leading from **Rhaiadr** to **New Radnor**, and also to **Kington** in **Herefordshire**, by which the parish is intersected, passes within two miles of the church. The surface is hilly and the soil various, consisting principally of clay in the lower grounds, and being light and shallow on the hills: the lands are, with the exception of a comparatively trifling portion, enclosed and cultivated. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and from the higher grounds some good views are obtained over the adjacent country. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of **Brecknock**, and diocese of **St. David's**, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and with half of the tithes of the parish, and in the patronage of the **Vicar of Nantmel**. The church, dedicated to **St. Michael**, is a small ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, and is not distinguished by any architectural details. A Sunday school is supported by subscription, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children; and a small day school in the village is partly supported by the same means. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £21. 19.

**LLANVIHANGEL KILVARGEN (LLAN-VIHANGEL-CÎL-VARGEN)**, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of **CATHING**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5 miles (W. N. W.) from **Llandilo-Vawr**, containing 69 inhabitants. This parish, which is supposed to be the least extensive in the county, consists only of a few respectable houses, with some cottages for labourers. The surrounding scenery is characterized rather by features of pleasing simplicity and rural beauty than by picturesque or romantic appearance: the **Avon Dulas** flows within half a mile of the church. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of **Carmarthen**, and diocese of **St. David's**, rated in the king's books at £1. 6. 8., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of **Earl Cawdor**. The church, dedicated to **St. Michael**, is not distinguished by any peculiar architectural details. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £12. 15.

**LLANVIHANGEL-LLEDROD (LLAN-VIHANGEL LLETHRY TROED)**, a parish in the Upper division of the hundred of **ILAR**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 9 miles (S. E.) from **Aberystwith**, comprising the townships of **Lledrod Isâv** and **Lledrod Uchâv**, each of which supports its own poor, and containing 1213 inhabitants, of which number, 732 are in **Lledrod Isâv**, and 481 in **Lledrod Uchâv**. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to **St. Michael**, and its distinguishing appellation from its situation at the foot of a declivity on which it is built. It extends for nearly seven miles in length, and three miles in breadth, forming a part of the lordship of **Mevenydd**, which belongs to the crown, and contains a large tract of land, of which the greater portion is enclosed and cultivated: a considerable part of the surface is hilly, affording pasturage to sheep on the declivities, and having on the summits numerous

**carneddau**. The surrounding scenery, though in some parts pleasingly varied, is generally bold and striking; and from the higher grounds are some extensive views of the adjacent country: there are a few ornamental residences scattered over the district. The parish constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of **Brecknock**, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the **Bishop of St. David's**. An annual fair is held in the village on the 7th of October: the inhabitants of part of the parish receive their letters from the post-office of **Lampeter**, within the delivery of which it is included, though the church is fifteen miles distant from that place. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of **Cardigan**, and diocese of **St. David's**, endowed with £10 per annum and £200 private benefaction, £600 royal bounty, and £900 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the **Rev. John Phelix**, the present incumbent. The church is a small plain building, consisting only of a nave, and has recently received an addition of two hundred and eighty free sittings, towards the erection of which the **Incorporated Society** for the enlargement of churches and chapels have contributed £150. There is a place of worship for **Calvinistic Methodists**. The free grammar school, originally founded by the **Rev. Thomas Oliver**, a native of this parish, and at the time of his decease vicar of **Dudley**, in the county of **Worcester**, who endowed it with land now producing £120 per annum, for the gratuitous education of an unlimited number of boys of this parish, is at present united with the school at **Ystrad Meiric**. The **Rev. Evan Evans**, an eminent divine, poet, and antiquary, who displayed an early attachment to **Welsh poetry** and literature, of which he compiled from ancient manuscripts nearly a hundred volumes, was interred in the churchyard of this parish, where a small rough unhewn stone denotes his grave: he was born at **Cynhawdrêv**, in this county, in 1730, and, after a long course of professional duty as curate of several parishes, without obtaining any preferment in the church, and an unwearied and unprofitable devotion to the cultivation of literature, died in obscurity at his brother's house, in the fifty-eighth year of his age. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the entire parish is £274, of which sum, £156. 4. is assessed on **Lledrod Uchâv**, and £117. 16. on **Lledrod Isâv**.

**LLANVIHANGEL-MYDDVAI**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**.—See **MOTHVEY**.

**LLANVIHANGEL-NANT-BRÂN (LLAN-VIHANGEL-NANT-BRÂN)**, a parish in the hundred of **MERTHYR-CYNOG**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**, 9 miles (N. W.) from **Brecknock**, containing 528 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to **St. Michael**, and its distinguishing adjunct from the small rivulet **Brân**, which intersects the narrow vale in which it is situated. The vale extends for about four miles in a direction from north-west to south-east; and along the summits of the hills by which it is enclosed are extensive sheepwalks, affording good pasturage for numerous flocks, upon the rearing of which the farmer depends more than upon tillage. The lower lands are, with the exception of comparatively a small portion, enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The scenery of the vale is pleasingly varied, but is not distinguished by any striking peculiarity of feature; and the views from the



higher grounds embrace many objects of interest, and some fine and extensive prospects over the surrounding country, which is rich in picturesque and romantic scenery. The church was formerly a chapel of ease to Merthyr-Cynog, and, during the usurpation of Cromwell, was endowed with £40 per annum out of the rectorial tithes of that parish, the living of which was sequestered by the parliament; but at the Restoration the property was restored to the legitimate owner, and the endowment of this chapel was discontinued. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Trustees of the late Walter Jeffreys, Esq. The church, which is situated in the centre of the village, is a plain ancient edifice, in a very dilapidated condition, and possessing no architectural details of importance: the parsonage-house, which had been suffered to go to decay, fell down in the reign of Charles I., and has not since been rebuilt. There are two places of worship for Baptists, and one for Calvinistic Methodists. Pwll y llacha, a tenement in this parish, forms part of the endowment of Jesus' College, Oxford, given by Dr. Hugh Price, the founder of that institution. Bola Maen, also a tenement in this parish, was given by an unknown benefactor, who appropriated the rent to the payment of the officiating minister of the Roman Catholic congregation at Brecknock. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £211. 12.

LLANVIHANGEL-NANT-MELAN (LLAN-VI-HANGEL-NANT-MELAN), a parish in the liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. S. W.) from New Radnor, containing 410 inhabitants, of which number, 284 are in the township of Llanvihangel-Nant-Melan. The adjunct to the name of this parish is supposed to be a corruption of "Melin;" and the name, which would then signify "the church of St. Michael at the Mill brook," is derived from the dedication of its church, and its situation on a small stream which flows into the Somergill brook. The lands are partially enclosed and cultivated; the soil is various, being in some parts fertile and productive, and in others comparatively poor. The surface is undulating; the hills are finely formed and of pleasing aspect, and the grounds in the lower part of the parish are richly clothed with wood. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied; and from the higher grounds are some interesting views, extending over the adjacent country. Llyn Llanillyn, in this parish, is a large pond, nearly three-quarters of a mile in circumference, but, from the want of wood both on its banks and in the immediate vicinity, it is destitute of picturesque beauty. The cascade quaintly called "Water break its neck" is also within this parish: it is situated in a narrow defile, among the hills of Radnor forest, about two miles to the west of New Radnor: the fall is about seventy feet in perpendicular height, but the water, instead of descending in one continuous sheet, trickles down the rock, and loses all that interest and grandeur of effect which it might otherwise be capable of producing. The village, though small, is of more prepossessing appearance than many in this part of the principality, and is considerably enlivened by the traffic occasioned by the roads from Hereford

to Aberystwith, and from Knighton and Presteign to Builth, in the county of Brecknock, which pass through the parish. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 13. 4., endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a small ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, and, though possessing no architectural details of interest, is kept in good repair and neatly fitted up. Lady Joan Hartshorne bequeathed a house and about twenty-five acres of land, for the support of a school for the gratuitous education of poor children of this parish, and also of the parishes of Old Radnor and Gladestry. This parish is entitled to one-third of the produce of a farm, let for £18 per annum, in the parish of Llandeglay, purchased with the benefactions of Evan and Ann Griffiths, made in 1721, and applied to the relief of the poor, agreeably to the directions of the donors; and there is also a rent-charge of £1 on a small farm within its limits, called Llaniago, given by an unknown benefactor for the same purpose. There are two large tumuli, and one of smaller dimensions in the parish, but no historical particulars have been recorded of them. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £190. 8.

LLANVIHANGEL-PENBEDW (LLAN-VIHANGEL-PENBEDW), a parish in the hundred of KILGERAN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. S. E.) from Cardigan, containing 353 inhabitants. This parish, which is but of inconsiderable extent, derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Michael, and the distinguishing adjunct to it from the number of fine birch trees growing in the vicinity. It is pleasantly situated in the north-eastern part of the county, and near the source of the river Nevern, which, after flowing through the parish, continues its course in a westerly direction, and falls into the sea at Newport. The lands are all enclosed and in a good state of cultivation; and the surrounding scenery is agreeably diversified. Kilrhue, the property of Thomas Lloyd, of Bronwydd, Esq., and now the residence of Dr. Morgan, is a good mansion, pleasantly situated in grounds tastefully laid out, and comprehending an agreeable variety of pleasing scenery. The old road leading from Carmarthen to Cardigan passes through the village. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church is not remarkable for any peculiar architectural details. There is a place of worship for Baptists. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £76. 15.

LLANVIHANGEL-RHYD-ITHON (LLAN-VIHANGEL RHYD ITHON), a parish in the hundred of KEVENLEECE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (E. N. E.) from Pen y Bont, containing 350 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Michael; its distinguishing adjunct, signifying the ford of the Ithon, seems but obscurely derived from its situation on the ford of a small rivulet, which falls into the Cymaron, a tributary stream to the Ithon, and more than a mile above its confluence with that river. According to the opinion



of some antiquaries, which is said to be confirmed by local tradition from time immemorial, the name is more properly Llanvihangel Rhiw Teithon, from its situation on a road immediately above the church, which led into the forest of Radnor, and still bears the name Rhiw Teithon. The surface of the parish is in general wild and mountainous: the soil is comparatively poor and unproductive; and the lands are but partially enclosed and indifferently cultivated. The surrounding scenery is equally destitute of beauty and of interest; and the views from the higher grounds, though extensive, are neither pleasing nor diversified. The road from Knighton to Pen y Bont passes through the parish, and at the latter place is a post-office, from which the inhabitants receive their letters. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Lord Kensington, as lessee of the tithes under the Prebendary of Llanbister. The church, which is in a very dilapidated condition, is about to be taken down and rebuilt. The interest of several small charitable donations and bequests, amounting only to £2. 10., is annually distributed among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £158. 10.

**LLANVIHANGEL-TÂLYLLÛN (LLAN-VIHANGEL TÂL-Y-LLÛN)**, a parish in the hundred of TARGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E.) from Brecknock, containing 135 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Michael, and its distinguishing adjunct from its situation at the head, or north western extremity, of the beautiful lake called Llangorse pool, or Llŷn Savaddan. The whole of it, together with the parish of Cathedine and part of Llangorse, was assigned by Bernard Newmarch to his royal prisoner Gwrgan, son of Bleddyn ab Maenarch; but it appears to have reverted to the Norman lords of Brecknock, on the marriage of the Welsh chieftain with the heiress of Wizton, in the county of Pembroke, to which place he immediately removed. On the attainder of the last Duke of Buckingham of the Stafford family, this property was granted to John Walwyn, from whom it successively passed to the Wynters, the Philippses, the Scourfields, and the Prichards, and finally to the father of Hugh Bold, Esq., the present lord of the manor. The village is agreeably situated at the head of the lake, which is two miles in length and one mile in breadth, and abounds with perch, pike, and eels, of which last some are found of enormous size. From this fine sheet of water issues the small stream called the Llynvi, which during part of its course forms a boundary between the hundreds of Pencelly and Targarth, and finally falls into the Wye just above the bridge at Glâsbury. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and in some parts highly picturesque; and the views comprehend some interesting features, among which the Brecknockshire Beacons are conspicuous. The turnpike road from Brecknock to Llangorse and Targarth runs through the village; and the Brecknock and Hay tram-road passes within a few hundred yards of it. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 12. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the

patronage of Hugh Bold, Esq. There are twenty-five acres of glebe land, and a very indifferent parsonage-house, attached to the living. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is an ancient structure, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a massive square tower at the west end: it is beautifully situated at the extremity of the lake, and is kept in good repair. Adjoining the churchyard is a neat cottage, which was purchased and fitted up as a school-room by the late rector, Archdeacon Davies, who established a school here on the National plan, in 1816: this school, which is at present suspended for want of an efficient master, is supported by the Rev. Hugh Bold, the present rector, and Hugh Bold, Esq., lord of the manor. Mrs. Mary Philipps gave by deed a house and garden in the village, the rent of which she directed to be distributed in bread to the poor; this benefaction produces only £1 per annum, the rent having been reduced in consideration of the tenant's supporting an aged mother, who would otherwise be chargeable to the parish. Mrs. Jennet Prosser also bequeathed a house and garden to the poor, which is now occupied rent-free by a pauper. Pwll y mere, a tenement in this parish, comprising about half an acre of land, and producing about £1 per annum, was bequeathed for a supply of sacramental bread and wine, to which use the rent is now applied. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £63. 19.

**LLANVIHANGEL TRE 'R BEIRDD (LLAN-VIHANGEL TRE-Y-BEIRDD)**, a parish in the hundred of TWRCELYN, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (E. by S.) from Llanerchymedd, containing 360 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Michael, and its distinguishing adjunct from its having anciently been one of the seats of the British bards or Druids, is pleasantly situated in a fertile district nearly in the centre of the island. The surface is varied with some bold eminences; the lands are for the most part enclosed and in cultivation; and the soil, especially in the lower grounds, is fertile and productive. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llandyvvrydog, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church is a small plain edifice, and contains some good monuments to the family of Lewis. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The poor children of this parish are admissible for gratuitous instruction into the school of Llandyvvrydog; and the produce of several small charitable donations and bequests is annually distributed among the poor at Christmas. Sir William Jones was a native of this parish; and Lewis Morris, an eminent antiquary and poet, resided here for some time. Of the occupation of this place by the ancient Druids several vestiges are still visible, among which may be noticed the remains of a Druidical altar upon one of the hills in the parish, and a large pillar, or upright stone, near the church, called Maen Addwyn, or "the blessed stone," supposed to be one of those Meini Gwyr pillars noticed by Mr. Rowlands. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £155. 13.

**LLANVIHANGEL-UWCH-GUILLY**, a chapelry in the parish of ABERGUILLY, lower division of the hundred of ELVET, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,



5½ miles (E. N. E.) from Carmarthen. The population is included in the return for the parish. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Aberguilly, to the church of which it was formerly only a chapel of ease. The chapel is dedicated to St. Michael. It is situated in a vale, apart from any high road, through which flows a stream that falls into the Towy after passing by Merlin's Grove.

**LLANVIHANGEL-VECHAN (LLAN-VIHANGEL-VECHAN)**, a chapelry forming the upper division of the parish of **LLANDEVAILOG-VÂCH**, in the hundred of **MERTHYR-CYNOG**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5 miles (N. by W.) from Brecknock, on the road to Buiith, containing 188 inhabitants. It comprises the northern portion of the parish: the village is situated on the left bank of the romantic river Honddû, which is here crossed by a bridge, amid some well-wooded glens enclosed by lofty hills. The name of this place, signifying "St. Michael's the Lesser," is derived from the dedication of its church; but it is sometimes called "the Lower Chapel," to distinguish it from the chapel of Dyfryn Honddû, situated higher up the stream, in the parish of Merthyr-Cynog. About a mile to the north of it stands Castle Madoc, the seat of Hugh Price, Esq., to whose father this estate was devised by his cousin, Miss Catherine Powell, by whose ancestors it had been possessed for ages. It is one of the oldest family mansions in the county, and, according to Mr. Jones, the historian of Brecknockshire, derives its name from its founder, Madoc ab Maenarch, brother to the unfortunate Bleddyn, Prince of Brycheiniog, whose dominions were seized and himself slain by the Normans under Bernard Newmarch. The plainly marked site of this original edifice, and a mound forming that of the keep, are still to be seen near the present mansion, which was built in the year 1588, as appears by an inscription over the entrance, but has been frequently altered, and has just undergone a thorough repair. From a lofty hill above it, called Altarnog, in the adjacent parish of Merthyr-Cynog, is obtained a delightful view of the most beautiful part of the Vale of Honddû, with the sinuous course of its rapid river, terminated by the magnificent chain of mountains in which rise pre-eminent the Brecknockshire Beacons. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Rector of Llandevaillog-Vâch. The chapel, dedicated to St. Michael, is supposed to have been originally erected for the use of the family at Castle Madoc, who contributed largely to the rebuilding of it, about the commencement of the present century: it contains a neat marble tablet to the memory of Miss Catherine Powell, and that of her father Charles Powell, Esq. Here is a place of worship for Independents. Miss Catherine Powell, who died in 1798, charged the estate of Castle Madoc with the payment of forty shillings per annum to the poor of this chapelry. On the hill of Altarnog are the remains of a British encampment, nearly of an oval form, and about two hundred yards in circumference, originally defended on the north by three ramparts, two of which are now almost levelled, and on the south by the precipitousness of the elevation. Thomas

Powell, of Castle Madoc, according to the Cambrian Biography, was a poet who flourished between the years 1580 and 1620, but his writings are little known. The Rev. Hugh Price, rector of Rettendon and Little Ilford, in the county of Essex, for many years examining chaplain to Bishop Warburton, and distinguished no less for his literary attainments than for his upright and amiable character, died, in 1803, at Castle Madoc, of which he had been for many years proprietor, and lies buried in the cemetery attached to the mother church of Llandevaillog-Vâch. The poor of this chapelry are supported by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £109. 13.

**LLANVIHANGEL Y CREIDDYN (LLAN-VIHANGEL-Y-CREUDDYN)**, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of **LLAR**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 7 miles (S. E.) from Aberystwith, on the road to Rhaiadr, comprising the chapelry of Eglwys-Newydd, or Llanvihangel y Creiddyn Uchâv, and the township of Llanvihangel y Creiddyn Isâv, each supporting its own poor, and containing 1971 inhabitants, of which number, 944 are in Llanvihangel y Creiddyn Isâv. This parish, which is situated on the river Ystwith, and intersected by various other streams, is eminently distinguished by scenery which is equally remarkable for picturesque beauty and strikingly romantic grandeur. The former character prevails in a high degree throughout the extensive and beautiful grounds of Hâvod, and the latter on the precipitous and craggy cliffs through which the rivers Mynach and Rheidol wind an arduous and frequently interrupted course. Over the former of these streams is Pont ar Vynach, or, as it is called from a vulgar tradition, "the Devil's Bridge:" the Mynach here rushes with impetuosity through a narrow chasm between the lofty cliffs which on each side confine its waters, darkened by the entangled branches and foliage of numerous trees which have taken root among the rocks, and at a great depth beneath a bridge of one arch, thrown over it, at a very early period, by the monks of the abbey of Strata Florida, an ancient establishment in the neighbourhood. This bridge, to which the descent from the road was found inconvenient and dangerous, was, in 1753, surmounted by another bridge of one arch, at a higher elevation and of larger span, over which the road is continued to Aberystwith. The descent to the river, which lies at a great depth below its craggy and precipitous banks, is frightfully steep, and only rendered practicable by the numerous trees with which the rocks on both sides are thickly interspersed. The view from the bottom of the valley is strikingly picturesque; the bridges are seen to advantage only from this point, and present an appearance truly romantic; the height of the upper bridge above the bed of the river is about one hundred and twenty feet. At the distance of about fifty yards from the bridge, the river, rushing in a narrow and obstructed channel, falls with violence from a rock twenty feet in height into a cavity beneath: on its emerging it almost instantly descends from a precipice of sixty feet into another, and, after falling again from a height of twenty feet, descends in one unbroken sheet from an elevation of more than one hundred feet. On the opposite side of the glen a view of all the falls of the Mynach is obtained from a projecting mass of rock, a little below which the river falls into the Rheidol. The Rheidol,



after receiving the Mynach, pursues a similar course, frequently interrupted by rocks of various elevation, over which it is precipitated with violence, and from one of which, of prodigious height, it descends in one vast and entire column, forming a cataract of great sublimity. The main torrent, in its descent, is partially intercepted on each side by projecting points of rock, which, diverting its course into an oblique direction, form two smaller cataracts which intersect each other in their descent. The scenery of the valley through which the Rheidol has its course is characterized by features similar to those of the vale of Mynach, and, notwithstanding the difficulty of access to those parts from which it is seen to the greatest advantage, it still continues to attract the attention, and to excite the admiration of all travellers into this part of the principality. Lead-ore abounds in the parish, but is not worked to any great extent: there is a mine called Cwm-Ystwith, capable of being rendered very productive, and there are others of smaller importance. The working of these mines at a former period led to the establishment of a small village called Pentre Briwnant, which was chiefly inhabited by the persons employed in them, and which stands on the road from Rhaiadr to Aberystwith, in the upper part of the vale of the Ystwith, where the country is remarkably wild and rugged; but the population is now principally engaged in agriculture. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a neat structure, in the later style of English architecture. The chapel of Eglwys-Newydd is within the precincts of the estate of Hâvod, and forms an interesting and beautiful feature in the landscape. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £344. 16., of which sum, £189. 2. is raised on the township of Llanvihangel y Creiddyn Isâv.

**LLANVIHANGEL Y CREIDDYN UCHÂV**, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES.—See EGLWYS-NEWYDD.

**LLANVIHANGEL YN HOWYN** (LLAN-VIHANGEL YN NHYWYN), a parish in the hundred of LLYVON, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (S. E. by E.) from Holyhead, containing 153 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church, and its distinguishing adjunct from its situation on an extensive common near the sea. It contains a considerable portion of fertile land, of which the greater part is enclosed and cultivated, and a large tract of common land, bounded on the south by Cymmyran bay, and on the west by the narrow strait which separates it from Holy Island. The new road from the Menai bridge to Holyhead passes near the church. In several parts of the parish are vestiges of the original habitations mentioned by Mr. Rowlands, and supposed to have been occupied by the earliest inhabitants of the isle. The scenery, though in some parts pleasingly varied, is not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature; and the views of the bay and of the adjacent country are extensive and pleasing. An ancient festival, called Gwyl Mâb Sant, was formerly held in this parish on the 10th of October annually,

and observed with great ceremony; but it has degenerated into a meeting for the purpose of hiring servants. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Rhôscolyn, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is an ancient and venerable structure, built upon a lofty eminence, and forming a conspicuous and interesting object for many miles around. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. A National school was erected in 1826, and is supported by subscription, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children of this and the neighbouring parishes: there are at present about ninety scholars in this establishment. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £71. 13.

**LLANVIHANGEL YN RÛG**, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES.—See LLANRÛG.

**LLANVIHANGEL Y PENNANT** (LLAN-VIHANGEL-Y-PEN-NANT), a parish in the hundred of EIVIONYDD, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N. W. by N.) from Trêmadoc, containing 563 inhabitants. The name of this parish is derived from the dedication of its church to St. Michael, and its distinguishing adjunct from its situation near a fine stream in a picturesque valley embosomed in mountains. The surrounding scenery combines features of picturesque beauty with objects of barren aspect and romantic grandeur: the mountains called Graig Gôch and Moel Hebog, of wild and frowning appearance, rise to a considerable height immediately above the church. Brynker, the seat of Sir Joseph Huddard, is a good family mansion, occupying a pleasant situation. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. A rent-charge of £2. 10., by an unknown benefactor, and the interest of a small donation by Mrs. Jane Jones, about the year 1720, are annually distributed among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £310. 2.

**LLANVIHANGEL Y PENNANT** (LLAN-VIHANGEL-Y-PEN-NANT), a parish in the hundred of ESTIMANER, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (S. W.) from Dolgelley, containing 394 inhabitants. This parish is about four miles in length and three in breadth, and contains a variety of soils: nearly one-half of it, situated in the vale, is fertile and in a state of good cultivation, a considerable portion producing excellent corn; whilst the mountainous parts, which form a portion of the great Cader Idris chain, afford only pasturage for sheep. The village, which is small, is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Dysyni, which falls into the sea at Aber Dysyni. Near the margin of the river, and occupying the summit of a rocky eminence, are the remains of the castle of Teberri, a strong fortress, supposed to have been erected either by Gruffydd ab Cynan, Prince of North Wales, or by Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, into whose hands that prince was betrayed by Meirion Gôch, to whom its defence had been committed. According to Mr. Pennant it is supposed also to have been the castle of Bere, the strong hold of the last Llewelyn, which, not long before the final reduction of Wales,

*My Bronze Age*



was taken by William de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, and probably the same which was committed by Edward I. to the custody of Robert Fitz-Walter, to whom he granted the privilege of hunting all kinds of wild beasts in the principality. A part of this fortress was excavated in the rock, and the walls were constructed of masonry, cemented by mortar composed of shells and gravel. Near this is Caerberllan Hall, the seat of Edward Pugh Owen, Esq. Turf and peat are found in the parish. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church is dedicated to St. Michael. There is a place of worship for Independents. Mr. David Evan, in 1724, bequeathed £10, the interest of which is annually distributed among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £288. 18.

LLANVIHANGEL YSCEIVIOG, or LLANVIHANGEL PENTRE BERW (LLAN-VIHANGEL YSGEIVIOG), a parish in the hundred of MENAI, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (W. by N.) from Bangor, containing 663 inhabitants. This parish, which is of considerable extent, has been progressively improving since the new line of road from Bangor to Holyhead was brought through it, which has also been productive of considerable benefit to the surrounding country: the soil is various in different parts of it, and in some places there is a considerable portion of marshy land. The village is small, but has a post-office dependent on that of Bangor. Coal of a particular kind, called "mountain coal," of a very soft quality, is found in this parish, and, as the stratum of it here found is the only one in the island, the procuring of it would be of very great advantage, were it not limited by the expense of working it, arising from the marshy nature of the land, and the quantity of water with which the mine is inundated: to overcome these obstacles, a steam-engine of great power has been erected, and the colliery is conducted upon a limited scale, affording employment to about thirty men. A rail-road was constructed from Penrhyn-Mawr coal works, in this parish, to Red Wharf, in the parish of Llanbedr Gôch, a distance of seven miles, under the provisions of an act of parliament obtained in 1812, by which the proprietors are incorporated under the name of the "Anglesey Railway Company." The living is a perpetual curacy, with that of Llanfynnau annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £10 per annum private benefaction, £800 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Dean of Bangor, to whom the great tithes of the parish are appropriated, as forming part of the endowment of the deanery. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a spacious and ancient structure, consisting of a nave, south aisle, and chancel, and having on the north side a small building called Capel Berw, communicating with the church, and evidently of more recent date than the rest of the edifice: the east window is embellished with some portions of ancient stained glass, of brilliant colours. At Gaerwen, in this parish, is a large place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, capable of holding two thousand persons, and

which, being situated upon elevated ground, forms a conspicuous object to a considerable distance. The Rev. Dr. John Jones, Dean of Bangor, in 1719, bequeathed £100 in trust, to be appropriated to the payment of a schoolmaster to teach twelve poor children of this parish and that of Llanfynnau to read. A parochial school was built in 1828, by subscription, and is supported by the same means, aided by the interest of the above £100, paid to the master, which entitles six children of the parish of Llanfynnau to gratuitous instruction in it: the total number of children in this school is now about seventy. There are several small charitable donations and bequests, the interest arising from which is annually distributed in clothing and in money among the poor during the winter. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £205. 16.

LLANVIHANGEL YSTRAD (LLAN-VIHANGEL YSTRAD), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (N. W.) from Lampeter, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, and containing 1183 inhabitants, of which number, 612 are in the Upper, and 571 in the Lower, division. This parish, which is pleasantly situated on the river Aëron, and on the turnpike road from Lampeter to Aberystwith, is of considerable extent, reaching from the beautiful vale of Aëron, almost to that of the Teivy, comprehending a rich variety of scenery, in many parts highly picturesque, and embracing, especially from the higher grounds, several interesting and extensive views of the surrounding country. This place formerly constituted a prebend in the college of Llandewy-Brevi, rated in the king's books at £7. 14. 4½., and is now an impropriation. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 18. 1½., endowed with £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is an ancient structure, consisting of a nave and north and south aisles: the nave is separated from each of the aisles by a series of four pointed arches, supported on square pillars; the font is quadrangular, and is placed on a short round column. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, Presbyterians, and Unitarians. A Sunday school is supported by the vicar, at whose expense, assisted by the National society, and by some of the proprietors of land in the parish, a commodious school-house has been erected in the churchyard. In the southern part of the parish there is an ancient intrenchment, called Cribyn Clottas, of which no particulars are recorded; and in a field called Maes Mynach, is an ancient stone, embellished with Runic ornaments, but without any inscription. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £423. 13.

LLANVIHANGEL Y TRAETHAU (LLAN-VIHANGEL-Y-TRAETHAU), a parish in the hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N. by E.) from Harlech, containing 1026 inhabitants. The name of this parish, which consists of the townships of Llanvihangel and Ynys, with part of that of Penrhyn, the rest of which is in the parish of Llandecwyn, is derived from the dedication of its church, and its distinguishing adjunct from its situation on the

H. L. J. asks in Arch Camb 1869 Does the Chapel still remain or was it taken down when the alterations were made some years ago - A new Church (of his design) was built at Gaerwen but he has no distinct recollection of Berw chapel



southern bank of the Traeth Bâch, an extensive tract of sands, forming the wide æstuary of the river Dwyryd, which here pours its waters into the bay of Cardigan. In 1073, at a place called Bron yr Erw, in this parish, on the point of land which intervenes between the æstuaries of the Traeth Bâch and Traeth Vawr, was fought a sanguinary battle between Trehaern ab Caradoc, Prince of North Wales, and a claimant of the sovereignty named Gruffydd ab Cynan, in which the latter was defeated and compelled to return into Anglesey, from which island he had advanced into the heart of Trehaern's dominions. The road from Harlech over the sands to Trêmadoc passes near the village; and the parish, which includes also a tract on the northern bank of the Traeth, called Penrhyn-deudraeth, is also intersected by the road from Tan y Bwlch to the same town. An act of parliament was obtained in the year 1806, for enclosing the common and waste lands in this and the adjoining parish of Llandanwg, under the provisions of which one thousand three hundred and sixty-five acres were allotted to this parish, which comprises altogether between six and seven thousand acres of land, partly hilly and partly flat: some marshes, formerly subject to inundation by the waters of the Traeth Bâch, have of late years been enclosed. Within the parish are several small lakes, the largest of which are Llŷn y vedw and Llŷn-eiddaw: Glynn, an ancient mansion belonging to Mr. Ormsby Gore, also forms an ornament to it. The soil is various, consisting on the higher grounds of a dark red substance, and in the lowlands of clay, sand, and peat. The scenery is pleasingly varied, and there are some good views, embracing on the west a portion of Cardigan bay, and on the south the stately remains of Harlech castle. Vessels of small burden can ascend the river as far as Tŷ Gwyn y Gamlas, within a few hundred yards of the church, where they receive or discharge their freight. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to that of Llandecwyn, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £200 royal bounty: the tithes of the parish belong to the treasurer of Bangor cathedral, as rector of Llandecwyn. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is an ancient structure, appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service. In the churchyard is a monumental stone, six feet high, bearing the following inscription: "*Hoc est sepulchrum Will. Dermae de Deler, qui primus edificavit hanc Ecclesiam, in tempore Ewini Regis.*" There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The Reverend John Jones, D. D., in 1719, bequeathed £50, the interest of which he directed to be appropriated to the instruction of ten poor children of this and of the adjoining parish of Llandecwyn. In that part of the parish called Penrhyn-deudraeth is said formerly to have stood a castle belonging to one of the sons of Owain Gwynedd. The Reverend Humphrey Humphreys, D. D., Bishop of Bangor, and afterwards translated to the see of Hereford, was born at Hêndre Isâ, in this parish: he died at Hereford, on the 20th of November, 1712, and was interred near the altar in the cathedral church of that city: he presided over the see of Bangor from 1689 till 1701, and over the see of Hereford from that time till his death. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £258. 6.

LLANVILLO (LLAN-VILO), a parish in the hundred of PENCELLE, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH

WALES, 7 miles (N. E. by E.) from Brecknock, containing 327 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Milburg, called by the Welsh St. Vilo, an eminent female saint of the seventh century; she was daughter of Merwald, King of Mercia, and abbess of Wenlock, in the county of Salop, over which convent she presided till her death, and was interred in the abbey of that place, where her remains were found in the reign of Henry I. The lands in the parish, though not naturally fertile, are in a very high state of cultivation; and the surrounding country affords many finely varied prospects and much pleasingly rural scenery. The village is situated within a mile of the turnpike road from London through Hay to Brecknock, and at a short distance from a small stream, over which is a bridge called Pont Vâch. There are some quarries of good limestone, and of stone for building and roofing houses, the working of which affords employment to a few persons. The Brecknock and Hay tram-road passes within a mile of this place, but the road leading to it is at present in so bad a state that but very little benefit is derived from it. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 14. 9½., and in the patronage of the Earl of Ashburnham. The advowson anciently belonged to the lords of Brecknock, but upon the attainder of the last Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, it became vested in the crown, and was granted to Roger Vaughan of Porthaml, from whom it descended to the Ashburnham family, charged with the payment of seven shillings per annum to the abbey of Wigmore, which is annually received by the auditor of Wales. The church, situated in the centre of the village, is an ancient structure, much disfigured by successive alterations and repairs. The ancient rood-loft still remains: in the front are twelve niches, in which it is supposed were formerly statues of the twelve apostles, and the upper part of it has been converted into a gallery for the accommodation of the parishioners: the ancient roof of the chancel is hid by a flat modern ceiling. The churchyard commands an extensive prospect over the surrounding country; and from the parsonage-house is obtained a very pleasing view, which extends into the counties of Radnor and Hereford. A Sunday school is partially supported under the patronage of the rector, who contributes a donation of two guineas per annum. The interest of £11, given by an unknown benefactor, and secured on a cottage in the parish, is annually distributed among the poor. On a lofty eminence on a farm belonging to Sir Charles Morgan, Bart., are some vestiges of an ancient British encampment of considerable extent, enclosing an elliptical area, of which the longer diameter is six hundred and twenty-four feet, and the shorter, one hundred and thirty-eight; it appears to have been defended all round by a deep fosse, which is still remaining in that part where the ground is least precipitous. From this eminence is a view of amazing extent and magnificence, comprehending the vale of Llangorse, with its beautiful lake, behind which the lofty Allt Esgair, apparently rising abruptly from its margin, presents a perfectly conical appearance; to the east is the range of the Black Mountains, stretching into Herefordshire, and throwing into bold relief the village of Talgarth, which, with the neighbouring castle of



Bronllys, forms a pleasing and conspicuous feature in the scenery. To the north lies a richly cultivated tract, comprising part of the picturesque vale of the Wye, beyond which rise the Radnorshire hills; and to the south, the village and church of Llandevalley, the mansion and grounds of Pontywall, the village of Talachddu, the heights above Brecknock, and the lofty summits of the Brecknockshire Beacons, present themselves in pleasing succession. A little to the west of this encampment is a much smaller eminence, which appears to have been fortified by an intrenchment. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £198. 2.

LLANVLEWYN (LLAN-FLEWYN), a parish in the hundred of TAL Y BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (N.W.) from Llanerchymedd, containing 133 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Flewyn, by whom it was originally founded, in the early part of the seventh century, is situated in the north-western part of the island, and is finely sheltered on the north by a chain of hills, by which it is separated from the parish of Llanvechell. It appears to have been visited, if not permanently inhabited, by the Romans, on their conquest of Anglesey; three golden bracelets, of which two were purchased by Mr. Pennant, and a bulla of the same metal, having been found on a farm within its limits, called Ynys Gwyddel, a few years prior to his visiting this part of the principality; and in this and also in the adjoining parish are numerous vestiges of Saxon and Danish occupation. The surface is boldly undulated, and the soil consequently various: the lands are for the greater part enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The scenery is pleasingly diversified, and from the higher grounds are obtained some interesting views. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llanrhyddlad, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, a small plain edifice, is beautifully situated near a little lake, and surrounded with scenery of pleasing and rural appearance. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A small parochial school, in which the poor children of the parish are gratuitously instructed, is supported by subscription. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £44. 19.

LLANVROTHEN (LLAN-VROTHEN), a parish in the hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (W.N.W.) from Tan y Bwlch, containing 657 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Brothen, an eminent British saint, who flourished about the end of the sixth century. It is situated between the two æstuaries of the Traeth Mawr and Traeth Bach, the former of which is now embanked and under cultivation, in a district abounding with mineral wealth, and comprises a tract of about six thousand acres, the surface of which is boldly undulated, rising in some parts into mountainous elevations. The surrounding scenery is strikingly diversified, combining features of romantic character and picturesque beauty. Various small streams here fall into the Glâslyn, or, as it is commonly called, the Traeth Mawr river; and there is one small lake called Cwmvoel. In this parish is included the greater part of the extensive tract gained, about twenty years ago, by an embankment made by the late Mr. Madocks,

at the mouth of the Traeth Mawr: the soil of this marsh is a peaty clay, while that of the higher grounds is a dark reddish loam, producing good pasturage for live stock. Peat, which constitutes the principal fuel of the inhabitants, is found in abundance in various places. Lead-ore is procured at Bwlch Plwm; but the mines are not regularly worked. The village stands about a quarter of a mile from the turnpike road leading from Tan y Bwlch to Bethgelart. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £6. 15., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church is an ancient structure, appropriately fitted up for divine service. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. Evan Thomas, in 1732, bequeathed £20; William Lewis Anwyl left £10, and John Carreg £20; Gwen Prichard, in 1715, bequeathed a small portion of land; and Mrs. Lloyd, in 1784, a rent-charge of ten shillings, all for the benefit of the poor of this parish; besides which there is also a bequest of £1. 15. per annum, by an unknown benefactor, to be appropriated to the instruction of poor children. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £255. 12.

LLANVRYNACH (LLAN-VRYNACH), a parish in the hundred of PENCELLE, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (S.E.) from Brecknock, containing 310 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Brynach, a celebrated Irish saint, who accompanied Brychan Brycheiniog into Britain, in the fifth century, and presided over some of the monastic institutions founded by that prince. It is a place of very remote antiquity, and appears to have been occupied at a very early period by the Romans, in connexion with their works in the mineral districts of Bryn Oer, through which the course of a Roman vicinal way from Cardiff, or Caerphilly, has been satisfactorily traced, leading directly to this place. That this district has been worked at some very remote period is evident from the scoria of ancient smelting works, especially on a field called "Clos y Geveilon," or the field of the forge; but that these works belonged to the Romans was not satisfactorily ascertained till the year 1775, when the remains of a Roman bath were discovered, in which was found a piece of malleable iron, four feet long and six inches wide. The parish is bounded on the south-east by the small river Mehascin, and on the west by the Cynrig; these rivers, across both of which are bridges kept in repair by the hundred, fall into the river Usk, by which the parish is skirted for nearly two miles on the north-east, and over which a good stone bridge was built in 1773, and is kept in repair at the expense of the county. The Brecknock and Abergavenny canal passes through the parish, and is carried over the Usk, near the bridge, by a handsome stone aqueduct of four arches. The village is situated near the turnpike road from Brecknock, which proceeds along the left bank of the Usk, to Abergavenny; and the neighbourhood abounds with finely varied scenery, in which the rivers that flow through the parish, with their bridges, and the distant woods and plantations, form pleasing and prominent features. The views from the higher grounds are interesting and extensive, embracing the magnifi-



cent range of mountains called the Brecknockshire Beacons, the lowest of which borders on the parish, and the small wood on the estate of Dinas, which has a very beautiful and picturesque appearance. Tŷ Mawr, the seat of Charles Claude Clifton, Esq., is supposed to have been originally built in the reign of Edward II., by Howel Gam, eldest son of Gruffydd ab Meredydd, who was lineally descended from Brychan, Prince of Brycheiniog, now Brecknock: it had fallen into neglect and was for many years in the occupation of a farmer, but has been recently restored and embellished, in the later style of English architecture, by its present proprietor: the grounds, though flat, are tastefully disposed and enriched with numerous flourishing plantations. Maes-Derwen, the seat of John Parry Wilkins, Esq., is a neat modern edifice, pleasantly situated on a gentle eminence under the majestic chain of the Brecknockshire mountains: it forms a pleasing and conspicuous object from several parts of the surrounding country, and commands a fine view of an interesting and beautiful portion of the Vale of Usk, and of the neighbouring heights by which it is enclosed. Tregaer, formerly the seat of the family of Vaughan, and now the property of John Parry Wilkins, Esq., has been converted into a farm-house.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 10. 7½., and in the patronage of C. K. Kemeys Tynte, Esq. The advowson anciently belonged to the lords of Brecknock, and, upon the attainder of Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, became vested in the crown; it was granted by Queen Elizabeth to Dr. William Aubrey, by whose descendant, Sir William Aubrey, it was sold, and descended from the purchaser to John Waters, Esq., whose only daughter conveyed it by marriage to the family of Tynte. The church, dedicated to St. Brynach, and now in a very dilapidated condition, is a very ancient structure, with a massive square tower at the west end, and consists of a nave and chancel, which are separated by a small gallery, probably the remains of the ancient rood-loft: the churchyard is one of the largest in the county, but contains only a small number of tombs, of which none are remarkable. The parsonage-house is a neat building, and, including the churchyard, has nearly five acres of glebe attached to it. Herbert Aubrey, of Clehonger, Esq., by deed in 1668, gave a rent-charge of £6, on a tenement called Pen y vagwyr, in the parish of Peterchurch, county of Hereford, to be annually divided among the poor of this parish at Christmas. The Roman remains above mentioned, as having been discovered in 1775, were situated in a field called Caermaen bâch, near the village, and were destroyed by the proprietor of the land, in order to avoid the annoyance to which he was subjected by the intense public interest which they excited, and which could be restrained within no bounds; but, from a drawing made of the bath, soon after its discovery, which is preserved in Mr. Jones' History of Brecknockshire, it appears to have comprised one warm and two cold baths, about seven feet four inches long, five feet one inch in width, and four feet deep. The tessellated pavement was formed of small blue, white, and red tesserae, varying in size from half an inch to an inch in diameter, and was supported on dwarf pillars of brick, about three feet and a half

high, between which were laid down flues communicating with the warm bath. Many Roman coins, still preserved, have been found here, among which are several of Constantine, and one of Valentinian. Two *sympuria* were also discovered, one made of copper, and the other of a mixed metal: these instruments, which resemble narrow spoons, are supposed by some antiquaries to have been used for pouring oil on the victims in sacrifices, and by others they are thought to have been used as lachrymatories. No vestiges of military fortification are now visible; but the names of two tenements, in this parish, called respectively "Tregaer" and "Caerau," appear to indicate the existence of such works at some remote period. In a field called Cae Gwyn, in this parish, was an immense heap of loose stones, under which, on their removal in 1808, was found a kistvaen, formed of four stones placed on their edges and supporting a fifth in a horizontal position: human bones were found both within and on the lid of the kistvaen, which is supposed to be coeval with the appearance of the Romans in Britain, if not of earlier date.

Brychan Brycheiniog, one of the native reguli, who after the departure of the Romans governed this part of the principality, and gave his name to the county, is supposed to have resided in this parish, and to have founded the church, within the walls of which he is said to have been interred. This parish has been the birthplace of several individuals who are highly distinguished for their literary attainments, or by the offices of importance to which their talents had raised them. Dr. William Aubrey, of All Souls' College, Oxford, Principal of New Inn Hall, Regius Professor of civil law, advocate in the Court of Arches, member of the Council in the Marches of Wales, master in Chancery, chancellor to Archbishop Whitgift, and master in ordinary of the Court of Requests, was a native of this parish; he died in 1595, and was buried on the south side of the choir of the cathedral church of St. Paul's, London. William Aubrey was chancellor of the diocese of St. David's in 1514, and Thomas Aubrey, of the same family, and also a native of this parish, subsequently held the same office; and John Aubrey of Easton Percy, in the county of Wilts, and a descendant of the same family, assisted Dugdale in his compilation of the *Monasticon*: he was one of the earliest members of the Royal Society, and published several works, among which was a natural history of Surrey; he died in 1700. John Jones, the intimate friend of Archbishop Laud, was born in this parish in 1575: he received the earlier part of his education in Merchant Taylors' school, London, whence he went to Merton College, Oxford, of which he became a fellow; he afterwards embraced the Roman Catholic religion, and went into Spain, where he was chosen a brother of the Benedictine monastery of Compostella, upon which occasion he assumed the name of Leander de Sancto Martino. Having taken his degree of Doctor of Divinity, he went to Douay, where he was for many years professor of Hebrew in the chapel of Vedrastus, and subsequently was made prior of the Benedictine college of St. Gregory, in that place; he was also appointed vicar-general of the English Benedictines living in Spain, twice president of the Benedictines in England, and titular prior of the Catholic church of Canterbury. Upon the invitation of Archbishop Laud



he returned to England, where he died in 1636, and was interred in the chapel of the Capuchins, near Somerset-House in the Strand, London. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £143. 14.

LLANVWROG (LLAN-VWROG), a parish in the hundred of TAL Y BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N. W.) from Bodedern, containing 266 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the shore of the Irish sea, by which it is bounded on the west and south-west, and contains a considerable tract of enclosed and fertile land. The views from the higher grounds over the adjacent country and the Irish sea are interesting and extensive. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llanvaethlu, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Mwrog, is a small ancient edifice in a very dilapidated condition, containing some curious remains of ancient oak carving: over the north entrance is a mutilated inscription, of which only a few of the letters, rudely formed, are remaining. According to tradition, there was anciently a chapel in a field called Monwent Mwrog, on the farm of Cevn Glàs, in this parish; but not a vestige of it is now to be seen. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. The produce of some small charitable donations and bequests is distributed among the poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £191. 7.

LLANVWROG (LLAN-VWROG), a parish in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES,  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile (W.) from Ruthin, containing, with the exception of that part of the parish which is returned with the borough of Ruthin, 343 inhabitants. This parish, of which the township of Street extends into and forms part of the borough of Ruthin, is intersected by the turnpike roads from that borough to Cerrig y Druidion, to Corwen, and to Denbigh, and is bounded on the east by the river Clwyd. The neighbourhood is pleasingly diversified with hill and dale, and abounds with fine oak timber, which gives a stately air of grandeur to the surrounding scenery. Poole Park was formerly the seat of the ancient family of Salusbury, from whom it passed by marriage with the last heiress to Sir Walter Bagot, of Blithfield, in the county of Stafford, and is now the property of the present Lord Bagot, who in 1828 rebuilt the mansion in the Elizabethan style of architecture: it is a handsome edifice, and the pleasure grounds, which are extensive and finely laid out, comprehend many pleasing views and much beautiful and varied scenery. An attempt has been made to obtain lead-ore, for which purpose some works were erected at Coedmarchan, but they have not been attended with any success. The living is a rectory, in the diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £16. 13. 4., and in the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Mwrog, and situated in the township of Street, close to the river Clwyd, is a very ancient structure, containing some portions in the later style of English architecture in the eastern part, and having the piers and arches of the nave of much more ancient date. There is a place of worship for Baptists. This parish, being partly within the borough of Ruthin, has the advantage of the free grammar school of that

place. A National school is supported by subscription, which is also open to children of Ruthin and of the parish of Llanrhudd: commodious school-rooms have been erected, in which seventy boys and sixty girls are gratuitously instructed. A Sunday school is also held in the church, which is conducted by the gratuitous attendance of voluntary teachers. An almshouse for four men and six women was founded in the middle of the seventeenth century, by Dame Jane Bagot, of Blithfield, in the county of Stafford, and endowed by her with £60 per annum; it is situated near the church. About £16 per annum, secured on lands and turnpike trusts, the aggregate amount of some charitable bequests, is distributed among the poor on St. Thomas' day. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £553. 11.

LLANVYLLIN (LLAN-VYLLIN), a borough, market town, and parish, in the lower division of the hundred of LLANVYLLIN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 20 miles (N. N. W.) from Montgomery, 12 (N. W. by N.) from Welshpool, and 183 (N. W. by W.) from London, containing 1836 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Myllin, or Mewn Llyn, concerning whom a tradition is extant that he was the first baptist ever known in Britain, and from being constantly in the water baptizing and inviting those who passed by to partake of that ceremony, was called by the natives St. Mewn Llyn, or "the Saint in the Pool." It appears to have been of very inferior importance prior to the time of Edward I., during whose reign several privileges and immunities were granted to its inhabitants. In 1644, Charles I. passed one night in this place, and on the following day dined at Brithdir, whence he continued his route through Mochnant to Cevnhirvynydd, proceeding along the tops of the mountains to Chirk castle. The town is pleasantly situated in a fertile valley, on the road from Shrewsbury to Bala, and is intersected by the small river Abel, which, uniting with the river Cain, flows through the parish, and, pursuing its course through the adjoining one of Llanvechan, falls into the river Vyrnwy at Llansantffraid: it has been greatly improved within the last few years, and a neat bridge has been erected over the Abel, which flows through the principal street; but, from its retired situation at a distance from any great thoroughfare, it possesses very little commercial importance. The trade is principally in malt, for the making of which there are several kilns: there are likewise some tanneries carried on to a moderate extent. All the waste lands in the parish have been enclosed by act of parliament; but many hundred acres still remain uncultivated. Between this town and Bôdvâch there was formerly an extensive turbary, from which the inhabitants were entirely supplied with fuel, but which was converted into fertile meadows, at a considerable expense, by Bell Lloyd, Esq., father of the present Lord Mostyn, and on part of it was erected a beautiful cottage, called the Vownog, the residence of John Williams, Esq. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and in many parts highly picturesque, and from the higher grounds are obtained some fine views over the vale of Cain, and other valleys in the vicinity, eminent for the beauty of their scenery. The market, which is well supplied with corn and provisions of every kind, is held on



Thursday in a convenient area under the town-hall; and fairs are held annually on the Wednesday next before Easter, May 24th, June 28th, August 10th, October 5th, and December 8th, for horses, cattle, and wares; and sheep and pigs are exposed for sale on the day preceeding each of the fairs, except those of August and December. The inhabitants received their first charter of incorporation from Llewelyn ab Gruffydd ab Gwenwynwyn, in the reign of Edward I., which was confirmed by Edward de Charlton, Lord of Powys, in the 11th year of the reign of Henry V., and invests the burgesses with power to take, imprison, and try thieves and other malefactors, and, in the event of their escape, to pursue them in any direction for a distance not exceeding a league from the town; and any stranger residing within it, and paying scot and lot for one year, could claim his freedom. This charter was extended and confirmed by Charles II., in the 25th year of his reign, at which time the government of the borough became vested in two bailiffs, a high steward, a recorder, and fourteen capital burgesses, assisted by a town-clerk, two serjeants at mace, and other officers. The bailiffs are chosen annually, one by the lord of the manor, and the other by the burgesses at large, and both are justices of the peace within the borough, of which the jurisdiction is co-extensive with the parish: the other officers of the corporation are chosen by the bailiffs. The borough was made to participate, in the 27th of Henry VIII., in the elective franchise, as a contributory borough with those of Llanidloes, Machynlleth, and Welshpool, in the return of a member for the county town of Montgomery. This privilege was confirmed by a resolution of the House of Commons, in 1680, but was afterwards denied by another resolution of that house, in 1728, which disfranchised these boroughs, in consequence of the inhabitants refusing to contribute towards defraying the expenses of the member, namely, thirteen shillings and fourpence for each borough, and confined the right of voting exclusively to the burgesses of Montgomery. These resolutions, however, being in opposition to each other, the burgesses, by an act of the 28th of George III., were empowered to assert their right of voting for a member for Montgomery before another committee of the House of Commons, and of appealing within twelve calendar months against any future decision. By the late act for amending the representation of the people the elective franchise has been restored to Llanvyllin, which, with Llanidloes, Machynlleth, Montgomery, Newtown, and Welshpool, unites in sending one member to parliament: the right of voting is vested in every male person of full age, occupying a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act demands: the number of tenements of this value within the limits of the borough, which were extended by the late act, and are minutely detailed in the Appendix to this work, including an area of about five hundred acres, is sixty. Llanvyllin has also by the late act been made one of the polling-places in the election of a knight for the shire. The freedom of the borough is inherited by the eldest sons only of freemen, on their attaining the age of twenty-one, or conferred by gift of the bailiffs and capital burgesses. The corporation are empowered to hold quarter sessions for the borough; and petty sessions both for the borough and

for the hundred are held in the town-hall every Thursday. Courts leet and baron are held twice in the year, within a month of Easter and Michaelmas; but the court baron does not at present exercise the jurisdiction to which it has a claim in the recovery of debts. The town-hall, situated on one side of the principal street, is a neat building of brick, containing in the upper story a commodious room, forty-five feet long and twenty feet wide, which is used for the transaction of all public business, and during the intervals is appropriated to the use of the National school, affording underneath a convenient and sheltered area for the use of the market: it was erected in 1789, at an expense of £1500, defrayed by the sale of waste lands under the provisions of an act obtained for that purpose in 1775. A lock-up house, consisting of two rooms, for the confinement of prisoners, and an apartment for the residence of the constable, was erected in 1829, at an expense of £350: the ground was purchased and presented to the corporation by the Rev. D. Hughes, rector of the parish, and one of the most indefatigable magistrates in the county.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £10. 13. 6½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Myllin, or Mewn Llyn, is a neat edifice of brick, erected in the year 1706, upon the site of a more ancient structure, which, having fallen into a dilapidated state, was taken down: the walls of the body of the edifice, as well as of the tower, which is also of brick, and contains a fine peal of eight bells, presented by Lord Mostyn are embattled and surmounted with pinnacles. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Mrs. Vaughan of Llangedwin, in 1720, bequeathed the sum of £1116. 10. in the funds, to be invested in the purchase of lands for the foundation and endowment of charity schools for twenty boys and ten girls of this parish, and for twelve boys of the parish of Llanvihangel, to be annually clothed: this sum, after having accumulated to £1220. 10., was laid out in mortgage on the estate of Llwydiarth, belonging to Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., and produces an income to the charity of £61 per annum. Mrs. Mary Strangeways, of the parish of Melbury, in the county of Dorset, daughter of Mrs. Vaughan, purchased a tenement in Llaethbwlech, now producing a rent of £60 per annum, which she gave for the support of these schools, to which also Henry Thomas, Esq., in 1713, bequeathed £100, which, from accumulated interest, produces £8 per annum. There are at present in these schools, which since the year 1820 have been conducted on the National plan, sixty boys and sixty girls, of whom twenty boys and ten girls are annually clothed: the boys' school-room is in the town-hall; the girls', which was erected by subscription in 1820, is situated near the church. There are also Sunday schools in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations. Edward Lloyd bequeathed a portion of land, the produce of which he directed to be annually distributed in money and bread to the poor. Charles Edwards, in 1717, bequeathed £50; Lewis Evans left £20; John Morris £10; Anne Wynn £10; and John Griffiths, in 1722, bequeathed £10, also for the benefit of the poor.



In the hamlet of Bôdyddon, in this parish, at a place called the "Street," are some remains of a Roman road; and in the same division of the parish are also an ancient British encampment, and a well called Fynnon Coed y Llan, which is supposed to have been the well of St. Myllin, who is said to have resided near the spot. There are vestiges of several intrenchments in other parts of the parish, also the remains of an ancient house, built in 1599, in which Lord Castlemain, ambassador from James II. to the pope, is said to have been concealed for some time after the Revolution by a family named Price, to whom he fled for an asylum. The altar-piece of the chapel in this house, and an exquisitely carved book-case, removed from this old mansion, are now at Brynaber, near Llanvyllin, the seat of Maurice Bibbey, Esq., to whom the remains above mentioned belong. There are several gentlemen's seats within the parish and in its vicinity, among which, in the hamlet of that name, is situated Bôdvâch, the property of Lord Mostyn, a handsome mansion beautifully situated on the banks of the river Cain, and surrounded with thriving plantations: the grounds are tastefully disposed, and present much interesting scenery, commanding a fine view of the church and town of Llanvyllin. Thomas Price, a member of the same family, a man of learning and fond of antiquarian researches, formed a valuable collection of manuscripts, which is supposed to have been deposited in the Vatican Library at Rome. Near the town, on the other side, and at the entrance of the well-wooded Vale of Abel, which is watered by the river of that name, stand the splendid mansion of Llwyn, the residence of William Humphreys, Esq. The Rev. Thomas Richards, who was appointed rector of this parish, in 1718, by Bishop Wynne, published a folio volume of Latin Hexameters upon the death of Queen Caroline, consort of George I., which he dedicated to Bishop Maddox, clerk of the closet to Her Majesty: he was an elegant scholar, and is said by Dr. Trapp, professor of poetry in the University of Oxford, to have been the best writer of Latin verse since the time of Virgil. At Dôl y velin Blwm, near Llanvyllin, many tons of lead have been procured from the imperfectly reduced scoria of some ancient British smelting hearths. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £616. 2.

LLANVYNYDD (LLAN-VYNYDD), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of CATHINOG, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (N. W.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 1436 inhabitants. This parish, which is of very considerable extent, is pleasantly situated near the head of the river Sannan, and the river Cothy separates it on the north-west from the parish of Brechva. The lands are for the greater part enclosed and cultivated, and the soil is tolerably fertile. Fairs are held annually in the village on May 6th, July 5th, September 28th, and November 19th. This parish constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, annexed to the precentorship in that establishment, and rated in the king's books at £18. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., endowed with £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Egwad, is not entitled to architectural notice.

There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. On an eminence at Coed henog, near the left bank of the Cothy, are the remains of an ancient fortress of considerable extent and elliptical form; and there are several cairns and monumental stones scattered through the parish. There are some small charitable donations and bequests for the relief the poor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £397. 16.

LLANVYRNACH (LLAN-VRYNACH), a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S. W.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, containing 979 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is situated in the north-eastern part of the county, bordering upon Carmarthenshire, and comprises an extensive tract of land, of which the greater portion is enclosed and cultivated. The surrounding scenery, though not characterized by any peculiarity of feature, is generally pleasing and in some instances picturesque: the soil, though inferior in fertility to that of other parts of the county, is not unproductive. An extensive common, connected with Precelly mountain, rises to the west of the village, but an enclosure of land was made in the parish a few years ago. On the banks of the river Tâf, and at no great distance from its source, are some extensive lead mines, which were formerly worked with great success; but for some years the works have been suspended. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £10, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Brynach, is not remarkable for any architectural details of importance. There are places of worship for Baptists and Presbyterians. On the common above the church are four large erect stones, visible at a great distance, marking out, according to tradition, the graves of two chieftains who were slain in a desperate battle which is said to have been fought near that spot: and near the church is a large tumulus, which is supposed to have been surmounted by a castle, or fort, to defend the pass. There are several mineral springs within the parish, but their peculiar properties have not been ascertained. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £194. 9.

LLANWDDYN, or LLANOUDDYN (LLAN-OWDDYN), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of LLANVYLLIN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 12 miles (W. by N.) from Llanvyllin, containing 668 inhabitants. This parish, which formerly constituted a chapelry, dependent on the adjacent parish of Llanrhaidr in Mochnant, is said to derive its name from a giant named Wddin, or Owddyn, who was born here; and on the neighbouring hills is a place called Gwely Wddin, or "the bed of Wddin," where he is supposed to have resided. But other accounts, with more probability, describe Wddin to have been an anchorite, who had a cell among the rocks in this place, in which he lived in seclusion and retirement. It is affirmed, on the authority of an absurd local tradition, that immense treasures are concealed in this place, and that all attempts to discover them have been frustrated by incessant storms. The path of Wddin, when he went to visit St. Monacella, whose cell was at Pennant Melangel, on the other side of the mountain, five miles distant,



is still pointed out, and called by his name. The vale in which the village is situated is about five miles in length, and varies from half a mile to a mile in breadth: it is frequently covered with water during the winter months, but, if drained, would be one of the most picturesque and fertile in this part of the principality. The village occupies a pleasant site near the river Owddyn, a tributary of the Vyrnwy, and nearly at the north-western extremity of the county, in a sequestered spot sheltered by mountains on both sides. Within the parish are two slate quarries, one at Gallt Forgan, near Rhiw Argor, which has been worked for some years; the other at Lluestwen, about two miles south-westward from the village, which was opened in the year 1830. The quantity of slates raised from these quarries is but very inconsiderable, and, though the mines are capable of producing a vast amount, must necessarily remain so till better roads are made for conveying the produce to the surrounding districts. Attempts to procure lead-ore have been repeatedly made at Cynon Isâ and other places, but without sufficient success to remunerate the adventurers. Fairs are annually held in the village on May 8th and October 2nd, principally for cattle and horses. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Earl of Powis. The tithes of the parish belong to the Earl and to the Dean and Chapter of St. Asaph, with the exception of those of the township of Garthbwllch, which are appropriated to the rector and vicar of Llansantffraid yn Mechan. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is an ancient structure, which formerly belonged to the knights hospitallers: in the churchyard are some remarkably fine yew trees. Mr. David Humphreys, in 1721, bequeathed £30 to the poor of the parish, the interest of which sum is annually distributed according to the will of the testator. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £167. 7.

**LLANWENLLWYVO (LLAN-WENLLWYVO)**, a parish in the hundred of **TWRCELYN**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**, 5 miles (E. S. E.) from Amlwch, containing 534 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the coast of the Irish sea, and partakes much of the general character of dreary sterility by which the mining districts in the immediate vicinity are distinguished, though in some parts the scenery displays features of fertility and even of romantic beauty. Many of the inhabitants are employed in the Parys and Mona copper mines, which are situated in the adjoining parish of Amlwch. Llŷs Dulas, the property and occasionally the residence of Lord Dinorben, is a spacious mansion situated in extensive grounds, within which the parish church forms a conspicuous and interesting object. The Traeth Dulas, or Dulas sands, at the mouth of the river Dulas, which rises from a lake in this district, stretch along a part of the shore here and form a small bay, while other portions of the coast are bold and precipitous: within a short distance is the small island of Ynys Gadarn. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to that of Amlwch, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, and in the patronage of the Bishop, who is proprietor of the great tithes, but in half of the parcel called Rhôs y Manach the tithes belong to the Rector of Llanellian.

The church, dedicated to St. Gwenllwyvo, a small neat edifice, is situated in a retired and sequestered spot within the grounds of Llŷs Dulas, and is appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service. The poor children of this parish receive gratuitous instruction in the National school at Amlwch; and there are some trifling benefactions for distribution among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £175. 11.

**LLANWENOG (LLAN WENOG)**, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of **MOYTHEN**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5 miles (W. S. W.) from Lampeter, containing 1647 inhabitants. This parish, which comprises the upper and lower divisions, is pleasantly situated on the river Teivy, and on the turnpike road leading from Lampeter to Cardigan. It is distinguished as the scene of a memorable battle, which was fought in 981, between the Danes, under their famous leader Godfrid, and the native Welsh under Eineon ab Owain (in which the former were totally defeated), or, according to Dr. Meyrick, between Eineon and his countryman Hywel ab Ievav; and a square intrenchment in a field called Cae'r Vaes, or "the field of battle," on the farm of Tŷ cam, in this parish, is still pointed out as the spot where the engagement took place. The parish, which is very extensive, is intersected by the road from Lampeter to Cardigan, and comprehends a large tract of arable and pasture land, the greater portion of which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery, though not characterized by any extraordinary features, is in general pleasing, and is enlivened by several handsome seats and villas. Llanvaughan, a handsome, though deserted, mansion, now the property of the nieces of the late Admiral Thomas, who erected it in 1786, is beautifully situated: the pleasure grounds are laid out with great taste, and abound with a rich variety of ornamental scenery. The admiral's family name was originally **Lloyd**: he was a native of this parish, and a member of the family of the **Lloyds** of Castel Hywel. High Mead, the seat of Herbert Evans, Esq., is delightfully situated on an eminence above the river Teivy, commanding an extensive prospect of the surrounding country on both sides of the vale, which here expands into considerable breadth: the house is completely sheltered from the north winds by an extensive range of lofty hills, the summits and acclivities of which are richly planted with thriving woods of luxuriant foliage, which add much to the beauty of the surrounding scenery. A fair is held here on January 14th. This place formerly constituted a prebend in the collegiate church of Llandewy-Brevi, rated in the king's books at £17. 12. 11. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8, endowed with £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The parish is divided into two portions, called respectively the Freehold land and the Grange: the Grange portion of the tithes is divided into three parts, of which one belongs to the Peterwell estate, and the other two parts are added to the freehold land portion: the freehold tithes, including this addition, are divided into two parts, of which one belongs to the High Mead estate, and the other part is divided between the Crosswood



estate and the vicar. The church, dedicated to St. Gwynog, is an ancient structure, with a massive tower sixty-six feet high, a very unusual appendage to churches in this part of the principality. There were formerly four chapels of ease to the mother church of this parish, of which there is not one now in existence. There are two places of worship for Baptists, and one for Presbyterians. Among the remains of antiquity are, an ancient monumental stone, with an inscription in rude characters, which Dr. Meyrick reads "*Trenacatus ic jacet filius Maglagni*," two circular tumuli, near the river Teivy, supposed to have been originally thrown up and crowned with forts, to defend the passage of the river; and a barrow called Crûg yr Udon, which, on being opened, was found to contain a coffin of glazed earth, in which were human bones placed in an upright position. In this parish is an ancient fortress called Castel Moyddyn, which is inserted in Mr. Owen's map; but of its origin or history there are no records, nor has any traditional account of it been preserved. There was also within the last few years another relic of antiquity, called Carn Philip Gwyddyl, the cairn or barrow of Philip the Irishman, a curious bank of earth, six yards in length and four feet high, resembling in form the rude sketch of a prostrate human figure, without the head, and with the arm stretched out: it was situated in a field not far from the church, but was destroyed a few years since. Tradition reports it to have marked the burial-place of a freebooter, who lived in the tower of the church, and who, on leaping from it when closely pursued, broke his leg and was captured. The Rev. David Lloyd, a poet of minor celebrity, was interred here, but no monument has been erected to his memory. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £770.6.

LLANWINIO (LLAN WYNO), a parish, comprising the eastern and western divisions, in the lower division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 13 miles (W. N. W.) from Carmarthen, containing 1024 inhabitants, of which number, 417 are in the eastern, and 607 in the western, division. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is situated near the western extremity of the county, on the border of Pembroke-shire, and comprises a large tract of land, of which the greater portion is enclosed and cultivated: it is watered by the small river called Avon Gynin. The surrounding country is finely diversified, and the distant views comprehend some fine combinations of mountain scenery and richly luxuriant pasture lands in the vicinity. The soil is fertile; and the inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture and in the feeding of numerous flocks of sheep. The village is pleasantly situated: an annual fair for sheep is held on the 12th of November. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £1600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Mrs. Howel. The church, dedicated to St. Gwyno, stands near the right bank of the Avon Gynin river. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists, and for another congregation assuming no other denomination than that of Dissenters, who collectively support a Sunday school for the gratuitous

instruction of the poor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £249.19.

LLANWYNDVA (LLAN-WYNDVA), a parish in the hundred of UWCHGORVAI, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S. by W.) from Carnarvon, containing 1264 inhabitants. The name of this place is derived from the dedication of its church to St. Gwyndav, who flourished during the sixth century. The parish is situated on the turnpike road from Carnarvon to Pwllheli, and comprises a very extensive tract of mountainous country, abounding with mineral treasures. Slate of excellent quality is found among the mountains, and very considerable quarries have been opened; but from the difficulty of conveying the produce to any shipping-place, they are not worked to their full extent. Large quantities of copper-ore have also been discovered here, but so mixed with iron as to require great labour and expense in separating it. For this reason the works are not carried on to any advantage, especially as the low price of that metal is insufficient to remunerate the adventurers for the trouble of procuring it. The rail-road from Llanllŷnvi to Carnarvon passes near the south side of the churchyard, but does not appear to have been made available for the exportation of the mineral produce of this parish, by the construction of any collateral communication with the quarries or the mines. The village is small, being chiefly inhabited by persons employed in the quarries and in agriculture. The surrounding scenery strikingly combines objects of rugged grandeur with features of rural beauty; and the distant views are interesting and extensive. The living consists of both a rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor: the rectory, which is a sinecure, is annexed to the headship of Jesus' College, Oxford, and the vicarage, which is discharged, and to which the perpetual curacy of Llanvagdalen is annexed, is endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church is a venerable and beautiful cruciform structure, principally in the early style of English architecture, but in a state of great dilapidation: the chancel is lighted by three elegant lancet-shaped windows; and the interior of the edifice displays in many parts fine specimens of architectural beauty: there are some good monuments of the Baron Hill family, but in a very neglected state, and the whole appears to be rapidly falling into ruin. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school was maintained for many years at the sole expense of the curate of the parish, but has been lately discontinued. A school-house was built many years ago, on the north side of the church, and some bequests were made for teaching poor children of the parish, but they have been lost. Mrs. Ellen Williams, in 1714, bequeathed £200 for the augmentation of the vicar's stipend, and £100, the interest of which she directed to be distributed among the poor annually. The Rev. Lewis Jones, in 1692, bequeathed £63.12., directing the interest to be annually divided among twelve aged men or women, and a rent-charge of £3, to be divided among twelve poor natives of the parish, or, in default of such, among inhabitants of seven years' standing. Near a farm called Bôdaden some slight traces of a Roman road are still discernible, pointing to the an-



cient *Segontium*, near Carnarvon. There are likewise some remains of two ancient British fortifications, called respectively Yr Hên Castell and Dinas Gorvai, or Gorvai, the latter probably deriving its name from its situation on the river Gorvai: of the former but very slight vestiges are discernible, and the latter, which is situated near Pont Newydd, has been so much damaged by the action of the rapid stream of the Gorvai, during times of flood, against its base, that the upper part has fallen, and only a portion of the foundations can now be distinguished. The Rev. Mr. Farrington, who employed a considerable portion of his time in antiquarian pursuits, was for some years vicar of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £386.

LLANWYNDY (LLAN-WYNDAY), a parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.W.) from Fishguard, containing 1046 inhabitants. This place appears to be of very remote antiquity, and the adjoining district is supposed to have been a favourite resort of the ancient Druids. That there was a principal station for the solemnization of their rites is plainly indicated by the number of Druidical remains that are scattered over the parish and throughout the vicinity, and also from various adjacent spots which still retain the names "Llan Druidion," "Fynnon Druidion," and others of similar import and origin. Near Fynnon Druidion were found five instruments of flint, supposed to have been used in flaying the victims devoted to sacrifice; and in the vale below is a circular earthwork, marked out by a solitary erect stone, probably to defend the pass of a small stream by which it is skirted, and perhaps also to protect the avenue to the consecrated region. According to tradition, an ancient town called Trêv Culhwch is said to have existed here at a very early period, of which evidence is frequently obtained in the foundations of ancient buildings which still obstruct the plough in various parts of the farm on which it is situated. About the year 1076, Trehaern ab Caradoc, Prince of North Wales, led his forces into South Wales, for the purpose of subjecting this country to his dominion, and at Pwlhgwttic was boldly encountered by Rhys ab Owain, the reigning prince, with all the forces he could levy: here, after a long and sanguinary conflict, Rhys was at length defeated, with the loss of most of his army, and being himself closely pursued by the victor, he was at length taken prisoner with his brother Howel, and both were put to death by Trehaern in revenge for the murder of Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, which they had previously committed. The French effected a landing on this part of the coast in the year 1797, and, after plundering the inhabitants for some time, the soldiers becoming insubordinate through excess, their commander found it necessary to make an unconditional surrender to the local forces brought against him by Earl Cawdor. The parish is pleasantly situated in the north-western part of the county, and is bounded on the north by St. George's channel, and on the east by Fishguard bay, forming a promontory with a bold and precipitous shore, and indented by several small bays, the soundings within half a mile of the coast being from seven to twenty fathoms. The surrounding scenery is diversified with features of romantic grandeur; and the views from the higher grounds embrace extensive prospects over the channel and the adjacent country, which abounds with objects of in-

terest. Off the north-western coast, in Garreg-onnen bay, are two small islets of a similar name.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 5.  $2\frac{1}{2}$ ., endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Precentor and Canons in the cathedral church of St. David's, to whom the rectorial tithes are appropriated. The church, dedicated to St. Gwynndav, is not distinguished by any architectural features of importance. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. William Hugh, in 1778, bequeathed £20 to the poor not receiving parochial relief. A strong chain of well-connected forts, extending in a direction from east to west throughout the whole length of the parish, is said to be of British origin: that on Garn vawr rock comprises an extensive area, enclosed by strong ramparts of uncemented stones, on the most accessible parts, flanked with portions of the rock which project in the form of natural bastions. On the summit of the hill above Goodwick pier is a rocking-stone, weighing about five tons, and so nicely poised as to yield to the slightest pressure. A little beyond it are three remarkable cromlechs in a right line, of which two have been overturned, but one still preserves its original position. Another cromlech stands on the ledge of rock just above the village, the table stone of which is fifteen feet in length, nine feet in width, and of an average thickness of two feet; and to the west of the site of the ancient town of Trêv Culhwch are the majestic remains of several cromlechs, of which one, more perfect than the rest, has a table stone fifteen feet long, eight feet wide, and two feet and a half in thickness. On opening a cairn, in 1826, for the purpose of widening a road near the sea, in this parish, was found a brass instrument, about nine inches long, with a circular ring at one end, and a flat triangle at the other, and pierced with two round holes in the neck which connected these together; it is now in the possession of D. O. Lewis, Esq., of Swansea, but no satisfactory conjecture has been offered as to the use to which it was applied. Near Trêv Asser, in this parish, is a tumulus surrounded with a moat, which, on being opened some years since, was found to contain fragments of urns, and other indications of its having been a place of sepulture. Trêv Asser is said to have been the birthplace of Asser, the friend and biographer of Alfred the Great. The celebrated Archdeacon Giraldus Cambrensis, who attended Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, while preaching the crusades throughout the principality, and is better known for his literary works and numerous ecclesiastical appointments, was for some time incumbent of this parish. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £382. 7.

LLANWYNNEN (LLAN-WNEN), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{4}$  miles (W. by S.) from Lampeter, containing 328 inhabitants. This parish is bounded on the south by the river Teivy, and is intersected by the Granell, which flows into the Vale of Teivy, to its confluence with the superior stream, and on the turnpike road from Lampeter to Cardigan. The surrounding scenery is beautifully picturesque, and the views of the adjacent country comprehend many objects of interest and features of pleasing



character. On the bank of the Granell is a moated mound, called Castell Dû, which was probably crowned with a fort for defending the river and the pass of the vale, but which now serves only to give name to the farm on which it is situated; and there is also a small encampment on the hill. In a field attached to a farm, called Cevn Llew Trêv, some curious silver coins were dug up a few years since. About a mile from the turnpike road, and in the vale of the Granell, is Llwyn y Groes, the deserted seat of the family of Jones, of Neuadd, in the adjoining parish. The mansion, which is spacious and handsome, is finely situated in the midst of flourishing plantations, and the grounds comprehend much beautiful scenery. A fair is held on December 13th. The living is a discharged vicarage, with which that of Silian is consolidated, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3.4.9½, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop, to whom two-thirds of the tithes are appropriated, the other third belonging to the vicar. The church, dedicated to St. Gwynin, is a small edifice, without either tower or spire, and possessing no architectural details of importance. There is a place of worship for Unitarians. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £159.

LLANWNNOG (LLAN-WYNNOG), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 6½ miles (W. by N.) from Newtown, containing 1355 inhabitants. The name of this place is derived from the dedication of its church to St. Gwynnog, an eminent member of the congregation of Catwg, who flourished about the middle of the sixth century, and was canonized after his decease. The parish is bounded on the south by the river Severn, which is joined near Caer-Sws, in this parish, by the Tarannon stream, which descends into it through the Vale of Trêveglwys. The surface is boldly undulated, and the surrounding country displays a pleasing variety of picturesque beauty and rich mountain scenery. Among the loftiest of the hills within its limits are three fine lakes, called respectively Llŷn Mawr, "the great lake;" Llŷn Tarw, "the bull's lake;" and Llŷn Dû, "the black lake." Llŷn Mawr covers an area of twenty-five acres, exclusively of a large turbary on its margin, which, before the lake was dammed up to feed the Montgomeryshire canal, was also covered with water. The average depth of this lake, when dammed up, was twelve yards; but since the canal has been supplied with water from the river Severn, its depth has been reduced to eight yards. Both in the lake and the adjoining turbary are extensive remains of ancient forests: in the former they consist chiefly of oaks in a prostrate position, but on the present surface of the turbary they are principally of fir or pine, with scarcely any portion of oak. These remains afford conclusive evidence that the adjacent hills were covered with forest timber at a very remote period. Peat is found in abundance in the neighbourhood of this and the other lakes; and the margins of all where it is procured have an elevation of fifteen hundred feet above the level of the Vale of Caer-Sws. The waste lands have been allotted under the "Arustley Enclosure Act," obtained in 1816, since

which time much of them has been enclosed and brought under cultivation. The village is pleasantly situated on the turnpike road leading from Newtown to Machynlleth: a few of the inhabitants are employed in the manufacture of flannel, which is carried on upon a moderate scale. The living is a discharged vicarage, within the jurisdiction of the Consistorial Court of the Bishop of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £4.16.5½, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, and contains some beautiful specimens of ancient sculpture: the screen and rood-loft are exquisitely carved, and in a state of excellent preservation: the chancel window is embellished with stained glass, in which the patron saint is represented in episcopal vestments, with a mitre on his head and a crozier in his hand, and underneath the figure is the inscription "*Sanctus Gwynocus, cujus animæ propitiatur Deus. Amen.*" In the churchyard are several venerable yew trees of luxuriant growth. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. A parochial school is supported by subscription for the gratuitous instruction of poor children: and there are also Sunday schools in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations. Hugh Baxter, in 1687, bequeathed £50; Richard Baxter, in 1690, gave £50, and subsequently £50 more; and Richard Gittins, in 1783, gave £10, the interest of which sums is annually distributed among the poor; and Anne Pritchard, in 1760, bequeathed £20, the interest to be annually given to poor decayed housekeepers in this parish. The hamlet of Caer-Sws was the site of a Roman station, through which has been traced a Roman road leading from *Deva*, now Chester, to the mines in the adjacent parish of Trêveglwys, and of which a description is given under its appropriate head. On the hills adjoining Llŷn Mawr are numerous *carneddau*, supposed to be ancient sepulchres of the aboriginal inhabitants, and one of the hills is distinguished by the name of *Carneddau*. Scattered over the parish and its vicinity are also the remains of several ancient British encampments, among which may be noticed those at Gwyn Vynydd, Rhôsddi-Arbed, and Cevn Carnedd. At Park, the largest farm in the parish, Queen Elizabeth is said to have kept a stud of horses, to which circumstance is attributed the superior breed of horses for which this part of the principality is distinguished. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £843.14.

LLANWNWS (LLAN-WNWS), a parish, comprising the townships of Gwnnws-Isâv, or Lower, and Gwnnws-Uchâv, or Upper, which separately maintain their own poor, in the upper division of the hundred of LLAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (S.E. by S.) from Aberystwith, and 15 (N.N.E.) from Lampeter, containing 919 inhabitants, of which number, 467 are in the higher division, which contains the church. This parish, which extends nearly fourteen miles in length, and, upon the average, three miles in breadth, comprises a wide tract nearly in the centre of the county, bounded on the north by the river Ystwith, and on the south by the Teivy. The surrounding scenery, though not generally rich, or distinguished by any prevailing character, is enlivened by some picturesque and romantic



features, the most prominent of which is the beautiful fall called Pwll Caradoc, supposed to have derived its designation from a chieftain of that name, who is said to have met his death by rushing over the precipice, which is of very considerable height. The lands are but very partially enclosed, a large proportion of this extensive parish being uncultivated. In the Upper division are the mines called Esgair Mŵn, of which a plan was made in 1758, by order of the Court of Exchequer; they are not at present worked. The inhabitants obtain their letters chiefly from Aberystwith; but a part of the parish is within the delivery of Lampeter. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £1400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Chichester family. The church, dedicated to St. Gwnnws, is a small ancient edifice, situated on the summit of a hill, and consisting only of a nave and chancel. In the churchyard is an ancient monumental stone, about three feet nine inches in height, ornamented on the east front with an embellished cross, and bearing an inscription so greatly mutilated as to be at present quite illegible: it is supposed by some antiquaries to commemorate the death of the above-mentioned unfortunate chieftain. On the sacramental cup is inscribed the date 1574. A small Sunday school is supported by subscription. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £133. 6., of which sum, £61. 13. is assessed on the township of Gwnnws-Uchâv.

LLANWONNO (LLAN-WYNNO), a parish in the hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (N.W. by N.) from Cardiff to Newbridge (the principal village within its limits), containing 1094 inhabitants. This parish, which is bounded on the east by the river Tâf, is nearly equally divided between mountain and valley; Cwm Clydach, Cwm Rhondda, and Cwm Cynon, watered by their respective streams, are partly within it. The Aberdare canal passes down the last, and forms a junction with the Glamorganshire canal at Navigation House, in the parish of Llanvabon; and up Cwm Rhondda is a tram-road, communicating with the collieries worked there. The Rhondda falls into the river Tâf at the populous village of Newbridge, of which the part situated in this parish is the largest: here a weekly market for provisions is held, and a considerable quantity of corn is conveyed hence for the supply of Merthyr-Tydvil. The celebrated bridge called Pont y Prydd crosses the Tâf at Newbridge, and is described in the account of that place. This parish is within the jurisdiction of the court of requests held at Merthyr Tydvil, on the second Thursday in every month, for the recovery of debts not exceeding £5. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and £1600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Llantrissant. The church, dedicated to St. Wonno, and distant three miles from Newbridge, is romantically situated on the rocky side of Cevngwingil mountain, at a considerable distance from any habitation. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £393. 11.

LLANWRDA (LLAN-WRDA), a parish, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, in the higher division

of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles, by the ford over the river Towy, (W. by S.) from Llandovery, and containing 560 inhabitants. This parish, which is intersected by the turnpike road from Llandilo to Llandovery, is beautifully situated in a pleasing and retired vale, watered by a fine stream that joins the Towy immediately contiguous, and surrounded by lofty hills richly clothed with wood. A small manufacture of coarse woollen cloth is carried on within its limits, and an annual fair is held in the village on the 5th of October. The living is annexed to the vicarage of Llansadwrn, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's. The church is dedicated to St. Cawrdav. There is a place of worship for Independents. Lady Letitia Cornwallis, one of the coheiresses of the ancient family of Abermarlais, in the adjoining parish of Llansadwrn, bequeathed, in 1731, £400 for the endowment of a free school for the children of both sexes, in the parishes of Llansadwrn and Llanwrda, and £1000 for the endowment of an establishment for four maiden gentlewomen of the county of Carmarthen; and £800 for the purchase of ground and the erection of suitable buildings. These several sums being suffered to accumulate in the funds till a site near the church could be obtained, according to the direction of her will, amounted in 1793 to the sum of £9000, which was then appropriated to the purposes of the will, and the buildings were completed and inhabited in 1795. The schoolmaster, who is appointed by the vestry of Llanwrda, has a salary of £60 per annum, with a house and garden rent-free; and each of the maiden gentlewomen receives £37. 14. 1. per annum, and £20 per annum is allowed for furniture for their apartments. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure of £174. 1.

LLANWRIN (LLAN-WRIN), a parish in the hundred of MACHYNLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N.E. by E.) from Machynlleth, containing 802 inhabitants. This parish, which lies in the western portion of the county, bordering upon Merionethshire, is pleasantly situated on the north bank of the river Dovey, and comprises a considerable tract of mountainous country. The surrounding scenery is finely varied, and from the higher grounds are seen some of the principal mountains in North Wales, with nearly the whole of the beautiful vale of Dovey, through which that river pursues its winding course. The road from Machynlleth to Dôlgeley, through the vale of the Dylas, is remarkable for the beauty of its views, the vale being characterized by strikingly romantic and picturesque scenery. From the front of Vronvelen is a fine prospect, embracing on the left the small, richly wooded, and highly cultivated valley, watered by the little river Dylas, and on the right is an extensive range of bleak and sterile mountains, beyond which the rugged head of Cader Idris is seen towering with sullen grandeur in the distance. The mountainous districts of the parish are supposed to be rich in mineral wealth; but their only produce is slate, of which some quarries are worked upon a moderate scale. Peat, which is the principal fuel of the inhabitants, is found in abundance. The turnpike road leading from Dinasmowddwy to Aberdovey passes through the village. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £12. 16.  $5\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage



of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Gwrin, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture: the chancel window is embellished with stained glass, and in the central compartment, which is the most perfect, is a representation of Christ upon the Cross. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. Sunday schools are maintained in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations. Mrs. Anne Pugh bequeathed £50, an unknown benefactor £49, and John David Evan £10, the interest of which sums, together with that of several smaller benefactions, was directed by the several donors to be annually distributed among the poor. On the bank of the river Dovey, in this parish, is Mathavarn, the ancient residence of Davydd Llwyd ab Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, a celebrated bard and seer, who flourished in this part of the principality from 1470 to 1490. The Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., on his route from Milford to Bosworth Field, is said to have passed one night at this mansion, and, in his anxiety for the issue of his enterprise, to have privately requested the opinion of his host. Davydd cautiously replied that a question of so much moment could not be immediately answered, and that he would give his opinion in the morning. His wife, observing the perplexity in which the question had involved him, expressed her astonishment at his hesitation, and advised him to inform the earl that the issue of the enterprise would be successful and glorious; observing at the same time that, should his prediction be verified, he would receive honours and rewards, and if otherwise, there was little probability of the earl's ever returning to reproach him. During the civil war in the reign of Charles I., the forces under Cromwell, having entered this part of the principality, which they reduced into subjection to the Commonwealth, burned the seat of Mathavarn, in 1644, and committed many ravages in the neighbourhood. The Rev. Isaac Bonsall, the present incumbent, has an extensive and valuable collection of Greek and Roman, and of ancient and modern British and Irish, coins, of gold, silver, brass, and copper, and also a beautiful assortment of minerals. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £542. 10.

LLANWRTHWL (LLAN - WRTHWL), a parish, composed of an Upper and a Lower division, each separately maintaining its own poor, in the hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (S. by E.) from Rhaiadr, containing 558 inhabitants, of which number, 261 are in the Upper, and 297 in the Lower, division. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is situated at the northern extremity of the county, bordering upon Radnorshire, from which it is separated on the north and north-east by the river Wye, and on the west and north-west by the smaller streams of the Claerwen and Elain, which fall into that river, on the north-eastern confines of the parish. The rivulets Runnant and Dulas are the principal of the smaller streams which intersect the parish, the surface of which is extremely irregular, rising in some parts into lofty hills, alternated with large tracts of level ground, forming extensive commons and bogs: the soil on the higher grounds is rocky, and in the lower generally of a marshy nature; but on the banks of the Wye and Elain are some extensive meadows of luxuriant fertility. The surrounding scenery is stri-

kingly diversified, and in many parts highly picturesque, and the distant views are even magnificent. Copper-ore has been found near the junction of the small river Elain with the Wye, and the Runnant works were established to procure it, but they have not been carried on with any degree of success. This parish constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, rated in the king's books at £9. 12. 11., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Wrthwl, or Morddal, is an ancient edifice, not distinguished by any remarkable architectural details: it is situated near the Wye, and at no great distance from the influx of the Elain: in the churchyard is a large stone, about six feet in height, of which the upper part appears to have been broken; from its situation, it may probably be the shaft of a cross, though by some it is supposed to be of Druidical origin. On the hills are several cairns, especially on the height called Drygarn, or Derwydd Garn, implying "the Druid's rock or mount," part of which is in the adjoining parish of Llanvihangel-Abergwessin. There are also some cairns on an eminence of less elevation, called Gemrhiw. On Rhôssaith-maen, or "the Seven Stone Common," which is partly in this parish, and partly in that of Llanavan, are some stones very irregularly placed; but whether they are military, sepulchral, or Druidical remains, cannot be precisely determined. Near this common is another, called Rhôs y beddau, or "the common of the graves," the name of which would appear to commemorate some great battle, probably that of Llêchrhŷd. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £296. 1., of which sum, £150. 17. is assessed on the Lower, and £145. 4. on the Upper, division.

LLANWRTYD (LLAN-WRTYD), a parish in the hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (N. E. by E.) from Llandovery, comprising the hamlets of Clawddmadoc and Llêchwether, each maintaining its own poor, and containing 627 inhabitants. The river Irvon, which falls into the Wye at Builth, runs through the centre of the parish, which is intersected by no less than four smaller streams, which discharge themselves into that river within its boundaries. These are the Cerdin, Cledan, Cledwial, and Henog, which in their several courses to the Irvon add greatly to the picturesque beauty of the vale that takes its name from that river, and abounds with scenery of pleasing and diversified character, though other parts of the parish are barren and mountainous, especially the portion bordering on Carmarthenshire. The parish is distinguished for the efficacy of a mineral spring, discovered close to the river Irvon by the Rev. Theophilus Evans, vicar of Llangammarch, in 1732, since which time it has been, during the summer season, a place of resort for respectable families. This spring, called Llanwrttyd Wells, and, from the foetid odour of its waters, in Welsh "Fynnon Ddrewllyd," flows over a rich bed of sulphur, with which it is strongly impregnated, partaking also of a chalybeate nature, and containing a small portion of marine salt. The water is a specific remedy in all scorbutic and cutaneous diseases,



relaxation of the fibres of the stomach, and in all chronic distempers, and is considered by many skilful chemists, who have analyzed it, to be inferior to none of the kind in Europe. Dôl y coed, about one mile below Dinas, and formerly the seat of the family of Jones, a spacious and pleasantly situated mansion, is always open for the accommodation of families frequenting the wells: the grounds attached to it afford every opportunity of exercise, and the surrounding scenery is greatly admired for its romantic beauty. Considerable additions have been made to this during the last year, and suitable accommodations for a considerable number of visitors have been made, who are boarded on moderate terms. The village, which is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Irvon, derives an air of cheerful activity from the resort of visitors, and has been greatly improved since the efficacy of its mineral water has been established. The manufacture of woollen cloth is carried on through all its processes, from the introduction of the raw material to its completion for the market, in one large factory, which affords employment to a considerable number of the inhabitants. This parish is intersected by the road from Builth to Llandovery. The living is annexed to the vicarage of Llangammarch, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. David, is not distinguished by any architectural features. There are places of worship for Independents and Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. A parochial free school was founded by Mrs. Margaret Jones, of Great Queen-street, London, a native of this parish, who, in 1783, bequeathed £300 four per cents., now producing £12 per annum, for its endowment: the school is under the superintendence of trustees, of whom the incumbent of the parish for the time being is always one. The same Mrs. Jones bequeathed also the interest of £200 at four per cent., for clothing and feeding the poor, and £50, the interest to be spent in a feast on the 1st of November for the trustees: the two last-named sums are payable on the death of Harriet Rowbotham, who is upwards of sixty years of age. Dinas, an ancient seat of the family of Lloyd, and now in the occupation of a farmer, is situated at a short distance from the church, upon an eminence commanding an extensive and richly varied prospect: immediately on the north, and almost adjoining the house, is a precipitous and beautiful knoll, completely clothed with wood, commanding a fine view of the vale of Irvon, on each side of which the country for two or three miles is richly wooded. The proprietor of Dinas has erected a handsome mansion in the parish of St. David's, Brecknock, to which he has transferred the name of the original seat, and which was completed for his residence in 1826. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £136. 19.

LLANWYDDELAN (LLAN-WYDDELAN), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of NEWTOWN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S. S. W.) from Llanvair, containing 530 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated nearly in the centre of the county, comprises about five thousand acres of arable and pasture land, for the most part in a good state of cultivation: in 1796 an act of parliament was obtained for dividing and enclosing the common and waste lands, the former of which was then done, and the latter has since that period been partially carried

into effect. The surface is boldly undulated, and the soil is various: peat, which forms the principal fuel of the inhabitants, is procured in abundance. The manufacture of flannel is carried on to a small extent, affording employment to a portion of the inhabitants. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £3. 8. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Gwyddelan, is an ancient edifice, appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. Rowland Evans bequeathed £15, the interest to be appropriated to the teaching of poor children; Richard Pryce bequeathed £12, and the Rev. Mr. Jones £5, for the support of a charity school; and one of the Welsh circulating charity schools is at present held in the parish. Various small charitable donations and bequests in land and money have been made for the benefit of the poor of this parish. The Roman road from Caer-Sws to Chester is supposed to have passed through the western part of it, entering through the pass of Bwlch Cae Haidd, and proceeding to the vale of Mochnant, where Sir R. Colt Hoare has placed the *Mediolanum* of Richard's Itinerary. There are also some remains of ancient British fortifications, one called Pen y Gaer, surrounded with an intrenchment, and another on the other side of the Roman road, called Lluest Cerig, or Carneddau: these posts appear to have been chosen as commanding the passes of Bwlch Haidd and Cevn Côch, both of which are within view. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £345. 12.

LLANYBYTHER (LLAN-Y-BYDDAR), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of CATHYNOG, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 5½ miles (S.W.) from Lampeter, comprising the Northern and Southern divisions, and containing 1062 inhabitants, of which number, 687 are in the Northern, and 375 in the Southern, division. This is an extensive parish, containing nearly ten thousand acres, of which about two thousand are unenclosed, and comprising a great variety of soil and surface, including a large portion of the country between the rivers Teivy and Cothi. There is a ridge of high ground crossing the parish in the centre from east to west, from which numerous streams descend towards the north into the Teivy, and southward into the Cothi: this latter district exhibits many deep glens. A road from Llansawyl to Llandyssul crosses this common, on which several carnau and monumental stones are visible. The village is situated on the banks of the river Teivy, which is here crossed by a bridge, and near the road leading from Lampeter to Carmarthen. Fairs are held on June 21st, July 17th, and November 1st and 21st. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Crown. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, has recently undergone thorough repair, and is now comfortably fitted up for the accommodation of the inhabitants. There is also a chapel at Abergorlech, a village situated on the southern confines of the parish, some miles distant from the village of Llanybyther, and near the junction of the river Gorlech with the Cothi, from which it derives its name: the living is a perpetual



curacy, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Vicar. There are two places of worship for Independents, and one each for Baptists and Methodists. Opposite the church, and at the distance of about half a mile from it, in a south-western direction, is an encampment, crowning a conical hill of considerable elevation, supposed to be of Roman construction. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £310. 15.

LLANYCEVN (LLAN-Y-CEVN), a parish in the hundred of DUNGLEDY, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 13 miles (N. E. by E.) from Haverfordwest, containing 437 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated at the eastern extremity of the county, bordering upon Carmarthenshire, is watered by the Eastern Cleddy, which, after traversing it in a southerly direction, joins the western river of the same name, to form the great haven of Milford: the lands are all enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and enlivened by the winding of the Cleddy and some small tributary streams, which join that river within the limits of the parish. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and with £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Sir R. B. P. Philipps, Bart. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £65. 19.

LLANYCHAER (LLANERCH-AUR), a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (S. E.) from Fishguard, containing 176 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated in the northern part of the county, upon the river Gwynn, which falls into the bay of Fishguard. The surface is varied, and in some parts has a very considerable elevation; and of the lands, about one-half only is enclosed. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and from the higher grounds are some fine views over the adjacent country, which presents some pleasing scenery. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 6. 8., endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Rev. James Williams James. The church, dedicated to St. David, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £34. 8.

LLANYCHAERON (LLAN - UWCH - AERON), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (N. W.) from Lampeter, containing 233 inhabitants. The name of this place, signifying "the church above the Aëron," is derived from its situation upon that river, which falls into Cardigan bay, a few miles west-north-westward, at Aberaëron. Its surface is richly wooded, forming an agreeable contrast to the rugged and barren hills of the surrounding district; and the scenery is finely diversified, combining a pleasing variety of fertility and luxuriance. Llanychaëron House, formerly the residence of the family of Parry, and now the seat of Colonel Lewis, is an elegant modern mansion, delightfully situated in the vale of Aëron, commanding a fine view of that river, and embosomed in well-wooded grounds, skirted by a small park. The entire lands are in a high state of cultivation; the meadows afford rich pasture; the cottages are neatly and substantially built; and the

whole parish, enlivened by the windings of the river Aëron, has a pleasing and prepossessing appearance, scarcely known in other parts of the county. The living is a perpetual curacy, with that of Dihewyd consolidated, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the alternate patronage of the Earl of Lisburne and Colonel Lewis: the improper rectory formerly constituted a prebend in the collegiate church of Llandewy-Brevi, rated in the king's books at £3. 1. 0½. The church, dedicated to St. Non, one of the most distinguished female saints of Wales, and mother of St. David, is a very neat edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a tower: it is beautifully situated in a very picturesque spot, and was erected at the joint expense of the inhabitants, and of Colonel Lewis, who built a very neat house for the minister, at his own expense, in a pleasant situation within a short distance of Llanychaëron House. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £120. 3.

LLANYCHAIARN (LLAN - LLWCHAIARN), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of ILAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (S.) from Aberystwith, containing 688 inhabitants. This parish is bounded on the west by the bay of Cardigan, and on the north and east by the river Ystwith; and the road from Aberystwith to Cardigan passes through it from north to south, crossing the Ystwith by a romantic bridge, from which there is a fine view up its vale, with the remains of the ancient fortress of Llanychaiarn castle in the foreground. There are some pleasing residences in the parish, the principal of which is Tan y bwlch, the residence of Matthew Davies, Esq., son of the late General Davies. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of J. P. B. Chichester, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Llwhaiarn, was erected as a chapel to the rectory of Llanbadarn Vawr, of which parish this formed a part, the inhabitants still contributing to the repair of part of the body of that church: it is an ancient structure, delightfully situated on the banks of the river Ystwith, being distinguished within by an air of neatness and comfort: the porch is a good specimen of early English architecture, and there are several interesting monuments. A handsome monument will shortly be erected to the memory of General Davies, who greatly distinguished himself in the peninsular war, particularly on the plains of Salamanca, and whose remains were deposited in a vault in this church. At Blaenplwyv, at the southern extremity of the parish, there is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. A school-house has been erected at a place called Chancery, at the expense of the inhabitants, for the instruction of boys and girls, who pay a small quarterage. Llanychaiarn castle, of which there are but few remains, stood on the eastern bank of the Ystwith. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £235. 4.

LLANYCHAN (LLAN-HYCHAN), a parish in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N. N. W.) from Ruthin, containing 115 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Hychan, who flourished in the fifth century, is pleasantly situated



nearly in the centre of the fertile and picturesque Vale of Clwyd. It is only of inconsiderable extent, but in the beauty of its situation, and the richness and variety of the surrounding scenery, it is not inferior to any spot of the same extent in this part of the principality. The lands are all enclosed and in a high state of cultivation, and the soil is tolerably fertile. The manor of Rhôs, which is within the parish, belongs to the Bishop of Bangor, whose steward holds for it a court leet and baron in the village at Easter. The living is a discharged rectory, within the jurisdiction of the Consistorial Court of the Bishop of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £7. 17. 6., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church is a small edifice, not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. The Rev. Maurice Jones, about the year 1725, bequeathed a rent-charge of £6, to be appropriated to the apprenticing of poor children of this parish and that of Cerrig y Druidion, or, in default of such, to be paid to the widow of a clergyman: Mrs. Austin bequeathed £20 in money, and there are likewise some smaller charitable donations and bequests to the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £150. 3.

LLANYCIL (LLAN-Y-CIL), a parish, comprising the market town of Bala, in the hundred of PENLLŶN, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, the church being situated 1 mile (S. W.) from Bala, on the road to Dôl-gelley, and containing, with that town, 2359 inhabitants. The name of this place, signifying "the church in the retreat," is probably derived from its retired situation in a sequestered part of the county, embosomed in hills, and nearly surrounded by mountains. The parish extends in length nearly nine miles from Bala lake, in a north-westerly direction, and is about four miles in breadth, from north-east to south-west. With the exception of that part adjacent to the lake, in which the town of Bala is situated, the surface is generally hilly, and the soil indifferent; but below the town are some fine luxuriant meadows, forming a rich and pleasing vale watered by the river Dee, and its first tributary, the Trewern, the latter issuing from a small pool of that name in the upper part of the parish, and the former having its source immediately above the lake, through which it flows: the Trewern, after pursuing a rapid though devious course through the vale, unites with the river Dee previously to its leaving the parish. The village is beautifully situated on the north-western side of Bala lake, commanding a fine prospect over that extensive sheet of water, and some pleasing and highly picturesque views of the surrounding country, and of the lofty mountains in the distance. The mountains called respectively Arenig Vawr and Arenig Vâch, at the bases of which are pools abounding with excellent trout, are within the limits of this parish: they exhibit some volcanic remains, and indications of lava are discernible in many parts of them. Peat, which constitutes the principal fuel of the inhabitants, is procured in several parts of the parish. The knitting of stockings is carried on to a very considerable extent, affording employment to many of the inhabitants. Fairs are held in the village on June 3rd, September 11th, and October 2nd. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in

the king's books at £9. 4. 4½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Beuno, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture: it underwent a thorough repair in 1828, when it was enlarged by the addition of a gallery at the west end: it contains several good monuments, among which are some to the families of Lloyd and Anwyl, formerly rectors of the parish. In the churchyard are eight fine yew trees of venerable growth. There is a chapel of ease in the town of Bala. The Independents and Calvinistic Methodists have each places of worship. Mrs. Margaret Price bequeathed £100, directing the interest to be applied to the clothing of five men and seven women; William Price, in 1774, bequeathed £100 for clothing poor people of both sexes, and £100 for bread to the poor; Elinor Williams, in 1752, gave £40 to be divided annually among eight poor persons; and Edward Meyrick, in 1712, bequeathed a rent-charge of £15 for clothing thirty poor boys of North Wales, and a rent-charge of the same amount, the use of a house, and three acres and a half of land, to a schoolmaster at this place, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £823. 6.

LLANYCRWYS (LLAN Y CRWYS), a parish partly in the upper division of the hundred of CAYO, and partly in the upper division of that of CATHINOG, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (E. S. E.) from Lampeter, containing 374 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated near the river Cothy, and separated from the adjacent parish of Cayo by the small river Twrch, which flows near the church, comprises, in addition to an extensive tract of common, a large portion of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surface is varied, and the surrounding scenery is agreeably diversified; the adjacent country is mountainous, and the views from the higher grounds embrace objects rather of striking boldness than of pleasing or picturesque beauty. The soil is favourable to the growth of corn and hay, of both which the lands yield abundant crops; the principal manure is lime, which is brought at considerable expense from a great distance. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of John Bowen, Esq., who is impropiator of the tithes. The church, dedicated to St. David, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. The Roman road called Sarn Helen, leading from *Loventium* to the station at Llanvair ar y brÿn, according to Sir R. Colt Hoare, passed through the parish, to the left of the church, and is discoverable at two places near the small river Twrch. At the upper end of the common is a large stone, about five yards high, fixed upright in the ground, with the inscription "T. Singer;" but whether originally placed there as a guide to shepherds traversing the common, or as a boundary, is not known; the latter is more probable, as it stands precisely on the spot where the parishes of Llanycrwys and Kellan unite, and where the counties of Carmarthen and Cardigan join. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £64.



**LLANYMOWDDWY (LAN-Y-MAWDDWY)**, a parish in the hundred of **TALYBONT** and **MOWDDWY**, county of **MERIONETH**, **NORTH WALES**, 4 miles (N.E.) from **Dinasmowddwy**, containing 703 inhabitants. This parish comprises an extensive mountainous district on the eastern confines of the county, bordering on **Montgomeryshire**; and the village is situated in the narrow vale of **Mowddwy**, near the source of the river **Dyvi** or **Dovey**, which rises in a pool, containing no fish but abundance of lizards, at the base of a rock called **Craig Llŷn Dyvi**, under the mountain of **Aran Mowddwy**, in this parish. The entire district abounds with picturesque scenery; and from the summit of the **Aran** are obtained magnificent prospects of numerous other Welsh mountains, with the intervening country. The vale, which is of considerable length, has the appearance of a glen or ravine, and is embosomed in vast hills, the declivities of which are covered with verdure, and afford pasturage to great numbers of young cattle and sheep. The vale is so much contracted as scarcely to leave space for a very narrow meadow in its bottom; and, in one part of it, an opening between the hills by which it is enclosed presents a beautiful vista, through which is seen the rugged and lofty summit of the **Aran Mowddwy** mountain. In several parts of this narrow vale are interspersed groves of small extent, but of luxuriant appearance, and above them the hills are covered with fine turf to their summits, which are crowned with boggy and peaty lands, affording shelter to multitudes of red grouse, and supplying abundance of fuel to the inhabitants: the soil of the entire parish is gravelly. The peat is brought from its elevated bed with great difficulty down the declivities of the hills, which are too steep for a horse, in sledges drawn by men, who, by means of a rope, contrive to direct and regulate its motion; but the practice is attended with danger from the accumulated velocity which the sledge acquires in its descent. At **Pumrhyd**, near the village, is a beautiful waterfall. The turnpike road from **Dinasmowddwy** to **Bala** and **Corwen** passes through the village. A few of the inhabitants are employed in procuring limestone, which is found in this parish in great abundance, and is generally of a brown colour, and of poor quality as a manure. Fairs are held on the first Thursday in March and October 18th. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of **St. Asaph**, rated in the king's books at £16. 18. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of **St. Asaph**. The church, dedicated to **St. Tydecho**, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, and is appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Sunday schools are supported by subscription, in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations. The produce of several small charitable donations and bequests is annually distributed among the poor. Near the source of the river **Dovey** is a strongly impregnated chalybeate spring. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £233. 3.

**LLANYNIS (LLAN-YNYS)**, a parish in the hundred of **BUILTH**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. by S.) from **Builth**, containing 195 inhabitants. This parish, which comprises nearly three thousand acres, is bounded on the north by the river **Irton**, and separated on the south from the parish of

**Maesmynis** by a small rivulet called **Cniddon**, or **Knithon**. The place derives a considerable degree of interest from its proximity to the scene of **Llewelyn's** death; and within a few yards only from the church was a bridge over the **Irton**, near which that last royal assertor of his country's independence was slain, and of which some of the timbers remained in the bank of the river until within the last thirty years. The surface is very uneven, and in some parts mountainous: a long ridge of high land, rising near the eastern extremity of the parish, extends almost its entire length, and terminates in a barren hill on its western confines. The soil, especially on the north side, where the ground is low and sometimes, after heavy rains, partly overflowed by the waters of the **Irton**, is extremely rich: on the south side it is rather light and barren. The scenery is richly diversified, and the banks of the river **Irton**, a stream abounding with salmon, trout, and graylings, are finely alternated with luxuriantly fertile meadows, groves of thriving timber, and flourishing plantations. The views from the higher grounds extend over a tract of country characterized by many features of picturesque beauty, and combining many objects of interest. The turnpike road leading from **Builth** to **Llandovery** passes within a short distance of the church, on the opposite side of the river. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of **Brecknock**, and diocese of **St. David's**, rated in the king's books at £7. 0.  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of the Bishop of **St. David's**. The church, situated in a fine fertile plain on the south bank of the **Irton**, was rebuilt in 1806: it is a neat edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel. A tenement, called **Tir Twppa**, in this parish, was charged by **Howel Lewis**, of **Blaen Dihonwy**, in 1674, with the payment of twenty shillings annually to the poor of **Llanynis**, and also with a like sum to the poor of the adjoining parish of **Maesmynis**. **Thomas Lewis**, supposed to have been a brother of **Howel Lewis**, bequeathed, in 1675, a tenement called **Pen-y-rhiw**, adjoining **Tir Twppa**, to the poor of these two parishes, in equal portions: the present annual income arising from this tenement, amounting to £13, is distributed, according to the will of the testator, by the minister and officers of this parish. Near the summit of the high ridge above mentioned, the northern acclivity of which, to the south of the church, is almost precipitous, and covered with wood, are several small artificial terraces or flats, formed probably either for encampment or for ambush, from which are several roads or paths, at nearly equal distances from each other, leading down the slope to the river: the principal of these roads, which are about three hundred yards apart, led directly to the bridge over the **Irton**, near which **Llewelyn ab Gruffydd** was slain. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £35. 15.

**LLANYNYS (LLAN-YNYS)**, a parish partly in the hundred of **ISALED**, but chiefly in that of **RUTHIN**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 3 miles (N.N.W.) from **Ruthin**, containing 784 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the river **Clwyd**, and is intersected by the turnpike road leading from **Ruthin** to **Denbigh**, extends nearly eight miles in length, and one mile and a half in mean breadth. In addition to the old enclosures, a few hundred acres of waste land were allotted under the provisions of an act obtained in 1803: of the remaining wastes, nearly the whole is mountainous. The



soil, though tolerably fertile in that part of the parish which is enclosed, is in the more elevated parts shallow and comparatively unproductive; the surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and the views from the higher grounds, extending over the adjacent country, embrace some interesting features. Plâs Einws, an ancient mansion in the parish, occupies a pleasant situation, and forms an agreeable object in the scenery of the place. Bâchymbyd, a fine seat belonging to Lord Bagot, which an ancestor of his lordship's acquired by marriage with an heiress of the family of Salusbury, is also situated in this parish, and exhibits in that portion of the demesne bordering on the road some beautiful chesnut trees, which have acquired a very large growth. The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Cyfeiliog annexed to the latter, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor: the rectory, which is a sinecure, rated in the king's books at £26. 13. 6., is annexed to the bishoprick, in lieu of mortuaries; and the vicarage is rated at £8. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The tithes of the parish are divided between the bishop and the vicar; the former has two-thirds, and the latter one-third, together with the tithes of pigs, geese, &c., exclusively. The church is dedicated to St. Saern, and is situated within a small distance of the river. There are several charitable donations and bequests, amounting in the aggregate to more than £100, and some small portions of land, the produce of which is distributed among the poor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £697. 8.

LLANYRE, or LLANHÎR (LLAN-HÎR), a parish in the hundred of RHAIAADR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N.) from Builth, on the road to Rhaiaadr, containing 674 inhabitants. This parish is situated between the rivers Wye and Ithon, by the former of which it is bounded on the west, and by the latter on the east. It extends five miles in length and about two miles and a half in breadth, and comprises a large tract of arable and pasture land, of which by far the greater portion is enclosed. The surrounding scenery is generally pleasing, the banks of the rivers being in some parts richly ornamented with wood. The living is a vicarage not in charge, consolidated with that of Nantmel, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is an ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, and is not remarkable for any architectural details. There are places of worship for Baptists and Wesleyan Methodists, at Newbridge, on the border of the parish. Within its limits is a house called Cwm, on the farm attached to which are the remains of a Roman camp, which, however, being included in the adjoining parish of Llanvihangel Helygen, are described under the head of that place. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £283. 12.

LLANYSTYNDWY (LLAN-YSTUM-DWY), a parish in the hundred of EIVIONYDD, Eivionydd division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (N.E. by E.) from Pwllheli, containing 1115 inhabitants. This parish, of which the name signifies the church on the windings of the river Dwy, is pleasantly situated on the northern shore of Cardigan bay, and on the turnpike road leading from Pwllheli to Trêmadoc:

it comprises an extensive tract of country, embracing a variety of rural beauty and pleasing scenery. The village, which is small, but has a very pretty appearance, is situated in a fine vale watered by the river Dwy, over which a neat bridge of three arches has been erected near it; and the neighbourhood is enlivened by some handsome seats, which form interesting features in the landscape. Of these, the principal is Plâs Hên, an ancient family mansion, celebrated as having been the residence of Sir Howel y Vwyall, who attended the Black Prince to the field of Poitiers, and is said to have taken the French king prisoner in the battle fought there: this estate is now the property of E. M. Lloyd Mostyn, Esq. Gwŷnvrn and Trevan, also in this parish, are both elegant mansions, and noted for the frequent and sanguinary feuds maintained between their respective lords, towards the close of the fifteenth century. A fair is held on April 17th. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £11. 8. 1½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and nearly rebuilt in 1819, is a small handsome edifice, very neatly fitted up, consisting of a nave, chancel, and north and south aisles: the north aisle was built by the family of Priestly, under the sanction of a faculty. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. A National school was established in 1819, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children; and a school-house was built with funds which had accumulated from the rectory during the period for which it was held by Dr. Hughes, under a dispensation. The building, though small, is very neat and commodious; and there are at present sixty children in the school, which is partly supported by the funds above noticed, and partly by subscription. The Rev. John Jones, in 1690, bequeathed £50 in money, the interest to be annually distributed among ten poor people of this parish not receiving parochial relief; Margaret Wynne bequeathed £50 for the relief of aged women, which benefaction has been lost by the failure of the persons to whom it was lent on interest; and Thomas Prichard, in 1720, bequeathed £10 to the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £377. 7.

LLANYVYDD (LLAN-NEVYDD), a parish in the hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (N.W. by W.) from Denbigh, containing 1130 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Nevydd, one of the daughters of Brychan Brycheiniog, who flourished about the middle of the fifth century. It is pleasantly situated in the north-western part of the county, and near the river Elwy, which, after traversing the parish in a north and east direction for a considerable distance, falls into the river Clwyd. The surface is varied, rising in some parts into lofty eminences; the lands are enclosed and cultivated; and the soil, especially in the lower grounds, is fertile and productive. The surrounding scenery, though in some points pleasingly picturesque, is rather of a bold and striking character; and the views over the adjacent country combine many features of interesting aspect. The inhabitants are principally employed in agriculture; and fairs are held annually on March 18th, May 12th, August 14th, and November 20th. This parish constitutes a prebend



annexed to the chancellorship in the cathedral church of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £37.13.4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £10, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Nevydd, is not remarkable for any architectural details. Pierce Owen, in 1654, bequeathed a rent-charge of £1; and Maurice ab Sion, in 1717, and Evan Hughes, in 1729, gave rent-charges of £2 each, to the poor of this parish: Ambrose Wynne, in 1671, bequeathed £50 in money; Anne Foulkes, in 1740, Jane Wynne, in 1751, and an unknown benefactor, bequeathed £20 each; which sums, together with some other charitable bequests, were invested in the purchase of a tenement, the rent of which is annually distributed. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £539.10.

LLANYWERN (LLAN-Y-WERN), a parish in the hundred of PENCELLE, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E.) from Brecknock, containing 138 inhabitants. The name of this place, properly Llan y Gwern, signifying "the church of the alder grove," appears to have been derived from the situation of the village in a tract of moist ground, favourable to the growth of those trees, for the number and luxuriance of which the neighbourhood was distinguished. The lands and tithes of the parish, with a manorial right, were by charter of Bernard Newmarch granted to the monks of the priory of St. John at Brecknock, and subsequently confirmed to them by two successive charters of Roger Earl of Hereford. To this circumstance is attributable the name of *Monkton*, by which it is designated in several ancient deeds; and also the names of some estates within its limits, of which one, called Waun y Mynach, or "Monks' meadow," became the property of David Lloyd, Esq. By a charter of Henry I., granted in 1127 to the abbey of Battle, in the county of Sussex, of which the priory of St. John was a cell, the inhabitants of this place still claim the privilege of exemption from the payment of tolls throughout the kingdom. On the dissolution of the priory, the appropriated estates became vested in the crown, and were sold tithe-free to various individuals, who, voluntarily subscribing to the support of a minister, acquired the right of nomination to the living. The village, which appears to have been formerly of greater extent than at present, is situated within a quarter of a mile to the left of the turnpike road leading from Brecknock, through Llanvihangel Talyllyn, to Talgarth; and the surrounding country, though not distinguished by any striking peculiarity of features, is characterized by the pleasingly varied scenery which prevails generally in this part of the principality. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty: the bishop of St. David's presented to it on the two last vacancies, previously to which the advowson was understood to belong to the freeholders within the parish, who contribute £4.10. per annum towards the stipend of the incumbent. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small ancient edifice, appropriately accommodated to the use of the parishioners, but possessing no architectural details of importance. Mr. Watkin Pries, in 1731, bequeathed a rent-charge of

ten shillings upon a field called Clôs Pen y Glan, on Blaendyvri farm, in this parish, which is annually distributed on Good Friday among the poor. At the north-western extremity of the common called Waun y Geivr, which is now enclosed, are the remains of a small cromlech. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £90.11.

LLANYWERN (LLAN Y WERN), a township in the parish of LLANDEVAILOG TRE'R GRAIG, hundred of PENCELLE, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (E.) from Brecknock. The population is included in the return for the parish of Llangorse.

LLAWR-Y-LLAN, a township in the parish of LLANVECHELL, hundred of TAL Y BOLION, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. by S.) from Amlwch. The population is returned with the parish. A small stream, issuing from a lake in the adjoining parish of Llanvlewyn, flows through this township into the bay of Cemmaes: on the opposite side of the stream is a remarkable cromlech, now prostrate.

LLAY (LLAI), a township in that part of the parish of GRESFORD which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N. by W.) from Wrexham, containing 539 inhabitants. It is situated near the left bank of the river Alyn, and on the border of Flintshire. Offa's Dyke passes between it and that river.

LLÊCH, a joint township with Llan and Llwyn, in the parish of LLANRHAIDR-IN-KINMERCH, hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (S.) from Denbigh. The population is included in the return for the parish. Courts leet and baron, with view of frankpledge, are held for the manors of Llêch and Llan, which belong to the Bishop of Bangor, at the village of Llanrhaidr, at which the steward of the bishop presides. The road from Denbigh to Ruthin passes through this township.

LLÊCHCYNVARWYDD (LLÊCH-GYNVARWY), a parish in the hundred of LLYVON, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, the church being 3 miles (S.W.) from Llanerchymedd, containing 442 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Cynvarwy, an eminent British saint, who flourished towards the close of the seventh century, is situated in the western portion of the island, on the road leading from Llanerchymedd to the old line of road to Holyhead. It extends to the former of these towns, and comprehends a very large tract of land, of which the greater portion is enclosed and cultivated. The surface is boldly undulated, rising in some parts into considerable eminences; and the higher grounds command extensive prospects over the surrounding country. The soil is of a poor argillaceous quality, and produces chiefly oats, with a small proportion of wheat and barley. The living is annexed to the rectory of Llantrisant, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, which is supposed to have been originally founded about the year 630, is a spacious and handsome cruciform structure, consisting of a nave, chancel, and north and south transepts. Within the limits of this parish the present rector of Llantrisant, in 1826, built a handsome parsonage-house, which, with fifteen acres of land, his private property, he has given to the rectory for ever. There are places of worship for Cal-

1. a chapel (not in charge) to the Rectory of Llantrisant.



vinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The poor children of this parish receive gratuitous instruction in the National school at Llanerchymedd. Mrs. Margaret Wynne bequeathed a small portion of land, the produce of which she appropriated to the support of one indigent and aged woman; Mrs. Catherine Roberts bequeathed £50 in money, for the support of two poor housekeepers; and there are likewise some smaller charitable donations for the benefit of the poor. In a field adjoining the church is an upright stone, called Maen Llêchgwenvarwydd, which is more than nine feet high, and appears to be of great antiquity. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £185.5.

LLÊCHRHÛD (LLÊCHRYD), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (S.E.) from Cardigan, containing 392 inhabitants. This place is by some historians supposed to have been the scene of a sanguinary engagement which took place between Rhys ab Tewdwr, sovereign of South Wales, and the three sons of Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, who, in a previous insurrection, had compelled that sovereign to seek refuge in Ireland. Rhys, returning thence, in 1087, with a powerful army to recover possession of his dominions, landed on the neighbouring coast, and was met at a place called Llêchryd by the sons of Bleddyn, who resolved to give him battle before his army should be increased by the number of his friends who were hastening to join him; and an obstinate and severe battle was here fought, in which the sons of Bleddyn were totally defeated, and two of them slain on the field. A place of this name in Radnorshire has been generally reputed the scene of this engagement, to which opinion Mr. Jones, the historian of Brecknockshire, has afforded some negative sanction by deriving its name from a stone which may have been raised there to the memory of Riryd, one of Bleddyn's sons who fell in the encounter. But there are numerous circumstances which conspire to give the greater degree of probability to the former opinion, among which, the situation of LlêchrhÛd in Cardiganshire, in the direct route of this sovereign's march through his own territories, where he might reasonably expect the assistance of his friends, in his progress towards the seat of his government at Dynevor or Carmarthen, is not the least important. The parish is pleasantly situated on the river Teivy, which is navigable for small vessels to LlêchrhÛd bridge, an ancient structure mantled with ivy, and forming a truly picturesque feature in the scenery of the place. The turnpike road from Cardigan to Newcastle-Emlyn passes through the village, the inhabitants of which derive a considerable profit from the drying of salmon, of which great quantities are taken in the river. An extensive manufactory of tin plates, which was formerly carried on, has for some years been entirely discontinued, and the buildings have been demolished. LlêchrhÛd, though now a parish of itself, was formerly only a chapelry in the adjoining parish of Llangoedmore. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1200 royal bounty, and in the alternate patronage of Thomas Lloyd and Charles Richard Longcroft, Esqrs. The church, dedicated

to the Holy Cross, is an ancient edifice, undistinguished by any interesting details. There are places of worship for Wesleyan Methodists and Presbyterians: the latter is said to have been originally built by Major Wade, an officer under Oliver Cromwell. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £44.19.

LLÊCHVAEN (LLÊCH-VÂN), a hamlet forming the upper division of the parish of LLANHAMLLÊCH, in the hundred of PENCELLE, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (E. by S.) from Brecknock. The population is returned with the parish. The present name of this place has a tautological meaning, signifying literally the "stony stone," corrupted from the ancient etymology, meaning the "upright or lofty stone." It is situated on the southern declivity of the Allt Ronwy mountain, and near the left bank of the Brÿnich brook, which falls into the Usk about a mile lower down. A bridge here crosses the Usk, and another the Brecknock canal, which passes nearly contiguous, and just below is conveyed to the right bank of the river by an aqueduct of four arches. The Hay railway, from Brecknock to Kington and Eardisley in Herefordshire, has been carried through this hamlet, a little to the south of the village of Llêchvaen. Here was formerly a chapel of ease to the mother church of Llanhamllêch, which fell down about a century ago, and has not since been rebuilt, owing to the latter being sufficiently capacious, and centrally situated, so as to accommodate the inhabitants of all parts of the parish. The Roman *Via Julia Montana* anciently traversed this hamlet, in its approach to the Gaer near Brecknock, from the station in the parish of Llanvihangel Cwmdô.

LLÊCHWETHER (LLÊCHWEDDOR), a hamlet in the parish of LLANWRTYD, hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (W. by S.) from Builth, containing 328 inhabitants. It is situated, as the name implies, on the southern declivity of a barren hill, near the left bank of the river Irvon, the vale of which is much admired for its picturesque scenery. There are some mineral springs within its limits, which have acquired considerable celebrity for their anti-scorbutic qualities; and Dôlycoed House has been recently fitted up for the accommodation of the visitors. There is a bequest producing £12 per annum for the instruction of poor children of Llêchwether and Clawdd Madoc. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £64.14.

LLÊCHYLCHED (LLÊCH-YLCHED), a parish in the hundred of LLYVON, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (S.E. by E.) from Holyhead, containing 405 inhabitants. This parish, which is of very moderate extent, lies in the south-western part of the island; and the church is situated far from any house, in a marshy valley watered by a stream which falls into the bay of Carnarvon. The surrounding scenery is not distinguished by any peculiarity of feature, except that of a dreary and unprepossessing aspect. The road from London to Holyhead passes through the village, of which the inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture. The living is annexed to the rectory of Llanbeulan, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Ilched, is a small edifice. There are places of worship for Independents and



Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children of this and the adjoining parishes, was established in 1829: it is supported by subscription, and the present number of children is seventy-five. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £176. 7.

**LLEDROD ISÂV (LLETHR Y TROED)**, a township in the parish of **LLANVIHANGEL LLEDROD**, upper division of the hundred of **ILAR**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 9 miles (S. S. E.) from Aberystwith, containing 732 inhabitants. The small river Wyrā passes through it, and falls into the sea at **Llanrhŷtid**. There is a separate assessment for the maintenance of the poor, the average annual expenditure being £117. 16.

**LLEDROD UCHÂV (LLETHR Y TROED)**, a township in the parish of **LLANVIHANGEL LLEDROD**, upper division of the hundred of **ILAR**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 9 miles (S. E.) from Aberystwith, containing 481 inhabitants. The parochial church stands at the foot of the western declivity of a high and dreary common, and near the source of a small rivulet called the Wyrā. Several tumuli are observable on the adjacent hills; and there is a chalybeate spring, formerly much regarded for its sanatory properties. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £156. 4.

**LLEWESOG**, a joint township with **Trevydd-Bychain**, in the parish of **LLANRHAIADR-IN-KINMERCH**, hundred of **ISALED**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 3 miles (S. by E.) from Denbigh. The population is included in the return for the parish. Formerly a joint assessment was made for this township and that of **Trevydd-Bychain** for the support of their poor, but now there is a general assessment for the parish.

**LLOWES**, a parish in the hundred of **PAINSCASTLE**, county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W.) from Hay, containing 372 inhabitants. This parish, which is only of moderate extent, is pleasantly situated on the river Wye, by which it is bounded on the south. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and in some parts picturesque; and the higher grounds command some interesting views of the adjacent country, including the windings of the river. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of **Llanddewi Vāch** annexed, in the archdeaconry of **Brecknock**, and diocese of **St. David's**, rated in the king's books at £8. 10., and in the patronage of the Archdeacon of **Brecknock**, to whom the tithes of the parish are appropriated. The church, dedicated to **St. Meilig**, is an ancient structure, consisting of a nave and chancel, and appears to have undergone extensive alterations and repairs, principally in the later style of English architecture. Mrs. Susannah Howarth, in 1704, bequeathed a small rent-charge, the produce of which is annually distributed in bread among the poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £161. 1.

**LLWYDCOED**, a hamlet in the parish of **ABERDARE**, upper division of the hundred of **MISKIN**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. W.) from **Merthyr-Tydvil**. The population is returned with the parish. It occupies the upper portion of the parish, in which there are numerous coal and iron works, and the inhabitants are principally employed in these and the

several iron-foundries in the neighbourhood. **Hirwaun** common adjoins it on the west, and it is watered both by the **Cynon** and **Dynas** streams, the latter of which has its source within its limits. A tram-road, extending from the termination of the **Aberdare** canal, proceeds through this hamlet, and communicates with the **Hirwaun** works in **Brecknockshire**. Close to this line of conveyance are situated the iron-works of Messrs. **Thompson**, **Scales**, and **Fothergill**, which, with those at **Abernant**, are capable, when fully employed, of manufacturing about eleven thousand tons of iron per week. A large proportion of the workmen engaged at the **Hirwaun** furnaces dwell in this hamlet, which is now included within the limits of the new borough of **Merthyr-Tydvil**.

**LLWYN**, a joint township with **Llan** and **Llêch**, in the parish of **LLANRHAIADR-IN-KINMERCH**, hundred of **ISALED**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.) from Denbigh. The population is included in the return for the parish. Formerly this township was conjointly assessed with those of **Llan** and **Llêch** for the support of their poor, but now a general assessment is made for the parish.

**LLŶSDINAM (LLŶS-DINAN, or LLŶS-DINAM)**, a hamlet in the parish of **LLANAVAN-VAWR**, hundred of **BUILTH**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles from **Builth**, containing 213 inhabitants. This hamlet, the name of which signifies **Dinam** Palace or Court, was anciently the residence of several of the reguli, descendants of **Brychan**, Prince of **Brycheiniog**, and appears to have been a place of considerable importance also with respect to its trade. In several of the ancient surveys of the manor of **Builth**, and in various old presentments, the weavers of "Inam," by which name this place was then designated, are noticed as a corporate body, and appear to have been assessed, and to have paid their chief-rents to the lord, separately from the inhabitants of the other parts of the manor. A tenement in this part of the parish still retains the name of "Pen-llŷs," or the palace summit, and gave to its proprietors the same designation. Here is an elegant villa, the residence of **Dr. Venables**. **Llŷsdinam** appears anciently to have constituted a distinct parish, and to have become annexed to **Llanavan-Vawr** only on the decay of its own church: it still, in civil matters, exercises the privileges of a separate parish, appointing its own officers, maintaining its own poor, and repairing its own highways. Since the dilapidation of its church it has paid a contribution of one-sixth of the assessments towards the repair of that of **Llanavan-Vawr**, and one-third towards the church of **Llanvihangel-Brŷn-Pabuan**, to which the inhabitants usually resort: the latter payment was probably a voluntary contribution in its origin, though it has been established by prescription and rendered compulsory. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £102. 3.

**LLYSIN**, a township in the parish of **CARNO**, lower division of the hundred of **LLANIDLOES**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 10 miles (N. W. by W.) from **Newtown**. The population is returned with the parish. The waste lands of this place, as well as many others in the contiguous parishes, were enclosed and allotted under an act of parliament, obtained in 1816, commonly called "The **Arustley** Enclosure Act."

**LLŶSTYNHYNEDD**, a township in the parish of **KILKEN**, Northop division of the hundred of **COLESHILL**,



county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, containing 100 inhabitants.

LLÛSVAEN (LLÛS-VAEN), a parish forming a detached portion of the hundred of CREUDDYN, county of CARNARVON, though locally within the county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, on the road from Abergele to Aberconway, 4 miles (W.) from Abergele, containing 585 inhabitants. This parish, which is of small extent and extremely mountainous, is bounded on the north by the Irish sea, and is crossed by the great turnpike road from Chester to Holyhead, close to the shore, which has a fine sandy beach: a considerable quantity of limestone is quarried from the rocks here, and shipped for Liverpool: the village consists of five houses only. The living is a discharged rectory, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £12. 0. 5., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Cynvran, is a spacious edifice, consisting of a nave, chancel, and south aisle. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. Some years ago an elegant gold ring, enamelled and of good workmanship, weighing about an ounce, and bearing the name ALHSTAN, was found upon a mountain near the church, and is now in the possession of Mr. Walker, of Chester: according to Mr. Pegge, it belonged to a military commander of that name in King Egbert's army, which invaded North Wales in 818. Another gold ring, heavier and of rough workmanship, was picked up near the same place; and, in 1826, a great number of silver coins, principally struck in the reigns of Stephen, Henry I., John, Edward I., and Edward III., and in an excellent state of preservation, was found. Upon the apex of this mountain a signal staff telegraph was erected in 1827, which communicates with Voel y Nant, near Llanasaph on the east, and Orme's Head on the west, forming part of the line of intercourse between Holyhead and Chester. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £191. 6.

LLÛSWEN (LLÛS-WEN), a parish in the hundred of TALGARH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (W. S. W.) from Hay, on the road to Builth, containing 202 inhabitants. This parish, of which the name implies a fair palace, was anciently one of the residences of the native princes of South Wales: the road from Hay to Builth passes through it. The village is pleasantly situated on the river Wye, which is not navigable here: the neighbourhood is well wooded, and the surrounding country abounds with rich and with beautifully picturesque scenery. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 14. 7., and in the patronage of Arthur Macnamara, Esq. The church is a small edifice, situated close to the bank of the river Wye: the living has neither parsonage-house nor glebe land attached to it. There is a place of worship for Baptists. Llangoed Castle, the seat of Arthur Macnamara, Esq., is situated within the parish: the mansion was erected in 1632, which date, inscribed on a stone over the ancient doorway, is still remaining. The grounds, which are very extensive, comprehend some of the most beautiful and picturesque scenery in South Wales; and the surrounding eminences, of which some are very lofty, are clothed with stately and valuable timber to their summit. The river Wye, which here separates the counties of Brecknock and Radnor, skirts the de-

mesne for nearly two miles and a half, and in its winding course is sometimes hurried with impetuosity over its rocky channel, and at others flows smoothly through its deeper bed, which in some places is more than forty feet in depth: the banks are richly planted with lofty trees, under which is a beautiful walk, extending through the grounds in a direction parallel with its course. The view from the church embraces a variety of beautiful scenery: to the south it extends over a fine tract of country towards the Hay, including the beautiful village of Glâsbury, and the Black Mountains: to the west are seen the luxuriantly wooded hills of Llangoed, ornamented with the finest forest trees, of every variety; and on the opposite bank of the Wye are the hills of Radnorshire, in the parishes of Boughrood and Llanstephan. It is the intention of the present proprietor, at some future period, to erect on a more eligible site a mansion of more stately magnificence than the present edifice, and more in harmony with the incomparable beauties of the scenery, and the natural local advantages of this princely demesne. In the garden of an ornamental cottage near the church, belonging to H. Lawrence, Esq., is a tumulus, opposite to a remarkable horse-shoe bend of the river Wye. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £72. 5.

LLÛSWORNEY, otherwise LLÛS - WERNI (LIS-WORNEY), a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (W.) from Cowbridge, containing 189 inhabitants. It is pleasantly situated in the fertile vale of Glamorgan, near the turnpike road leading from Cowbridge to Bridgend, and comprises but a small portion of land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation: the surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and in the vicinity are some handsome residences. Little Nash, the seat of Mrs. Markham, and Stenbridge, are both extra-parochial: in the former was a private chapel for the accommodation of the family, but divine service has not been performed in it within the memory of the oldest inhabitant. The living of LlÛsworney is a discharged vicarage, annexed to that of Lantwit-Major, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £4. 7. 3½., and endowed with the great tithes of the parish. The church, dedicated to St. Tudvil, is not remarkable for any architectural details. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. A Sunday school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported by subscription. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £77. 15.

LLÛS-Y-COED, a township in the parish of KILKEN, Northop division of the hundred of COLESHILL, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, containing 86 inhabitants. Its name implies the court or mansion in the wood, and is supposed to have been descriptive of its ancient appearance.

LLÛS-Y-VRÂN, a parish in the hundred of DUNGLEDY, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (N. E.) from Haverfordwest, containing 202 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated nearly in the centre of the county, comprises a considerable tract of arable and pasture land, the whole of which, with only a very small exception, is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation: the soil is various, but generally productive. The surrounding scenery, though not distin-



guished by any striking peculiarity of feature, is agreeably diversified; and the views over the adjacent country are interesting and extensive. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 0. 5., endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the joint patronage of Sir R. B. P. Philipps, Bart., and Col. Scourfield, the former of whom has two turns and the latter one. The church, dedicated to St. Meilyr, who flourished about the middle of the fifth century, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £76. 4.

LLYWEL, a parish in the hundred of DEYVNOCK, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, comprising the hamlets of Traian-Glâs, Traian-Mawr, and Is-Clydach, each separately maintaining its own poor, (in one of which is situated the village of Trêcastle, forming a ward of the borough of Brecknock, from which the rest of the parishioners obtain their letters), and containing 1699 inhabitants. The name of this place, originally "Lee Wylt," or "the place of Wyllt," appears to be derived from its having been selected as a station for his army by Idio Wyllt, or the Wild, an Irish nephew of Rhŷs ab Tewdwr, to whom, in gratitude for his services in suppressing the rebellion of his turbulent subjects, that prince granted the lordship of Llywel, comprising all the lands on the east of the river Towy, from Llangadock to Abergwessin. Idio, with a view to strengthen himself against the opposition of the original inhabitants, who submitted to his authority with reluctance, married the daughter of Bleddyn ab Maenarch, Prince of Brycheiniog, and maintained a powerful force upon the heights of Llywel, which were well suited to his purpose, as a station from which he could repel any attacks either from Brecknockshire or Carmarthenshire, and from which he could easily descend at any time into the vales on either side, for the suppression of rebellions, the procuring of supplies, or the enforcement of the payment of taxes. To the occupation of these heights by Idio, and the strong position of his army, may be attributed the preservation of the lordship of Llywel from falling into the hands of Bernard Newmarch, upon his conquest of the other parts of the ancient Brycheiniog. The parish is situated in the western part of the county, on the confines of Carmarthenshire, and skirted by the river Usk. The turnpike road from London to Milford, through Brecknock, passes through the village, which is distant about a mile north-north-eastward from Trêcastle, and is also intersected by a small rivulet called Nant y Gwared; this rivulet here divides into two streams, which, however, shortly reunite. The surface is hilly and in some parts even mountainous; and from the highest elevation in this parish, called Trêcastle Mountain, and situated near its southern confines, descend numerous rivulets, which have worn themselves deep furrows, through which they flow in almost every direction. Of these, such as issue from the north side of the mountains, descend into the river Gwydderig, which, flowing through the narrow vale of Cwm y dwr, circumscribes its base on that side, and, pursuing its course westward, falls into the river Tawe. The streams which descend on the south side of these heights are received by the river Usk, which, flowing through a vale of greater breadth

than that of Cwm y dwr, although the level meadow land on each side of the river seldom exceeds a few yards in breadth, continues its course in an easterly direction. The Usk, so distinguished for the picturesque beauty of its banks, has its source in a pool called Llŷn y Van, between the lofty summits of two adjacent mountains, called respectively Ban Brycheiniog and Ban Sir Gaer, the Brecknockshire and the Carmarthenshire Beacon, near the spot where this parish unites with that of Llanthoysaint, in the county of Carmarthen. A range of hills connected with the Eppynt chain rises to the north of Trêcastle, and is intersected from north to south by two valleys, through one of which flows the river Cilieni, which separates this parish from that of Llandeilo'r Van; and through the other the river Clydach, which rises in this parish, and falls into the Usk a little below the bridge on the turnpike road to Trêcastle, and gives name to the hamlet of Is-Clydach, which is situated on its south-eastern banks. The sides of the deep narrow dells, which in several parts furrow the mountains, meet almost abruptly, and, though partly arable, are in some places adorned with underwood: the various bridges in the parish, being generally on the turnpike road, are kept in repair at the expense of the county. The woollen manufacture is carried on here upon a limited scale, affording employment to a small number of the inhabitants: there are three small factories, in each of which the wool is carded, spun, and woven into coarse cloth and blankets.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 10. 5., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, anciently called Llantrisant, from its dedication to three saints, *viz.*, St. David, St. Padarn, and St. Teilo, is an ancient structure, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a strong tower at the west end, and is situated on ground of more lofty elevation than perhaps any other church in Brecknockshire, except that of Penderin: the interior displays some vestiges of antiquity in the original roof, and the ancient rood-loft is still remaining. The parish clerk, or sexton, claims and receives mortuaries on the interment of every person, except paupers, and the residents in Trêcastle, who pay fourpence in lieu of them, which claim was recognized by a terrier signed by the vicar and principal inhabitants of the parish, in 1800, and confirmed by the ecclesiastical court: these mortuaries consist of the best hat, wig, cravat, gloves, girdle, breeches, shoes, and stockings of the deceased, if a male; and if a wife, or widow, of the best hood, cap, riband, handkerchief, gloves, and shoes and stockings, for which a composition may be made at the option of the surviving relatives of the deceased. In the hamlet of Isclydach is the endowed chapel of Rhŷd y Briw, the living of which is a perpetual curacy, in the gift of the Vicar. There are three places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, and one each for Baptists and Independents. Sunday schools are supported by the members of the established church and the several sects of dissenters. John Jeffreys, of London, in 1706, or about that time, bequeathed £5 per annum to the poor of this parish, charged upon the impropriate tithes of Merthyr Cynog, which has since become a rent-charge on a tenement called Cwmllwyvog, and a meadow called Waundŷ, in this parish, and is paid by John Lloyd Vaughan Watkins,



Esq., of Pennoyre, near Brecknock, whose ancestor purchased that property. Roger Jeffreys, of Berthdù, in this parish, in 1714, charged certain lands near Rhÿd y Briw with the annual payment of twenty shillings, to be distributed among the poor of the hamlet of Isclydach. The *Via Julia Montana*, from Caerlleon to Carmarthen, passed through this parish from east to west; but its exact course has not been clearly ascertained, although some vestiges of it were seen near Rhÿd y Briw, about half a century ago. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the entire parish is £777. 1.

**LOUGHOR (LLYCHWYR)**, a hamlet in the parish of LLANEDY, hundred of CARNWALLON, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (N.N.W.) from Swansea. The population is returned with the parish. The road from Pont ar Dulas to Llandebie passes through this hamlet, and is, for the greater part, carried along the ridge of a hill, which overlooks a valley on each side, the declivities of which are ornamented with thick plantations and enclosures. The Loughor river bounds it on the east, and separates the parish from Glamorganshire.



Seal and Arms.

derives its names from its situation on the river Llychwr, or Loughor, the latter of them signifying "the fortification on the river Llychwr," is supposed by many to have been the *Leucarum* of Antoninus. This opinion is corroborated not only by the similarity of the names, and the discovery, at various times, of numerous Roman relics, among which may be mentioned a coin of the emperor Trajan, found in the bed of the river, about two hundred yards westward from the town, within the last few years, and now in the possession of Mr. Rees Jones of this place; but also by the direction of the Roman road called the *Julia Strata*, which from the station *Nidus*, at Neath, passed westward through this town, and near a place in its vicinity still called Cädley, or "the field of battle," where, at some remote period, a conflict is supposed to have taken place, of which no particulars have been related. Loughor was anciently called *Tre Avane*, from the great number of beavers abounding in the neighbouring rivers; *Avane*, or *Afane*, being the old Welsh, or Celtic, name of the beaver. Few historical events in connexion with it are recorded: the castle is said to have been erected by Henry Beaumont, Earl of Warwick, who, in or about the year 1099, entered the country of Gower, and, having made himself master of considerable territories, built this fortress and the castles of Swansea, Penrice, and Llanrhidian. In 1150, Meredydd and Rhÿs, sons of Gruffydd ab Rhÿs, attacked and laid waste the country of Gower, made themselves masters of the

town and castle of "Aberllychwr," the former of which, according to Warrington, they levelled with the ground, after plundering the inhabitants, and the latter they completely dismantled. In the reign of Edward II. the castle was granted by that monarch to Hugh le Despencer, by whom it is supposed to have been rebuilt; but it seems never to have regained its original importance, nor the town to have entirely recovered from the desolation it had previously suffered.

The parish is situated on the western confines of the county, and is bounded on the west by the river Loughor, which separates it from the county of Carmarthen, and here discharges itself into the Bristol channel: across this river is a ferry, at a place where it is fordable for two hours before, and two hours after, low water. The present town, though of very small extent and mostly of rather mean appearance, contains a few genteel residences, of which one, called the Sanctuary, is supposed to have been anciently part of the manor of Millwood, or St. John, near Swansea, and the property of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. The river Loughor flows on the northern side of the town, and the Llyw, which falls into the former a short distance south-south-westward from the church, runs on the southern; and as the tide regularly flows and ebbs in these rivers twice in every twenty-four hours, the air is rendered salubrious, and the situation of the town is consequently deemed remarkably healthy. Some improvements are in contemplation, among which is the erection of a bridge over the Loughor, under an act of parliament recently obtained for that purpose, a measure which, from the increasing importance of Llanelly, would bring the thoroughfare between that place and Swansea through this town, and conduce materially to its prosperity, besides saving four miles in the distance between those places: the act also authorises the construction of a turnpike road from Loughor to Carmarthen; and as the Swansea Road Trust are also empowered to make a road from Swansea to Loughor, it is generally expected that this will, at no distant period, be the mail coach road to Carmarthen. The entire parish, which is divided into two parts, called respectively the parish and the borough, the former containing about two thousand acres, and the latter one thousand, and each separately maintaining its own poor, abounds with mineral wealth. Several veins of excellent coal, of considerable thickness, extend entirely through it, in a direction from east to west, and have been worked to a depth of from twenty to forty fathoms. The Adair collieries, within the limits of the parish, were recently worked under the superintendence of the Llanguennech Coal Company, and produced upon an average three thousand tons of coal per week, affording constant employment to one hundred men; but they have been discontinued. The Broad Oak colliery, within the limits of the borough, is at present in operation, producing from fifty to one hundred tons of coal per diem, and employing about one hundred workmen: it is intended to ship the coal produced at these works at a new shipping-place below the quay. Manufactures of zinc and pyroligneous acid are also carried on in the town: of the former only about one ton per week is manufactured; and the latter manufacture is likewise conducted on a very limited scale. On the western bank of the river, immediately opposite



the town, are the Spitty copper works. The river Loughor, which from the ferry to its mouth, a distance of twelve miles, is called the Burry river, and expands to a considerable breadth to the west of the town, is navigable at high tides for vessels of two hundred tons' burden; and the Penclawdd canal, which opens a communication between the coal districts of Swansea, Llangyvelach, and Loughor, joins the Burry river at Aberkiddy, in the parish of Llanrhidian, near the village of Penclawdd. During spring tides there are from eleven to fourteen feet of water in the wharfs here, productive of great advantage to those engaged in the trade of the place, which is principally carried on with Ireland, the coasts of Devon and Cornwall, France, &c. There is no market: fairs for the sale of live stock are annually held on the first Monday in June and October 10th.

The government of the town, which is a borough by prescription, is vested in a portreeve, recorder, twelve aldermen, and an unlimited number of burgesses, assisted by two sergeants at mace, a layer-keeper, an ale-taster, and four constables. The portreeve is annually chosen from among the aldermen at Michaelmas, and, having qualified at the quarter sessions for the county, may act as magistrate within the borough. The sergeants at mace, layer-keeper, ale-taster, and constables, are elected at the court leet of the lord of the manor, and sworn in before the recorder and the portreeve going out of office. Loughor was formerly one of the contributory boroughs which, with Cardiff, returned one member to parliament: the right of voting was in the aldermen and burgesses at large, in number two hundred and twelve, of whom forty-five are resident. By the late act for amending the representation of the people it has been included in the newly-formed district composed of the boroughs of Swansea, Aberavon, Ken- vig, Loughor, and Neath, which is to send a representative to parliament; and the elective franchise is vested in the resident burgesses only, if duly qualified according to the provisions of the act, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of at least ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act demands: the number of tenements of this value within the limits of the borough, which were not altered by the act, is thirty-one. The freedom of the borough is inherited by all the sons of a freeman, acquired by servitude of seven years' apprenticeship to a resident freeman, by marriage with a freeman's daughter, or by gift, in which latter instance it is conferred by a jury of twenty-four burgesses, chosen indiscriminately from the burgesses at large, of whom the portreeve for the preceding year is always the foreman. The corporation are empowered by prescriptive right, recognized by statutes of the 34th and 35th of Henry VIII., to hold a court of record, every third Monday, for the recovery of debts to any amount: but this privilege does not appear to have been exercised within the last forty years, nor is there evidence of any process to hold to bail having ever issued from this court. A court baron, which may be held monthly, is held twice in the year before the portreeve, recorder, and a jury of six burgesses, for the recovery of debts to any amount within the limits of the borough.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 10. 5., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, and situated within the limits of the borough, is not remarkable for any architectural details of importance; it occupies the summit of an eminence commanding an extensive prospect over the surrounding country. At a place called Groft y Capel there was formerly a chapel of ease, which has been for many years suffered to fall into decay. There is a place of worship for Welsh Methodists. A National school has lately been established here by subscription, aided by a grant of £60 from the parent society, in which about fifty children receive gratuitous instruction. Of the ancient castle there are some remains, consisting principally of a large square tower, supposed to have been the keep, and still in a tolerable state of preservation: it occupies the summit of an artificial mount, which is thought to have been originally thrown up by the Romans, and is surrounded by a double intrenchment. The remains of an ancient water course, also supposed to be of Roman construction, by which water for the supply of the garrison was conveyed from the small river Llyw, are plainly discernible to this day. Traces of the *Julia Strata* may still be seen upon the Carmarthenshire hills on the western side of the river Loughor, pointing directly to this place; and near the entrance to the rectory-house, and now forming a step to the style leading up to it, is a Roman milliary, which is supposed to have been originally erected on that road. In the vicinity of Cädley, and near the boundary of the parish, are two small square encampments of Roman origin, on a common called Mynydd Carn Gôch. The ancient town, which was destroyed by the sons of Gruffydd ab Rhys, is supposed to have occupied an eminence to the south-east of the castle; and the site still retains the name of the Borough: at a short distance to the west, on the marsh, stood the old church, the site of which is still called Story Mihangel. The strata in the coal districts in this parish furnish specimens of fossilized vegetable remains, among which are fern, acorns, leaves of various trees, pine and oak timber, &c., which substances have been found in that state at a depth varying from seventy to eighty feet below the surface. A celebrated performer on the violin, named Hugh, who is said to have composed many of the most popular airs in the Beggars' Opera, was a native of this place. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor of the parish amounts to £100. 14., exclusively of that for the town, which is £55. 11.

LOVESTON, a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. S. W.) from Narberth, containing 180 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the south-eastern part of the county, and intersected by the turnpike road leading from Pembroke to Carmarthen, comprises a moderate extent of arable and pasture land, the whole of which is enclosed and cultivated. The soil is fertile and productive: the substratum of the parish is stone coal of good quality, but it is not at present worked; and only a small quantity of culm is raised, sufficient for the immediate supply of the inhabitants. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry



and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 5. 5., endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Earl Cawdor. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £57. 11.

**LUDECHURCH**, a parish in the hundred of **NARBERTH**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. E.) from Narberth, containing 228 inhabitants. This parish, which is in the south-eastern part of the county, is pleasantly situated about two miles eastward from the road from Narberth to Tenby. Its surface is uneven, and the soil is of various kinds: the lands are but partially enclosed and cultivated. The substratum is limestone of very superior quality, which is worked upon an extensive scale: this stone is susceptible of a beautiful polish, and many slabs raised from these quarries have been manufactured into elegant mantelpieces, and used for other ornamental purposes: it is also burnt for manure, there being no fewer than six kilns for this purpose in constant operation, for the supply of the more northern parts of the county. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 14.  $4\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Elidyr, is a neat and well-built edifice, situated in a bleak part of the parish, on a limestone rock, which has been quarried all round, leaving the sacred fabric many feet above the level of the adjacent ground. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £39. 3.

**LYGAN Y LLAN (HELYGEN-LLAN)**, a township in the parish of **HALKIN**, Northop division of the hundred of **COLESHILL**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**, 3 miles (S. E. by S.) from Holywell. The population is included in the return for the parish. This township, which contains the parish church, derives its name from a saint called Lukan, of whom very little is known, but whose name occurs in the Welsh calendar. Lead mines abound here, in which many of the inhabitants are employed. The late Sir George Wynne is stated to have cleared £300,000 from a single mine of lead-ore, which was discovered under a small tenement in this township.

**LYGAN Y WERN (HELYGEN Y WERN)**, a township in the parish of **HALKIN**, Northop division of the hundred of **COLESHILL**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**, 2 miles (S. E. by S.) from Holywell. The population is returned with the parish. It is situated on the road between Halkin and Holywell, and abounds with lead mines, in the working of which the inhabitants are chiefly employed.

**LYTHAN'S, ST. (ST. LYTHIAN)**, a parish in the hundred of **DINAS-POWIS**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 6 miles (W. S. W.) from Cardiff, containing 103 inhabitants. It is situated on elevated ground, overlooking both sides of the Vale of Glamorgan, about a mile south of the turnpike road leading from Cardiff to Cowbridge: the common commands one of the most extensive, luxuriant, and diversified prospects in South Wales. The living is a discharged vicarage, endowed with the great tithes, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £6. 1. 3., and in the patronage of the Archdeacon of Llandaf. A school for all the poor children of this parish is supported by the Hon. Mrs. Grey, of Dyfryn House,

an ancient mansion in the vicinity, formerly belonging to the Price family, the heiress of which conveyed it by marriage to the Greys. The sum of £10 was bequeathed by Mr. Thomas Williams, for the benefit of the poor. There is a cromlech on St. Lythan's common. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £60. 11.

## M.

**MACHYNLLETH (MACHYNLLAETH)**, a market town, borough, and parish, comprising the townships of Machynlleth, otherwise **Y Dre**, **Is y Garreg**, and **Uwch y Garreg**, each of which separately maintains its own poor, in the lower division of the hundred of **MACHYNLLETH**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, containing 2381 inhabitants, of which number, 1657 are in the township of Machynlleth, or **Y Dre**, 39 miles (W. by N.) from Montgomery, and 209 (W. N. W.) from London. This place, which is of considerable antiquity, is supposed to have been the site of the *Maglona* of the Itineraries, a Roman station where, in the reign of the Emperor Honorius, the captain of the "*Numerus Solensium*" was stationed, under the *Dux Britanniarum*, to keep the mountaineers in subjection. Connected with the principal station, which occupied the highest part of the hill, was an outwork called *Cevn Caer*, or "the ridge of the city," about four miles from the present town, in the adjoining parish of Pennal, in the county of Merioneth, of which there were formerly some remains, and at which place several Roman coins have been at various times discovered. From the departure of the Romans till the time of Henry IV., few circumstances of historical importance connected with this place are recorded. In 1402, Owain Glyndwr, flushed with repeated successes, assembled the estates of the principality in this town, where he held a parliament, which solemnly acknowledged his title to the sovereignty of Wales, of which kingdom he caused himself to be formally invested with the crown. At this parliament Davydd Gam, who had married the sister of Owain Glyndwr, but was, notwithstanding, a zealous partisan and adherent of Henry IV., attended, apparently for the purpose of promoting Owain's pretensions to the crown, but with the disguised intention of assassinating that chieftain. In this attempt, however, he was happily frustrated by a timely discovery of his treachery, and, being seized and imprisoned, would have been instantly executed but for the intercession of Owain's most zealous friends and partisans. In resentment for his treachery, Owain burnt his house and laid waste his lands, and detained him in confinement at Machynlleth till the year 1412, when he was finally ransomed by his father and other vassals of the English crown. Charles I., on his route to Chester, had a bed prepared for him in a house in this town, called "the Garrison;" the bed and furniture, which have been carefully preserved, are now deposited at Esgair Llyveran, in the county of Merioneth.

The town is situated near the western extremity of the county, about a quarter of a mile from the southern bank of the river Dovey, and on the turnpike road leading to Aberystwith from the principal parts of North



Wales and also from Shrewsbury. It is romantically embosomed in mountains which encompass it on every side, and from which a beautiful view is obtained of the vale of the Dovey, abounding in highly picturesque and richly diversified scenery, with the winding course of the river, from above the parish of Cemmes to its influx into the bay of Cardigan. The streets are wide and spacious; the houses are in general neat and well built; and the whole town, which is amply supplied with water, has a regular and prepossessing appearance. A book society has been established, which is much patronized; and a news-room has been opened, which is well attended and respectably supported. The environs are pleasant, comprehending much beautiful scenery and many interesting objects. At Uwch y Garreg, a township in the parish, is Pistyll Rhaiadr, one of the finest waterfalls in the principality; though inferior to some in the beauty of the scenery immediately adjoining, it is not surpassed in romantic grandeur by any. The manufacture of flannels, principally of the coarser kind, is carried on to a considerable extent, and some webs are also made in the town and neighbourhood. In this manufacture more than forty carding-engines and seven fulling-mills are employed in the town and its vicinity. The weaving is done by the workmen at their own dwellings, and about two hundred pieces, averaging about one hundred and fifty yards each, are sent to the market at Welshpool, which is held every alternate Thursday. Lead-ore is found in the parish, and mines of that metal have been opened in the township of Is y Garreg; but they are not at present in operation: there are quarries of good slate, of which some are worked upon a moderate scale. The river Dovey is navigable to Derwenlâs, within two miles of the town, and affords a facility of conveying the produce of the quarries and mines to their destination, and of supplying the neighbourhood with various commodities. The average annual exports from this place are five hundred tons of bark, forty thousand feet of oak timber, one hundred and fifty thousand yards of oak poles for collieries, one hundred tons of lead-ore, and one thousand five hundred tons of slate. The average annual imports are, five thousand quarters of rye and wheat, one thousand tons of coal, five hundred tons of culm, two thousand tons of limestone, eleven thousand English and foreign hides, and groceries and other shop goods to the amount of £14,000 in value. The market is on Wednesday; and fairs are held annually on the first Wednesday in March, May 16th, June 26th, July 9th, August 7th, September 18th, October 10th, and November 26th, for cattle, horses, and wares: a statute fair is also held on the Wednesday before Easter. This place was one of the contributory boroughs, which, together with Llanidloes, Welshpool, and Llanvyllin, returned a member for Montgomery: the elective franchise was originally granted in the 27th of Henry VIII., and was exercised without interruption till the year 1728, when, by a vote of the House of Commons, it was disfranchised, and the right of election was restricted to Montgomery alone. But this resolution being at variance with a previous vote of that house in 1680, which confirmed the right of election, the burgesses had, by a statute of the 28th of George III., the privilege of asserting their right to vote for a member for Montgo-

mery before any future committee of the house, and of appealing against any subsequent decision within twelve calendar months. By the late act for amending the representation of the people, this town has again been declared one of the contributory boroughs within the county, which return one member to parliament: the right of election is vested in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of at least ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act demands: the number of tenements of this value within the limits of the borough, which are minutely detailed in the Appendix to this work, is between seventy and eighty. It has also been made one of the polling-places in the election of a knight for the shire. The town-hall, or market-house, a plain and commodious building, was erected in 1783, by Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., father of the present owner of Wynnstay, who is lord of the manor, and holds courts leet twice in the year. The county court is held alternately here and at Montgomery; and the petty sessions for the hundred are held here occasionally.

The parish comprises an extensive tract of mountainous country, computed at five thousand acres, the greater portion of which is unenclosed and uncultivated, affording only pasturage to numerous flocks of sheep, that feed on the declivities of the hills: the lower grounds are fertile and productive, and peat, which constitutes the principal fuel of the inhabitants, is found in various parts of the parish. The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, which were united under the provisions of an act of the 29th and 30th of Charles II.; the rectory, which was a sinecure, is rated in the king's books at £11.10.7½., and the vicarage at £6.6.0½.; it is locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a handsome structure, in style resembling that of the later English architecture, rebuilt, with the exception of the tower, in 1827, and containing eight hundred and seventy-three sittings, of which three hundred are free, in consideration of a grant of £300 from the Incorporated Society for the building and enlargement of churches and chapels: the interior is well arranged and neatly fitted up, and the ancient tower has been raised a few feet higher, and crowned with battlements and crocketed angular pinnacles. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. National schools were established here in 1829, by John Jones, Esq., a native of this town, who gave in that year £1000 three per cent. consols. for their endowment, which sum has been augmented by a prior bequest of £200 by John Owen, Esq., for teaching children, and by a legacy of £34 from Mr. Humphrey Morris, for the same purpose. Commodious buildings were erected at the same time by subscription, occupying three sides of a quadrangle, with a projection in the centre. In these schools, which are supported partly by the above endowments and partly by subscription, ninety boys and forty girls at present receive gratuitous instruction. There are Sunday schools also in connexion with the several dissenting congregations, in which about four hundred children are gratuitously taught. Isaac Pughe and Humphrey Morris gave



each two small houses to the poor; Lewis Humphrey and Humphrey Morris bequeathed each £20 for apprenticing poor children; and an unknown benefactor gave £10 for the same purpose. Thomas Pugh bequeathed £60, Rowland Owen gave £40, and Gwen Owen and John Davies £20 each, the produce of which several benefactions is annually distributed among the poor. On a hill immediately above Penyrallt House are the remains of an ancient fortification of great strength, within sight of Cevn Caer, and commanding all the passes in this part of the country. Part of the senate house, in which Owain Glyndwr assembled his parliament is still remaining: it was built with the slate stone of the country, and, from the appearance of the spacious entrance, which is still in good preservation, seems to have been an edifice of no mean extent. The old building called "the Garrison" is situated near the Wynnstay Arms, and it is supposed that there was formerly a subterraneous passage leading from this place to the fortification at Cevn Caer, in the adjoining parish of Pennal. Adjacent to the town is a field called the "Garshion," at the extremity of which is a copious spring, from which the town is supplied with water. Dôl Guog, near this town, was for some time the retreat of the celebrated Llywarch Hên, an eminent bard who flourished towards the close of the sixth, and at the commencement of the seventh, centuries: he was chieftain of a part of Cumbria, or Cumberland, but having survived twenty-four of his sons, who fell in fighting the battles of their country against the Saxons, and falling into poverty in his old age, he retired, under the protection of Cynddylan, Prince of part of Powys, to this place, where he devoted himself to the pursuits of poetry. He died at the advanced age of one hundred and five years, and was buried at Llanvawr, near Bala. Many of his compositions while in retirement at this place have been published in the *Welsh Archaeologia*, and in a separate volume by Dr. Pughe. Howel Swrddwal, a Welsh bard, was minister of this parish about the middle of the fifteenth century; as was also, for many years, Ievan Llawdden, an eminent poet of the Vale of Loughor, who flourished from 1430 to 1470. Dr. Davies, head master of the grammar school at Macclesfield, was a native of this town. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £995, of which sum, £505.10. is assessed on the township of Machynlleth.

MAENAN, a township, forming that part of the parish of EGLWYS-BÂCH which is in the hundred of LLÊCHWEDD-ISÂV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.) from Llanrwst, containing, with part of the extra-parochial district of Maenan Abbey, 352 inhabitants. It is situated on the right bank of the river Conway, and forms for the most part an ancient lordship, for which courts leet and baron are still annually held in April, by the steward of Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart.: this lordship comprises the whole township, excepting only the site of the ancient abbey of Maenan, forming the extra-parochial district above mentioned, and claims all the privileges formerly possessed by the abbots, namely, exemption from tithe, &c. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £230. 7.

MAENAN-ABBEY, or MAENAN-MYNACHDÛ, an extra-parochial liberty, partly situated locally in the

township of ARDDR, parish of LLANBEDR, and partly in that of MAENAN, parish of EGLWYS-BÂCH, hundred of LLÊCHWEDD-ISÂV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N.) from Llanrwst. The population is returned with the respective parishes. It is situated on the eastern bank of the river Conway, and derives its extra-parochial privileges from having been anciently the site of the rich abbey of Maenan, said to have been founded by Richard I., but the first authentic notice of which occurs in 1283, when Edward I., by authority of Pope Nicholas, removed the Cistercian monks of Aberconway to this place, at the same time confirming to them all the privileges they had enjoyed in their former habitation, and adding considerably to their possessions. The cause of their removal was, that Edward had selected the site of their original house on which to erect the magnificent castle of Aberconway; and probably being jealous of their communication with his new subjects, their countrymen, he soon after further removed them to the famous abbey of Vale Royal, in Cheshire. The establishment at Maenan, nevertheless, continued to flourish until the period of the dissolution, when its revenue was valued at £179.10.10. In 1563, the site of this abbey, together with the township of Maenan, was granted to Elizeus Wynne, who took down a great part of the buildings, and erected a mansion near the spot with the materials. The original edifice was equally remarkable for the pleasantness of its situation and the beauty of its architecture: a small arch is the only portion of it now standing. The inhabitants repair, for the performance of ecclesiastical rites, to the parish church of Llanddoget, in the county of Denbigh.

MAENOR-DEILO, LOWER, a hamlet in that part of the parish of LLANDILO-VAWR which is in the lower division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.E.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 352 inhabitants. It is situated on the western bank of the Towy, the margin of which river is here ornamented on each side with several gentlemen's seats. At Capel bâch there was formerly a chapel of ease, which is now in ruins. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £175. 2.

MAENOR-DEILO, UPPER, a hamlet in that part of the parish of LLANDILO-VAWR which is in the lower division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.E. by N.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 323 inhabitants. The rich and beautiful Vale of Towy is seen to much advantage from many portions of the hamlet, which is ornamented with various pleasing residences of families of independent fortune. It is separately assessed for the support of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £127. 13.

MAENOR-DEILO-VABON, a hamlet in that part of the parish of LLANDILO-VAWR which is in the lower division of the hundred of PERVETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (E.N.E.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 402 inhabitants. This place lies on the road from Llangadock to Llandilo-Vawr, which here runs along the eastern bank of the Towy. A separate assessment is made for the support of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £105. 3.



APD. Richards.  
From School.

Bayer.

Wanam







**MAENTWROG (MAEN-TWROG)**, a parish in the hundred of **ARDUDWY**, county of **MERIONETH**, **NORTH WALES**, 18 miles (N. N. W.) from **Dôlgelley**, containing 745 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from a large upright stone still remaining at one angle of the church, which is called "Maen Twrog," and was erected to the memory of Twrog, an eminent British saint, who flourished at the close of the fifth and beginning of the sixth centuries, and to whom the church is dedicated. The village is situated in the north-western part of the county, and in the most romantic portion of the fertile and highly picturesque vale of Festiniog, on the southern bank of the river Dwyrdd, which falls into Traeth Bâch in the bay of Cardigan, and on the turnpike road leading from Dôlgelley to Carnarvon. The surrounding scenery is richly diversified with verdant meadows and luxuriant groves, beautifully contrasting with the barren and precipitous mountains by which this portion of the vale is enclosed. About a mile from the village are two fine waterfalls, one called Rhaiadr Dû, or "the black fall," and the other Llŷn y Gwynryn, both formed by the small river Velen Rhydr. The latter, which consists of six different falls, each about thirty feet in extent, is beautifully picturesque, and, as seen from the base of the rocks over which the river descends, has a sublime and romantic grandeur of effect. The manufacture of flannel and the knitting of stockings are carried on here to a moderate extent, affording employment to a portion of the inhabitants. The river Dwyrdd is navigable to the village, in which it is in contemplation to establish two fairs, one to be held annually on the 13th of April, and the other in May on a day not yet fixed.

The living is a discharged rectory, consolidated with the rectory of Festiniog, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor. The church, rebuilt in 1814, on the site of the ancient structure, is a neat stone edifice with a square embattled tower. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school for children of both sexes was established at Festiniog, in 1830, in which children of both parishes receive gratuitous instruction. There are Sunday schools in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations. Mrs. Jones, in 1742, bequeathed £30; and Evan Lloyd, in 1691, bequeathed £20 and a rent-charge of £1, the interest of which sums, and the rent-charge, are annually distributed among the poor. The Roman road leading from *Uriconium* to *Segontium*; another from *Tommen y Môr*, in this parish, where the Kings of England employed in the conquest of Wales frequently encamped, to *Caer Gai*; and another to *Sarn Helen*, passed through this place. Several Roman antiquities have been found in the parish, consisting of coins, urns, and inscribed stones, of which last some are in the possession of W. Gruffydd Oakley, Esq., of Tan y Bwlch Hall, and of John Lloyd, Esq., of Pen y Glanau, who has also an extensive collection of antiquities found in different parts of the principality. Among the inscriptions in the possession of Mr. Oakley are, a bordered stone, ornamented at the extremities, and divided longitudinally into two compartments, in the upper of which are the characters >AND, and in the lower PXXXIX.; another stone, fourteen inches in length and nine inches broad, with the inscription >IVLIMANS;

and a third, fifteen inches long and seven inches broad, bearing the inscription IMAV.XXXIX. The Rev. Edmund Prys, Archdeacon of Merioneth, one of the most eminent poets of his time, was rector of this parish for many years. He translated the metrical version of the Psalms of David used in the Welsh churches, one of which he is said to have versified every time he had service in this church, in which the whole were sung previously to their being published; and he also assisted Bishop Morgan in his translation of the Welsh Bible. He was born at Gerdi Bluog, in the parish of Llandecwyn, in 1544, and was interred under the communion table of this church. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £203.

**MAESCAR**, a hamlet in the parish and hundred of **DEVYNOK**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **NORTH WALES**, 7 miles (W. by S.) from Brecknock, containing 712 inhabitants. It forms the north-eastern portion of the parish, and is bounded on the north by the river Usk, into which the Camlais brook here flows, and over which there is a bridge. The inhabitants of a portion of the hamlet resort to the parish church, while those of the upper part of Cwm Camlais frequent the chapel of Llanilltyd. A free school is endowed with £13. 6. 8.; and there are five almshouses, having an endowment of £40 per annum. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £335. 4.

**MAESGWARTHA (MAES GWARTHAV)**, a hamlet in the parish of **LLANELLY**, hundred of **CRICKHOWEL**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5½ miles (W. by N.) from Abergavenny. The population is included in the return for the parish. This hamlet comprises the upper portion of the parish, and contains several limestone quarries and limekilns, the produce being sent to various surrounding districts, by means of the Brecknock canal, which passes through it. A separate assessment is made for the support of the poor, the average annual expenditure being £175. 7.

**MAESGWYN (MAES-GWYN)**, a township in the parish of **NANTMEL**, hundred of **RHAIADR**, county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**, 2 miles (E.) from Rhaiadr, containing 340 inhabitants. It forms the south-eastern portion of the parish, and was formerly called *Uwch Coed*. At the base of the barren eminence termed *Rhiw graidd*, on the north-western side, is a fine sheet of water, about a mile in circumference, called *Llŷn Gwyn*. Near this, and close to the left bank of the *Dulais* river, is *Llwynbaried House*, now the property of — Evans, Esq.

**MAESMAENCYMRO (MAES-MAEN-CYMRO)**, a joint township with *Brŷn-Caredig*, in that part of the parish of **LLANYNYS** which is in the hundred of **RUTHIN**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 3 miles (N. W.) from Ruthin. The population is included in the return for the parish.

**MAESMAWR (MAESMOR)**, a joint township with *Ceulan*, in the parish of **LLANVIHANGEL GENEU'R GLYN**, upper division of the hundred of *GENEU'R GLYN*, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 8 miles (N. E.) from Aberystwith. The population is included in the return for *Ceulan*, with which it is also assessed for the maintenance of the poor: it consists of a mountainous district near the head of the river *Maesmor*.

**MAESMYNIS (MAES-MYNYS)**, a parish in the hundred of **BUILTH**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**,



2 miles (S. W.) from Builth, containing 265 inhabitants. This parish is situated in the northern part of the county, between the rivers Irvon and Dihonw, by the latter of which it is separated from the parish of Llanddewi'r Cwm: it is separated from the parish of Llanynis by a rivulet called the Cniddon, which flows into the Irvon, and is intersected by the turnpike roads from Builth to Brecknock and Llandovery, which unite within a mile of the church. The surface is extremely uneven, rising into hills of considerable elevation, alternated with deep and narrow valleys, of which one called Cwmbwch, from the river Bwch, by which it is intersected, and another of greater extent, through which the river Dihonw takes its course, are finely ornamented with flourishing plantations, and in other parts almost covered with underwood. Near the rivulet Cniddon is an extensive wood, called Gilvâch Dedwydd, on the southern side of which the parish church forms an interesting feature in the highly picturesque scenery which distinguishes this part of the parish. The manufacture of wool is carried on in the lower part of the parish towards Builth, but the number of persons employed in it is very small. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 1. 3., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. David, and situated on an eminence, is an ancient structure, with the remains only of a tower, which appears to have been in ruins for ages: within the walls, which are not more than seven or eight feet above the ground, an old ash tree had obtained a considerable growth, from the roots of which three young trees are now growing. The interior of the church consists of a nave and chancel, which have recently been ceiled: the ancient roof of the chancel was of oak panelled in compartments, each of which was ornamented with the device of two lions seiant, and beneath them the legend "*Nor is this,*" in old characters; but these panels have been removed, and are now in the possession of the Rev. Charles Price, curate of the parish: near the entrance is an ancient font rudely sculptured. Situated about two hundred yards from the churchyard is the rectory-house, a commodious edifice, built by the late rector, the Rev. Thomas Bowen, on the site of a former house built in 1694. There is a place of worship for Independents. A tenement called Tŷr Twppa, in the adjoining parish of Llanynis, is charged with the annual payment of twenty shillings to the poor of this parish; and the rental of a tenement in the same parish, called Pen-y-rhiw, and now producing £13 per annum, is divided in equal portions among the poor of both parishes. The shaft of an ancient stone cross, beautifully sculptured, has been inserted in the wall of a farm-house, called Neuadd Siarmon: it is said to have been removed from Porth y Crwys, in the parish of Llanynis. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £109. 9.

**MAESTREGOMER (MAES - TRE - GOMER)**, a township in the parish of TRÊVEGLWYS, upper division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish.

**MAES - TROYDDYN**, a hamlet in the parish of CAYO, higher division of the hundred of CAYO, county

of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (W. N. W.) from Llandovery. The population is included in the return for the parish. It is situated on the right bank of the Twrch, near its junction with the river Cothy: there are some well-wooded eminences within its limits.

**MAES Y FYNNON (MAES Y FFYNNON)**, a hamlet in the parish of LLANTHOYSAINT, lower division of the hundred of PERVETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. E.) from Llandovery. The population is included in the return for the parish. It is situated at the foot of the Black Mountains, and contains some well-wooded dingles. There are several *carneddau* on the eminences in this district, more especially at Tŷ Uchâv, where there are two circular ones, and contiguous is a large upright stone. This hamlet is assessed for the support of its poor in conjunction with that of Blaen-Sawdde: the average annual expenditure is £98. 15.

**MAES Y GROES**, a township in the parish of KILKEN, Northop division of the hundred of COLESHILL, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, containing 236 inhabitants.

**MALLAEN**, a hamlet partly in the parish of CAYO, and partly in that of KILYCWM, higher division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. W. by N.) from LLANDOVERY. The population is included in the return for the respective parishes. It forms a part of the lofty and barren mountain called Mynydd Mallaen, on the border of Cardiganshire, on the southern ridge of which are two circular *carneddau*.

**MALLWYD (MAEN-LLWYD)**, a parish partly in the hundred of MACHYNLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, but principally in the hundred of TALYBONT and MOWDDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. E.) from Machynlleth, containing 1137 inhabitants. The name, implying the dark stone, is supposed to have been derived from an ancient monument formerly existing here, the history of which is unknown, and there are now no vestiges of it. The parish, which is very extensive, is pleasantly situated on the river Dovey, and comprises a very considerable portion of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation, together with a large extent of unenclosed and uncultivated country, in which peat, which forms the principal fuel of the inhabitants, is obtained. The village is delightfully situated in a small but fertile valley, watered by the Dovey, and abounding with finely diversified and highly picturesque scenery, formed by the various indentations of the three lofty mountains of Aran, Camlan, and Moeldyvi, which surround it like an amphitheatre. The views in every direction are interesting, and embrace many objects of varied beauty and features of romantic character, among which are some pleasing waterfalls in various parts of the parish, which, especially after floods, are seen to great advantage: of these, the principal are at Pennantigi, in the township of Cerist; at Maes Glasau, in the township of that name; at Pont Vallwyd in that of Camlan, and another near Dinasmowddwy. That at Pont Vallwyd is close to the village, and is formed by the river Dovey rushing through a narrow and rocky channel against a high slate rock in the centre of its bed, whence its waters are



precipitated into a pool beneath : on one side of it the Camlan mountain rises in rude majesty, opposite to which issues a stream which is crossed above by a lofty ivy-mantled bridge of one arch, the sides of the glen being covered with underwood, and the waters of the Dovey at the same time reflecting in a variety of shades the conical head of the Aran and its dependent elevations to the north : between the opening in the mountains a distant view of the vale of the Dovey is also obtained, which adds considerably to the picturesque beauty of the scene by its light and contrasted hues. The manufacture of flannel is carried on upon a moderate scale, affording employment to a portion of the inhabitants, of whom also a few are employed in the slate quarries within the parish. The turnpike road from Welshpool to Machynlleth and Dôlgeley passes through the village. The living is a rectory, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £10.15.5., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church is dedicated to St. Tydecho, who lived at the close of the fifth and beginning of the sixth centuries, and of whom tradition has recorded many marvellous exploits : it is situated on a spot where two counties meet ; the eastern end is in the county of Merioneth, and the western in that of Montgomery : the building is in the early style of English architecture, and is remarkable for the situation of the altar, which is in the centre, opposite to the reading-desk, to which situation it was removed from the east end by Dr. Davies, at that time incumbent, in defiance of the injunction of Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury. In the churchyard are three remarkably fine yew trees, one of which measures twenty-eight feet three inches in girth, and from one stem throws out a great number of scions, which spread around it an extensive shade, and together present an appearance of sombre magnificence. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Sunday schools are supported by subscription, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations. Dr. John Davies, in 1643, bequeathed a portion of land ; Edward Wynne and Griffith Lewis gave each £20 ; Robert Vaughan and an unknown benefactor, £10 each ; and William and John Parry, £5 each, the produce of all which, together with some smaller charitable donations and bequests, is annually distributed among the poor of the parish. At Cae Gwyn is a well, the water of which is in high estimation for its efficacy in the cure of diseases of the eye. Dr. Davies, author of a Welsh grammar and dictionary, was for many years rector of this parish, to which he was a great benefactor : he built the rectory-house and three bridges in the parish, at his own expense, and devoted much of his time to literary pursuits ; he translated into Welsh the thirty-nine articles of the Church of England, and assisted Bishop Parry in his translation of the bible into Welsh, published in one volume folio, in 1620 ; he died and was interred here, in 1644. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £584.

MANAVON, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of NEWTOWN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. S. W.) from Welshpool, contain-

ing 775 inhabitants. This parish is situated in a mountainous district nearly in the centre of the county, and is intersected by the river Rhiw, and also by the road leading from Llanvair to Newtown and Montgomery : it comprises an extensive tract of land, of which a considerable portion is uncultivated, and of the remainder, one-half consists of old enclosures, and the other has been enclosed and brought into a state of cultivation under the provisions of an act of parliament obtained in 1796. The surrounding scenery is strikingly diversified ; and from the higher grounds are obtained extensive and pleasingly varied prospects. The manufacture of flannel is carried on to a limited extent. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £8.18.4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service : in the churchyard are two fine yew trees of luxuriant growth. In the township of Dôlgynvellyn was formerly a chapel of ease, which has been in ruins for many years. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. A parochial school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported by subscription. George Baxter, in 1658 ; John Thomas, at a period unknown ; Evan Thomas, in 1689 ; and Judith James, in 1718, gave each a certain portion of land to the poor : Rowland Evans, in 1735, bequeathed a portion of land for teaching poor children ; and William Foulkes, in 1781, bequeathed £30 in money, the interest of which was to be divided among twelve decayed housekeepers. The Rev. Walter Davies, distinguished as a philologist and antiquary, has been for many years rector of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £392. 3.

MANCOTT, a township in the parish of HAWARDEN, hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile (N.) from Hawarden, containing 344 inhabitants.

MANERDIVY (MAENOR-DEIVI), a parish in the hundred of KILGERAN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (W.N.W.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, containing 850 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the river Teivy, at the north-eastern extremity of the county, bordering upon Cardiganshire, and is intersected by the turnpike road leading from Newcastle-Emlyn to Cardigan. It comprises a considerable tract of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation : the surface is finely undulated, and the surrounding scenery, which is enriched with thriving plantations, and enlivened by the course of the river, is generally pleasing and in many parts picturesque. The vicinity is ornamented with several gentlemen's seats ; and the adjoining country, which is richly wooded, affords some fine views of the vales of Teivy and Cych, abounding with features of romantic beauty. Pentre, formerly the seat of the ancient family of Saunders, and now, by marriage of the heiress of that family with the father of the present proprietor, the property of D. Saunders Davies, Esq., is a handsome and substantial modern edifice, erected on the site of the old mansion, and embosomed in flourishing plantations : the grounds, notwithstanding that they retain to a considerable degree the ancient style, are



finely laid out, and, from their elevated situation command some interesting and extensive views, embracing part of the beautiful Vale of Teivy, the town of Cardigan, and the Irish sea in the distance. Fynonau, anciently the property of the Morgans of Blaenbylan, who sold it to Captain Stephen Colby, R. N., uncle of the present proprietor, John Colby, Esq., is an elegant modern mansion, erected from a design by Mr. Nash, and beautifully situated in groves and plantations: the grounds comprehend some rural and romantic scenery, and command some beautiful and extensive prospects. Clynview, the seat of T. Lewis, Esq., is also a handsome residence pleasantly situated, and embellished with scenery of interesting character. Some tin-works were formerly established here, from which a canal communicated with the Teivy below Llêchrhŷd bridge, to which place that river is navigable for small craft. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. David, is a small neat edifice, situated near the river, but not remarkable for any architectural features. There was formerly a chapel of ease at Cilvawr, in this parish; but it has been in ruins for many years. The tithes of this part of the parish belong to W. O. Brigstocke, Esq., of Blaenpant. Dr. Erasmus Saunders, rector of Morton in the Marsh, author of "Short Illustrations of the Bible," and an excellent tract on the duties of families, was born at Pentre, in this parish. The average annual expenditure for the relief of the poor is £231. 16.

MANEROWEN, otherwise MANERAWEN (MAENOR-OWAIN), a parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (W. S. W.) from Fishguard, containing 220 inhabitants. This parish, which is but of very limited extent, is situated in the northern part of the county, and is intersected by the road leading from Fishguard to St. David's, and watered by a small rivulet which runs into Fishguard bay. The lands, with the exception of a small common, are in a good state of cultivation; and the soil, which is peculiarly favourable to the growth of barley, is in general fertile and productive. The surface is varied; and the surrounding scenery, though not distinguished by any striking features, is of a pleasing character. The ancient seat and residence of John Lewis, Esq., a magistrate of the county in the reign of James II., and equally distinguished for his learning and impartial administration of the law, is now deserted and in ruins: the estate is the property of his descendant, Richard Bowen, Esq., who has erected a handsome mansion a little higher up the hill, which forms an interesting object in the scenery of the place. Slate of very good quality has been found in the parish, but the working of it has been discontinued: a small carding-mill, which is still in operation, affords employment to a few of the inhabitants. The living is a vicarage not in charge, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Minor Chapter of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is not remarkable for any architectural details of importance. The above-mentioned John Lewis, Esq., was the intimate friend of Bishop Gibson, whom he ma-

terially assisted in editing "Camden's Britannia," more especially in those parts of it which related to the principality, of which he was a native, and in the history and antiquities of which he was profoundly skilled. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £89. 8.

MANLLEDD (MANLEOEDD), a township in the parish of LLANIDLOES, upper division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish.

MANOR, a joint township with Rake, in the parish of HAWARDEN, hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (E.) from Hawarden, containing, with Rake, 83 inhabitants.

MANORBEER (MAENOR-BÛR), a parish in the hundred of CASTLEMARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. S. W.) from Tenby, containing 582 inhabitants. The name of this place is of very doubtful etymology: Giraldus Cambrensis, who was born here, calls it, in his Itinerary, *Maenor Pyrr*, which he interprets "the mansion of Pyrrus," who, he says, also possessed the island of Caldey. According to Sir Richard Colt Hoare, the name literally signifies "the manor of the lords," and appears to be derived from its occupation by the lords of Dyved, who were also proprietors of the neighbouring island of Caldey. By whom the castle was originally built has not been ascertained with any degree of accuracy: it probably owed its foundation to William de Barri, one of the Norman lords that accompanied Arnulph de Montgomery into Britain, and who married the granddaughter of Rhŷs ab Tewdwr, Prince of South Wales. The castle and manor remained in the possession of that family till the 1st of Henry IV., when they were granted to John de Windsor, but afterwards reverting to the crown, they were, in consideration of a large sum of money, granted by letters patent to Thomas ab Owain of Trellyn, from whose family they passed by marriage into that of Philipps, the present proprietor. Giraldus, in his notices of this place, quaintly says, "Demetia is the most beautiful, as well as the most powerful, district in Wales; Pembroke, that is the present hundred of Castlemartin, the finest province in Demetia, and the place I have described (Maenorbeer) the most delightful part of Pembroke." The parish is situated on the small bay to which it gives name, in the Bristol channel, and within two miles to the south of the turnpike road leading from Tenby to Pembroke: it contains a moderate portion of good arable and pasture land in good cultivation, and a small tract of hilly and barren waste; and, with the exception of such as are employed in the limestone quarries, which are worked only to a small extent, the population is wholly engaged in agriculture. The stone obtained from these quarries is shipped in small vessels, and sent into Cardiganshire: at Lydstep haven vessels of one hundred and thirty tons' burden can ride in security. Some indications of coal have been observed on the estate of John Adams, Esq.; but the attempts to work it have not been attended with success. The sands on this part of the coast are fine, especially at Lydstep haven, where they are well adapted for sea-bathing; and the beauty of its situation, and its convenient distance from Tenby, render this



a favourite excursion from that watering-place. Within the limits of the parish are two small villages, called Jamestown and Manorbeer Newton. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £1400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Master and Fellows of Christ's College, Cambridge, who are proprietors of the great tithes, which are now let on lease to John Adams, Esq., of Lydstep House. The church, dedicated to St. James, is an ancient and spacious structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a lofty square embattled tower, and is in a rather dilapidated condition. Close to it, on the south side, is a large ancient edifice, which was in all probability connected with it, but its history is unknown: it may probably have been a chantry or grange, or even some distinct religious house. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Primitive Methodists. Manorbeer castle, distinguished as the birthplace and for some time the residence of the celebrated Giraldus de Barri, better known as Giraldus Cambrensis, is still an object of interest and attraction. The remains occupy an elevated site above the small bay of Manorbeer, of which the castle had full command: they consist principally of portions of the state apartments, the windows of which faced a spacious court, the whole being enclosed with lofty embattled walls, of which the platforms are in some places still entire; the grand entrance, through a gateway flanked with two bastions, of which that on the north side has fallen down; two portcullises, and the moat, which may be distinctly traced. On Old-castle Point, to the east of Manorbeer bay, are the remains of an ancient encampment of small dimensions, probably of Danish origin. Silvester Giraldus de Barri, commonly called Giraldus Cambrensis, was born about the year 1146, and was educated under his uncle, then bishop of St. David's, who sent him to France for the completion of his studies. On his return to England he embraced holy orders, and rose rapidly to distinction in the church: he held successively the offices of legate in Wales to the archbishop of Canterbury, and Archdeacon of St. David's, of which see he was afterwards elected Bishop; but the king, fearing to raise to that dignity a man of such talent and influence in the principality, and one so nearly allied to the native princes, his mother having been granddaughter of Rhys ab Tewdwr, Prince of South Wales, refused to confirm his election. He attended Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, on his mission to preach the crusades throughout Wales, and, during the absence of Richard I. in the Holy Land, was one of the members of the regency. Being again denied the bishoprick of St. David's, to which he had been a second time elected, and in the hope of which he had successively refused divers other sees, and the archbishoprick of Cashel, in Ireland, he retired from public office to the principality, where he spent the last seventeen years of his life, which he devoted entirely to literary pursuits: he died at St. David's, at the age of seventy-four, and was interred in the cathedral church of that place, where his monument still remains. His writings are numerous, and many of them are still extant; his Itinerary, by which he is best known, has been lately reprinted in quarto by

Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart., with an elegant English version, accompanied with notes and a catalogue of his writings, with a reference to the several works in which they are preserved. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £271. 19.

MARHALED, a township forming that part of the parish of LLANGERNIEW which is in the hundred of ISDULAS, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 12 miles (W.) from Denbigh. The population is included in the return for the parish. It is situated on the left bank of the river Elwy, in a very mountainous district. Hâvodunnos, an old mansion in the Elizabethan style, is said to have been anciently a religious establishment; and Pennant is another good antique family structure, still remaining here.

MARCHWIEL (MARCHWIAIL), a parish in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. E.) from Wrexham, containing 499 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the eastern part of the county, and is intersected by the road from Wrexham, which here branches off to Whitchurch and Ellesmere, is only of moderate extent: the lands are generally enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. Marchwiel Hall, for many years the property and residence of the younger branch of the family of Broughton of Broughton, and now a farmhouse, has some fine traces of the Elizabethan style of architecture, and many of the ancient carvings are remaining: it forms an interesting feature in the scenery of the immediate neighbourhood. The living is a rectory, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £12. 16. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Marcellus, was rebuilt in 1789, and enlarged and repaired in 1829: the expense of its enlargement was defrayed with the accumulated rent of a messuage called Tyddyn Daniel, which was purchased in 1626 from the crown, for the exclusive purpose of appropriating its rental to repairing the church. The present structure is a neat building, in the Grecian style of architecture. A National school, in which fifty-three children are gratuitously instructed, and which is open to all children of the parish, was erected in 1826, and is maintained solely at the expense of the present rector. James Edwards, in 1628, gave in trust to the churchwardens and their successors three pieces of land, comprising together twelve acres and two roods, the rental of which he directed to be annually distributed among the industrious poor not receiving parochial relief. Lady Jeffreys, in 1730, bequeathed £20, and an unknown benefactor £25, the interest of which sums is annually distributed among the poor not receiving parochial relief; the interest also of a sum of money contributed by the parishioners, at different times, is applied in aid of the poor's rate. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £251. 16.

MARCROSS (MARK-CROSS, or MARY-CROSS), a parish in the hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (S. W. by W.) from Cowbridge, containing 93 inhabitants. The name is said to be a corruption of Mâr croes, "the cross on the sea-shore," the parish being situated on the coast of the Bristol channel. Marcross was formerly a place of considerable impor-



tance, having been distinguished by a castle, now demolished, and a monastery, said to have been subordinate to that of Lantwit-Major, and probably destroyed about the same time in the ravages of the Danes and Saxons on this coast. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £9. 10. 10., and in the patronage of the Archdeacon and Chapter of Llandaf. The church is dedicated to the Holy Trinity. Near the village are the remains of a cromlech, which tradition reports to have been an old church; it is not improbable that it was devoted to some religious purpose by the Druids. Here is a mineral spring, the water of which is stated to have been successfully applied, in a great variety of instances, to the cure of the king's evil. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £35. 14.

MARGAM, a parish in the hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, bounded on the south by the Bristol channel, and situated on the line of the great western road through the county, 9 miles (S. S. E.) from Neath, containing 2902 inhabitants. The early history of this place is involved in great obscurity: it was, at a very remote period, erected into a bishoprick, which continued for five successions, and then merged in that of Llandaf. Some writers ascribe this to Morgan, or Morcant, son of the renowned King Arthur, who is said to have occasionally resided here; but the circumstance is doubtful. Its original name was *Pen-ddr*, "The Oak Summit," so called from a noble wood of oak that covers the breast of a mountain, upwards of eight hundred feet in height, forming a striking feature in the landscape, and deservedly admired for its boldness and grandeur, as well as for the beauty and variety of its outline. The present appellation is comparatively modern, being considered a corruption of Morgan, who was the son of Caradoc ab Iestyn, and a great benefactor to the celebrated abbey of Margam, if not its founder. Mr. Humphrey Llwyd, who is followed by several respectable Welsh antiquaries, is of the latter opinion, and states that he had seen "Morgan ap Caradoc's original charter, with nine witnesses, all very antique British names." Dugdale, and the *Annales de Margan*, printed in the second volume of Gale's *Scriptores*, both date the foundation in 1147, and attribute it to Robert Earl of Gloucester, who, according to the latter, died in this year, and was buried in the monastery. Bishop Tanner, in comparing these authorities with Speed and some manuscript accounts, which differ a little in their dates, inserts a query whether "Robert might not begin this house only, a little before his death, and William his son and successor finish it some time after?" the latter is by Camden considered to have been its founder. Notwithstanding the uncertainty of its origin, there can be little doubt that it was endowed by Caradoc ab Iestyn, lord of the adjacent lordship of Avon, with extensive grants of lands, which were confirmed by a deed under the hands of Morgan and his two brothers, Cadwallon and Meriedoc, whose descendants, for several generations, were munificent benefactors to the establishment. This appears from the charter of Thomas de Avene, dated February 10th, 1349 (as found by Dugdale, translated into English in the collection of Mr. Hugh Thomas, without mentioning

where the latter obtained it), wherein he states, "after due consideration, I confirm unto the said monks all donations, grants, confirmations, and sales whatsoever, which they enjoy by the bounty of any of my predecessors, viz., whatsoever they may have by the gift of Morgan ab Caradoc; of Leison and Owen, the sons of the said Morgan; and all they have by gift of Morgan Cam and his heirs, of Morgan Vaghan and Sir Leison, the sons of the said Morgan Cam; likewise whatsoever they have by the gift of Sir Thomas de Avene, my father." A large collection of original charters belonging to this abbey is preserved with the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum, the earliest of which is a confirmatory bull of Pope Urban III., dated in 1186. It was a Cistercian abbey, dedicated to St. Mary, and is mentioned by earlier antiquaries as the first house of that kind in these parts: according to Leland it had the privilege of sanctuary. When King John exacted a levy from the Cistercian monasteries, the abbey of Margam was exempted, on account of the hospitality he had received here, on his way to Ireland. At the dissolution, its revenue was estimated at £188. 14. The site and possessions, together with the royalty of Avon water, were purchased by Sir Rice Mansel, Knt., who, about the year 1552, built a mansion partly on the site of the abbey, which continued to be the principal seat of the family until the extinction of the male line in 1750. This edifice, which subsequently underwent considerable alterations and repairs, was built of the stone of the country, with Sutton stone quoins and dressings taken from the ruins of the abbey: it presented a long front without any magnificence in the structure, and was taken down about the year 1782. The chapter-house, which is a portion of the ancient conventual buildings, is an elegant and highly admired edifice, in the form of a regular duodecagon without, but within, an exact circle, forty-nine feet in diameter: its roof was vaulted, and supported in the centre by a single clustered column branching off into twenty-four ribs; but this beautiful roof fell in the year 1799, in consequence of the outer walls having become defective, and not, as has been asserted by tourists, from the filtration of water through the joints of the stones; and the side walls, with the spring of the arches only, are now left standing. A noble mansion, in the style of English architecture which prevailed in the reign of Henry VIII., is now in progress of erection, on a scale suited to the rank and fortune of the representative of this ancient family. In the midst of the pleasure grounds is a splendid orangery, an unusual appendage to a gentleman's residence, but there is no record in existence shewing the period of its establishment. According to tradition, this celebrated collection of exotics was intended as a present from a Dutch merchant to Queen Mary, consort of William III.; but the vessel conveying it having been stranded on the coast here, the choice cargo was claimed as the property of the lord, and a house, one hundred and fifty feet in length, was built for the reception of the plants. The late Mr. Talbot, in the year 1787, built a new greenhouse, three hundred and twenty-seven feet in length, with a handsome Palladian front, and a room at each end, and, in 1800, a conservatory, one hundred and fifty feet long, with flues in the ground. There are



about one hundred and ten trees in the green-house, all standards planted in square boxes, and many of them eighteen feet high: those in the conservatory, forty in number, are traced against a trellis framing, where the fruit, which is usually abundant, attains its native size and flavour. The evergreens cultivated in the grounds surrounding the orangery are healthy and luxuriant: among these a bay tree, supposed to be the largest in the world, sprouting from the ground in several branches, is the most remarkable, being upwards of sixty feet in height, and forty-five in diameter: the arbutus, Portugal laurel, and holly, flourish in an extraordinary manner, and present a rich and luxuriant appearance.

The village of Margam occupies a pleasing and retired situation, enveloped in trees, a short distance from the turnpike road, at the lower verge of that noble forest of oak to which, in ancient times, it was indebted for its appellation. A building in the form of a semilunar battery, upon the summit of the mountain, commands a view of the woody concave singularly beautiful and striking; and from the same point is also obtained a magnificent prospect of the sea and the bay of Swansea, with the distant hills of the counties of Somerset and Devon. Owing to the abundance of coal, several extensive works have been established in the parish: the first were the copper-works of the English Copper Company, the oldest association of that kind in the kingdom, who, in the year 1800, erected here the first steam-engine used in the manufacture of copper in the principality: these works usually afford employment to about nine hundred persons, and the quantity of copper annually exported amounts to from twelve to fourteen hundred tons. Extensive iron-works have been erected, at a great expense, on the property of C. R. M. Talbot, Esq., by John Reynolds, Esq., which commenced operations in the early part of 1831, but are at present discontinued: they consist of two blast furnaces, capable of yielding one hundred and fifty tons of metal per week, to which the blast is communicated by the force of a water wheel, forty-five feet in diameter, with ten feet breast, and of ninety horse power, said to be the largest in Wales. The water is brought to this wheel from the Avon by means of a magnificent stone aqueduct, primarily designed as a viaduct for a railway to convey coal to the works: it is four hundred and fifty-six feet in length, and eighty feet high, and comprises four elliptical arches, each of seventy feet span, composed of a strong grey stone raised on the spot, the whole having been erected at an expense of upwards of £7000. This noble structure, from its romantic situation across a narrow precipitous valley among the mountains, forms one of the most striking and interesting features of the county, and well deserves the attention of the tourist. The tin-works of Robert Smith and Co. are situated upon the Avon, not far from the small town of Aberavon, and employ some hundred persons. Tram-roads have been formed from each of these works, as well as from coal-pits on the banks of the river, to Tai-bâch, where the goods are shipped. A customary market is held at this place every Saturday, for the convenience of the workmen. A part of the hamlet of Hâvod y porth, on the north-western confines of this parish, is now included within the new boundaries of the contributory

borough of Aberavon; and the hamlet of Kenwig Higher, and part of that of Trissient, are comprised within the contributory borough of Kenwig.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £1600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of C. R. M. Talbot, Esq. The church, which is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, stands on the site of the nave of the conventual edifice: having become much dilapidated, it was restored by the munificence of the late Mr. Talbot, about the year 1810: its western front is considered a fine specimen of the Norman style. In restoring the north aisle to its original width, several ancient and interesting monuments were discovered; one without date, bearing a Latin inscription to the memory of an abbot, also the mutilated effigy of a crusader, in chain armour, which was placed within the entrance to the chapter-house. In the side aisle are monuments to several members of the family of Mansel, upon which are recumbent figures, the men in armour, and the ladies in the dress of their own times, with their children, in a kneeling posture, about the sides of the tombs, having the names and marriages inscribed over their heads. On a plate in one of the pillars is an inscription in lively Latin rhyme, to the memory of a favourite huntsman, by Dr. Friend, the eminent classical physician, which has been translated into English verse by the Rev. Bruce Knight, A.M., chancellor of the diocese, and incumbent of this parish. At Tai-bâch, at the western extremity of the parish, a chapel of ease was erected in 1827, to accommodate the increasing population: the principal contributors were, C. R. M. Talbot, Esq., the English Copper Company, John Reynolds, Esq., and Robert Smith and Co., assisted by a grant of £400 from the Incorporated Society for building and enlarging churches and chapels. A gallery has since been erected in this chapel, at an expense of £100: the whole contains between six and seven hundred sittings, of which upwards of five hundred are free. There is a spacious school-room at Tai-bâch, built at an expense of £400, by the English Copper Company, who allow one pound per week to a school-master and his wife for instructing an unlimited number of children, of both sexes. In the wood above the village of Margam stand the roofless walls of an old church or chapel; and upon the top of the mountain is a Roman monument, inscribed "BODVOC JACIT HIC FLVS CATOTI SIRNI PRONEPVS ETENAL VE DOMAV;" and there is another near Eglwys Nunyd (or the Nuns' church, formerly a convent of nuns, now a farm-house, on the road from Margam to Kenwig), with the inscription, also in Roman capitals, "PVMPEIVS CARANTORIVS." Near the chapter-house are two ancient British crosses, standing upright, supposed to be of the fifth and sixth centuries; and there are also vestiges of an ancient intrenchment upon the hill called Pen y Castel. The poor, including those of the hamlet of Kenwig Higher, are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £864.

MARLAIS (MARLOES), a parish in the hundred of Rhôs, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (W. S. W.) from Haverfordwest, containing 427 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the southern shore of Muggleswick bay, a lesser portion of St. Bride's bay, the western extremity forming a small



promontory, and is partly bounded on the east by a small pill, or creek, of Milford Haven. It comprises a considerable tract of arable and pasture land, which, with the exception of a comparatively small portion, is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The village is principally inhabited by fishermen, who obtain a livelihood in the lobster and crab fisheries, which are carried on here to a considerable extent, and by the sale of leeches, which are found in great numbers in a sheet of water covering from sixty to seventy acres, called Marlais Mere, and which, during the summer months, when it is dry, affords excellent pasturage for cattle. More than one-half of the parish is encompassed by the sea, and the shore is in general bold and bordered with cliffs: the depth of water, within a short distance, varies from four to fourteen fathoms. There are a few small islands, the principal of which are called Midland and Gateholm isles, situated close to the coast, but the larger one of Skomer is attached to St. Martin's parish in Pembroke. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a small edifice, not possessing any architectural details of importance. A former structure, which was dedicated to St. Mary, and situated near the beach, was destroyed by an encroachment of the sea, which also laid waste the glebe land originally belonging to the living. Margaret Allen, by deed in 1772, gave £100, vested in the trustees of the turnpike roads in the county of Carmarthen, and producing £5 per annum, to a schoolmaster for teaching twelve poor boys of this parish, to which purpose also an unknown benefactor from Picton Castle gave £5 per annum. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £136.

MARROS, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (W. by S.) from Laugharne, containing 202 inhabitants. This parish is situated at the southwestern extremity of the county, bordering on the county of Pembroke, and bounded on the south by the shore of Carmarthen bay. The surface is wild and broken; and considerable portions of the land are barren and uncultivated. Marros mountain comprises a large tract of stony sterile ground, and the whole district presents a rugged and dreary aspect. Iron-stone and coal are thought to abound here, but no works have yet been established for procuring these minerals, for the transport of which the situation of the place on the shore of Carmarthen bay affords every facility. The coast is composed of a fine sandy beach, a few miles in length, and well adapted for sea-bathing from the shallowness of the water for a considerable distance from the shore. There are several neat and respectable residences scattered over the lower part of the parish. The living is a vicarage, consolidated with Kiffig, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £8 per annum private benefaction, by the Vicar of Laugharne, and £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Laugharne. It was formerly only a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Laugharne, but, in consequence of its endowment and consolidation with Kiffig, it was erected into a vicarage.

The church, dedicated to St. Laurence, is not distinguished by any architectural details. Sir John Carew, Bart., made a bequest to the poor, but the amount cannot be ascertained, neither is it known whether it consisted of money or land. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £28.

MARTIN'S (ST.), a hamlet in that part of the parish of ST. MARTIN, HAVERFORDWEST, which is in the hundred of RHÔs, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile (N. W.) from Haverfordwest. The population is included in the return for the parish. It is bounded on the east by the West Cleddy river, on the north by a stream which flows into that river, and on the south by an extra-parochial common called the Poor-field.

MARTLETWY, a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. E.) from Haverfordwest, containing 725 inhabitants. This place is situated on the Eastern Cleddy, at its junction with the Western Cleddy, and at the commencement of the noble harbour of Milford, which is formed by the union of those rivers. The parish comprises a moderate portion of good arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and cultivated, and a considerable tract abounding with coal and culm, which is worked to a great extent upon the estate of Sir John Owen, Bart. The produce of the collieries is shipped for the supply of distant parts, from a place called Land-shipping, on Milford Haven, where an excellent quay has been constructed for that purpose. In this parish was the ancient family seat of the Owens, who by marriage became proprietors of the noble estates originally belonging to the family of Wyrriot. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Lady Mansfield, who is also owner of the great tithes of the parish. The church is dedicated to St. Marcellus. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Methodists, to all of which are attached Sunday schools. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £166. 13.

MARY'S (ST.), otherwise MAENCLOCHOG (MAENC-CLOCHOG), a parish comprising the hamlets of MAENCLOCHOG and VORLAN, each of which maintains its own poor, the former in the hundred of KEMMES, and the latter in that of DUNGLEDDEY, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, and containing 466 inhabitants, of which number, 427 are in the hamlet of St. Mary's, or Maenclochog, 10 miles (N. by W.) from Narberth. This place derives its name "Maenclochog" from a large stone, several tons in weight, so nicely poised upon three small upright stones, as to vibrate on the slightest touch, and, upon its being struck, to sound like a bell. This curious relic was destroyed by some of the inhabitants, who, induced by the vain expectation of finding some hidden treasure, blew it up with gunpowder. The parish, which is situated in a mountainous district, comprises a considerable extent of land, the greater portion of which is unenclosed and uncultivated. Part of the Precelly mountain, which is the highest in South Wales, is within its limits: the ancient Welsh name of this mountain is Preswylva, signifying "a place of residence," and is derived from its having been the resort of the



natives, as a place of security, in the intestine wars by which this part of the principality was agitated during the earlier periods of its history. This mountain was anciently well clothed with forest timber, affording shelter to such as took refuge in its recesses, but now presents a bare and sterile aspect, dreary in its appearance, and exhibiting some small vestiges of ancient encampments, which were probably those constructed by the natives. The village, which is of considerable size, occupies the summit of a bleak and barren eminence; and the inhabitants, with the exception of such as are employed in agriculture, are engaged in working some quarries of slate of good quality, which is found in the parish. Fairs are annually held on March 10th, May 22nd, August 5th, and the first Monday after the 29th of October; they are large cattle fairs, and are in general well attended. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Hugh Webb Bowen, Esq. The chapels of Llandilo and Llangolman were formerly chapels of ease attached to the vicarage, but they have been endowed, and subsequently augmented with Queen Anne's bounty, and are now perpetual curacies, the two districts having been erected into distinct parishes. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, and situated in the centre of the village, is a neat edifice, rebuilt by subscription within the last forty years. A school-room has been erected in the churchyard, and is now occupied by one of Mrs. Bevan's circulating charity schools, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children. St. Mary's well, in this parish, is stated to afford relief to such as are afflicted with rheumatism. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £65.17., of which sum, £63.7. are assessed on the hamlet of Maenclochog.

**MARYCHURCH (ST.)**, a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. S. E.) from Cowbridge, containing 150 inhabitants. This parish, which, from the dedication of its church to St. Mary, is by the Welsh called Eglwys Vair, comprises within its limits the remains of an ancient castle, to which is attached an old chapel, the porch and frontispiece exhibiting some fine specimens of architecture, though executed by a native nearly two centuries since. It is pleasantly situated in the south-eastern part of the county, on the right bank of the river Thaw, and comprehends a moderate extent of arable and pasture land, of which by far the greater portion is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The soil, of which the substratum is limestone, is in general fertile; and the inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly wooded and richly diversified, and the adjacent country presents many features of rural and picturesque character. The living is a discharged rectory, with that of Llandocho annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £5.6.8., and in the patronage of the Marquis of Bute. The church is not remarkable for any architectural details. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £86.8.

**MARY (ST.) HILL**, a parish in the hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N. W.) from Cowbridge, containing 257 inhabitants.

**ants.** This parish, which lies in the south-eastern portion of the county, and on the left bank of the river Ewenny, derives its name from the dedication and elevated situation of the parish church. It is not of any great extent, but within its limits is comprised a portion of the lordship of Ruthin, though locally in the hundred of Cowbridge, which anciently constituted one of the numerous petty sovereignties with which the principality formerly abounded, all exercising *jura regalia*, until abolished in the reign of Henry VIII. The lands are principally enclosed and cultivated, and the downs are celebrated as affording pasturage for sheep of a superior breed, of which the wool is highly esteemed. The surrounding scenery is greatly diversified; and the views from the higher grounds embrace many objects of interesting character, among which the downs, forming in several parts bold undulations, interspersed with immense masses of rock, have a very singular and striking appearance. A fair is held here on August 26th, on a fine open heath. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £5.11.3., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Sir John Aubrey, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is situated on the brow of a lofty hill near the left bank of the river Ewenny; and from the churchyard, which is kept in fine order, are some beautiful and richly varied prospects to the north-east. Mrs. Elizabeth Rees gave £13.10; Miss Mary Gammage gave £20, secured on the Bridgend turnpike trust; and Mrs. Martha Jones and others bequeathed £10, for which the churchwardens hold a deed poll, the produce of all which benefactions is distributed among the poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £63.7.

**MATHREY (MERTHYR)**, a parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S. W. by W.) from Fishguard, containing 860 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the north-western part of the county, is bounded on the north by St. George's channel, and is intersected by the turnpike road leading from Fishguard to St. David's. In the northern part of the parish, bordering on the coast, which is for the most part bold and abrupt, the depth of water varying from seven to fourteen fathoms near the shore, are some considerable slate quarries, affording employment to a portion of the inhabitants. The village, which is situated on the summit of a hill, was formerly a place of more importance than at present, and had a weekly market and an annual fair, granted by letters patent in the reign of Edward III.; the former has been long since discontinued, but the latter is still held on October 10th, and is numerously attended by the inhabitants of the surrounding district, for the purpose of hiring servants; and another fair is held, on November 22nd, at Nevin, a village on the coast. The living is a discharged vicarage, with those of Granston and St. Nicholas annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4.7.6., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The rectory constitutes the Golden prebend in the cathedral church of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £25.14.4½., and in the patronage of the Bishop, under whom the tithes are held on lease by Sir John Owen, Bart. The



church, dedicated to the Holy Martyrs, and situated in the middle of the village, is an ancient structure, not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. The sum of £ 10 per annum is paid by Sir John Owen, Bart., towards the support of a school in this parish, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children. A perfect cromlech, or Druidical altar, consisting of a table stone seventeen feet in length, and apparently resting upon six upright columns, but only supported by four, is still preserved at Long House, in the village of Trêvin, or Trêvdyn, a manor belonging to the bishop of St. David's, where was anciently an episcopal palace, said to have been erected by Bishop Martin, to which Long House was formerly the grange. The ancient mansion of the family of Harries, of Priskilly Forest, is now the property and residence of John Hill Harries, Esq. The whole of the coast exhibits vestiges of ancient earthworks, evidently thrown up by the early piratical invaders who infested this part of the principality. Mr. Edward Llwyd communicated to the Royal Society of London an interesting account of an extraordinary swarm of locusts which visited this place in 1693, and of which the particulars are fully detailed in the second volume of the Philosophical Transactions. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £433. 16.

MAWR (HIGHER), a hamlet in the parish and hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (N.) from Swansea, containing 423 inhabitants. It forms the north-western part of the parish, where the ground is rugged and mountainous. Some traces of an ancient Roman road are still visible in this district, which abounds with coal. Lewis Thomas, Esq., gave a messuage and tenement, called Tîr Bâch, the rental to be distributed among the poor of this and the adjacent hamlet of Lower Mawr. A separate assessment is made for the support of the poor: the average annual expenditure amounts to £120. 6.

MAWR (LOWER), a hamlet in the parish and hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (N.) from Swansea, containing 384 inhabitants. A few respectable residences are scattered over this hamlet. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment: the average annual expenditure is £177. 12.

MEISTYRRHOSE LOWRY (MAESDRE-RHÔS-LOYWDDU), a township in that part of the parish of LLANDEWI-YSTRADENNY which is in the hundred of KEVENLEECE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (N. E.) from Penybont, containing 336 inhabitants. It occupies the lower part of the parish, where the Cymmarn stream falls into the river Ithon, which is here crossed by a bridge. The name denotes the fenny nature of the ground, a large common, much reduced by cultivation, having formerly existed here near the junction of those rivers.

MEIVOD, a parish partly in the lower division of the hundred of LLANYVLLIN, partly in the upper division of that of DEYTHUR, and partly in the hundred of POOL, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N. E. by N.) from Llanvair, containing 1861 inhabitants. The name of this very extensive parish, implying a "lowland champaign dwelling," is obviously derived from its situation in a vast tract

of fine open country, in the north-eastern part of the county. Though evidently of great antiquity, and forming a portion of Powys Wenwynwyn, or the moiety allotted by Meredydd ab Bleddyn to his grandson Owain Cyveiliog, it appears to have been distinguished only as having been the place of sepulture of several of the Princes of Powys; and, till within the last few years, the village consisted only of a few thatched cottages, thinly scattered, and of very mean appearance. By some historians this place has been identified with the Roman station "*Mediolanum*," but the difficulties of ascertaining precisely the exact site of that station are in no degree diminished by fixing it here, and the hypothesis has accordingly been abandoned by the most distinguished antiquaries. The parish, which extends for nine miles in length and four in breadth, is situated on the river Vyrnwy, which is formed by the junction of the rivers Banwy and Avon Llanwddyn, which unite at this place, where it first begins to expand its waters, which, previously to their entering the vale, were confined by the depth of the banks and the rapidity of the current; from this circumstance it derived its original name Evyrnwy, or "the spreading river," now written Vyrnwy. Two other streams intersect the parish, the Brogan and the Colwyn, and finally join that river. The lands were partially enclosed under the provisions of an act of parliament obtained in 1787, and portions of several townships have been subsequently enclosed by the unanimous consent of the different proprietors. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, three parts being bounded by low hills well wooded, and at the other end the views extend over a tract of level country, distinguished chiefly for its rural beauty, which is terminated by the Breiddyn hills: the soil, though various, is generally fertile, especially on the banks of the Vyrnwy. Lead-ore was thought to exist in the parish, and some attempts were made a few years since to procure it, by sinking shafts and driving levels, in the township of Main; but the undertaking was not attended with success, and the works have consequently been abandoned. Some fine veins of potters' earth have been found, and the rocks in the parish abound with barytes and other minerals. The village, which is situated on the turnpike road leading from Aberystwith, by Camm Office and Llanvair, to Oswestry, has, within the last few years, become a place of considerable importance, and may be regarded as one of the handsomest of the smaller towns in the principality: the houses are of stone, roofed with slate, and neatly and well built; and the place has a highly interesting and prepossessing appearance. It enjoys considerable traffic from its being on the great thoroughfare by which the western parts of the country are supplied with lime and coal. A post-office, subordinate to that at Oswestry, has been established here; and fairs are annually held in the village on the first Friday in February, the last Tuesday in April, the first Tuesday in August, and on September 21st. Courts leet are also held in the spring.

This parish is said formerly to have composed the archdeaconry of all Powysland. The living is a vicarage, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £15. 14. 2., and in



the patronage of the Bishop. The rectorial tithes, which anciently belonged to the abbey of Strata Marcella, or Ystrad Marchell, near Welshpool, are appropriated to the Dean and Canons of Christ Church, Oxford, between whom or their lessees, on the one hand, and the vicar on the other, they are equally divided. The history of the church is involved in considerable perplexity: according to some accounts it would appear that, exclusively of the present edifice, there were two others, the ruins of which Mr. Pryce of Llanvyllin, in a letter to Mr. Babington, dated April 12th, 1701, acknowledges to have seen; but, from their contiguous situation, an opinion has been entertained that they were probably only different portions, or a subsequent enlargement, of the original building, dedicated respectively to their several founders, and forming distinct chapels in the same church. The first church was dedicated to St. Gwyddvarch, an anchorite who lived on the brow of a hill in this parish, still called Gallt yr Ancr, and from whose warning voice, directing the workmen where to build the sacred edifice, for which they had chosen an improper site, said to have been repeatedly heard in the valley at midnight, uttering the words "Yma i vod," some etymologists have derived the name of the parish. The second, which was contiguous to the first, was dedicated to St. Tysilio, an eminent saint, who flourished towards the middle of the seventh century, and who is said to have been the second son of Brochwel Ysgythrog, whose palace was at Shrewsbury. The exact time when, and the person by whom, this church was built are not known; but in the chronicles of Caradoc of Llancarvan it appears, that Madoc ab Meredydd, Prince of Powys, was interred "yn eglwys Tysilio yn Meivod," in the year 1159; and subsequent writers state that Gruffydd Maelor, eldest son of Madoc, and lord of the lower moiety of Powys, was also buried in this church, in the year 1190. The church dedicated to St. Mary, and the only one at present remaining, is supposed to have been founded by Madoc ab Meredydd, against which opinion it is objected that he was buried in the church of St. Tysilio, four years after the consecration of this church, which ceremony took place in the year 1155; but that may be easily accounted for, as the church of St. Tysilio had been the general place of sepulture not only of his ancestors, but also of most of the princes of the races of Mervyn and Conwyn. The present church is a spacious structure, in the Norman style of architecture, comprising a double-roofed nave, and an aisle on the north side, with a low square tower, and appears to have been originally much larger than at present: on the north side are evident traces of the foundations of a transept, which may probably have been either the church of St. Tysilio, or the portion of the original building dedicated to that saint. Near the font is an ancient tombstone without any inscription, rudely ornamented with sculpture, in basso relievo, of a Catherine wheel surmounted by a sword, and embellished with knots and other rude ornaments. In the chancel window, within the last few years, was a legend in ancient characters, commemorating the two saints of the churches that have disappeared, and probably preserved out of their ruins, and, with other portions of stained glass, inserted in this window by John Roger, rector of this parish at a period unknown. There are places of worship for Independents and Welsh

Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children was endowed by Mr. William Pugh, in 1714, with £3 per annum, which endowment has been since augmented with £9 per annum, arising from the sale of timber growing upon a farm in the township of Peniarth, bequeathed to the poor by the Rev. Richard Derwas, a former vicar of the parish. There are four almshouses in Pentre Parroc, in this parish, the inmates of which, though they have no exclusive endowment, partake of certain benefactions in land by various persons, the produce of which is annually distributed among the poor. On the summit of the hill called Gallt yr Ancr, or "the anchorite's hill," on the brow of which St. Gwyddvarch had his cell, as noticed above, are some traces of a British fortification, the history of which is not known; and on the side of the same hill is Bedd y Cawr, or "the grave of the Giant." A dyke, which in some places was double, formerly extended from Allt y Main to Ceunant Mawr, in this parish, for the defence of the pass into the vale of Llanvyllin, by Bwlch y Cibau. Some vestiges of British fortifications and encampments may be seen on Hên Allt, in Trêv-nannau, at a place called the Gaer, and near Clawdd llesg. There are several springs in the parish, some of which are impregnated with medicinal properties. In the township of Teitrêv there is a well called Fynnon Darogan, or "the well of divination," protected by a cupola, which has stood for many years: the water, though very salubrious, has no medicinal qualities. In the same township is Fynnon y Groftydd, the water of which is strongly sulphureous, and has been found highly efficacious in the cure of cutaneous diseases. In the township of Trêvedryd is Fynnon y Clawdd-llesg, consisting of two springs close to each other, of which one is slightly impregnated with hepatic air, and the other has no appearance of any mineral property whatever; it has been much resorted to in the spring by persons afflicted with scrofula, who have found relief by exposing the affected part to the action of the water on its issuing from the rock. Till within the last few years it was customary for the young people of the parish to assemble at this place, on the eighth Sunday after Easter, to drink the water, and afterwards to retire to some green spot and spend the remainder of the day in dancing: a similar practice prevailed near a fountain of clear rock water on Gallt y Main, at the other extremity of the parish, whence, after drinking the water, the company retired to a fine green fenced on four sides like a Roman camp, and called Brÿn y bowliau, where they spent the rest of the day in athletic exercises. The origin of these customs is altogether unknown, and the practice has for some years been totally discontinued. Cynddelw, a poet laureate of the twelfth century, and a native of this parish, in a poem in honour of St. Tysilio, published in the *Archæologia*, notices the church of this place, which he describes as situated adjoining to that of St. Gwyddvarch, eulogizes Caradoc, whom he calls archdeacon of the church, as a munificent patron, and celebrates the churchyard as the cemetery of princes. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £878. 16.

MELIDEN, a parish in the hundred of PRESTATYN, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N. by E.) from St. Asaph, containing 720 inhabitants. This



parish, which is supposed to derive its name from the dedication of its church; is situated at the north-western extremity of the county, and on the shore of the Irish sea. It comprises an extensive tract of rich arable and pasture land, which is in a high state of cultivation: the surface is in general flat, and the whole district, extending to Rhuddlan, is remarkably fertile; the soil is favourable for the growth of all kinds of grain, but more especially for wheat, the quality of which is not excelled in any other part of the principality. There are a few respectable residences scattered over the parish, among which is Nant, an ancient mansion of a branch of the Conways of Brŷn Euryn, near Llandrillo in Rhôs. The surrounding scenery, though pleasing, is not distinguished by any peculiar features; and the only views possessing interest are those which extend over the Irish sea, at the time of flood tide, when vessels are proceeding towards the river Dee; but at ebb tide many sand-banks present themselves, and the coast is in general low and sandy. The living is a perpetual curacy, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Treasurer in the cathedral church of St. Asaph, who is impropriator of the tithes. The church, dedicated to St. Melid, is not remarkable for any peculiarity of architectural detail. Edward ab Thomas, in 1684, bequeathed a rent-charge of £40 to the poor of the parish. In the hamlet of Prestatyn, in this parish, are some vestiges of an ancient castle, called Plâs Prestatyn. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £235. 11.

MELINDWR (MELIN-DWR), a township in that part of the parish of LLANBADARN-VAWR which is in the lower division of the hundred of GENEU'R GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, containing 555 inhabitants, the population having increased nearly twofold since the census of 1821. The situation of this township in the vale of the Rheidol is extremely picturesque, more especially at Pont y Pren, where the dark rocks rise on one side nearly four hundred feet above the bed of that river. Through a chasm among these a mountain stream issues, forming a fine cascade, and turning a small mill, which can only be approached by a rude bridge composed of the trunk of a tree. This district is well wooded, and there are some lead mines. The poor are supported by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £170. 10.

MELINEY, or MELINAU, a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S. W. by S.) from Cardigan, containing 492 inhabitants. This parish is situated in the northern part of the county, close to the road leading from Cardigan to Fishguard, and is intersected by the great road from the former to Haverfordwest. The greater part of it is enclosed and cultivated, and the remainder consists of barren heath and stony common, forming a portion of the Precelley mountain. The soil in that part of the parish which is enclosed is tolerably fertile. The surrounding scenery, though not greatly diversified, is enriched with some branches of the river Nevern, which flow through the parish; and the adjoining country is not destitute of interest. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's,

rated in the king's books at £10, and in the alternate patronage of Thomas Lloyd, Esq., who is lord of the manor, and the freeholders in the parish, who have the next presentation. There are some ancient mansions in various parts of the parish, within the limits of which also are some remains of a circular encampment, called Penybenglog, defended by a single rampart. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £140. 7.

MERFORD, a joint lordship and township with Hoseley, in the parish of GRESFORD, partly in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, and partly in the hundred of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $4\frac{3}{4}$  miles (N. E. by N.) from Wrexham, containing, with Hoseley, 325 inhabitants. These places anciently constituted two lordships: that of Merford extends to the south bank of the river Alyn, and the road from Chester to Wrexham passes through it. The portion included in Flintshire was constituted part of that county by act of parliament in the reign of Henry VIII., and is surrounded on every side by parts of Denbighshire. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. In this lordship is the "Roft," an ancient British camp, forming the most elevated point of an eminence commanding extensive prospects over the Vale Royal of Cheshire, the city of Chester, the forest of Delamere, and the hills of Lancashire, Derbyshire, Shropshire, &c. This encampment is rendered nearly inaccessible, on the north and west, by the almost perpendicular steepness of the hill: on the east its enclosed area was protected by three ditches, now nearly filled up; but its defences on the south, consisting of three deep fosses, are still visible. In the north-eastern corner is a very elevated mount, or exploratory camp, from which is obtained a view into nine different counties.

MERIADOG (CEVN-MERIADOG), a joint township with Wigvair, in that part of the parish of St. ASAPH which is in the hundred of ISDULAS, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 1 mile (S.) from St. Asaph. The population is returned with the parish. It is situated on the left bank of the Elwy, and the road from St. Asaph to Denbigh passes through it, close to that river. Here are some curious natural caverns, extending a considerable distance into the limestone hills, having the roofs, in some places, forty feet high, and containing various fossil remains. Among other objects of interest have been found the skull of a remarkably large animal, with the teeth perfectly sound and enamelled, and nearly as large as a cricket-ball; and the tongue of another, equal in size to that of a deer, with the form and grain remaining quite perfect, though completely petrified, and as hard as the limestone rock in which it was found. Nearer the river Elwy, and at the base of these hills, there is an extensive limestone rock, naturally perforated into an immense arch, twenty-one yards in length and thirty-six feet in height, through which a road proceeds, and is capable of admitting the passage of a large waggon loaded with hay.

MERIONETHSHIRE, a maritime county of North Wales, bounded on the west by the bay of Cardigan, being that part of the Irish sea which separates the two great promontories of North and South Wales; on the north-west, by Carnarvonshire; on the north and





MERIONETHSHIRE

Scale of English Miles.  
1 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10







north-east, by Denbighshire; on the east and south-east, by Montgomeryshire; and on the south, by Cardiganshire and the æstuary of the river Dovey, or Dyfi. It extends from  $52^{\circ} 31'$  to  $53^{\circ} 2'$  (N. Lat.), and from  $3^{\circ} 20'$  to  $4^{\circ} 28'$  (W. Lon.); and includes an area, according to Evans' Map of North Wales, of four hundred and thirty thousand statute acres, or upwards of six hundred and seventy square miles. The population, in 1831, was 35,609.

This county derives its name, in Welsh written *Merionydd*, *Meirionydd*, and *Meirion*, from a cantrev of ancient Wales, called *Meirion*, which was incorporated with it, at its southern extremity, on the settlement of its present limits in the reign of Henry VIII., and which gave name to the ancient province of *Meirionydd*: this cantrev received its appellation from its having been the portion of Meirion, grandson of Cunedda, the latter a prince of North Britain who came into North Wales, in the fifth century, to rescue it from some Irish invaders; and having succeeded in his enterprise, he divided the recovered territory among his sons and grandsons: this is the only county of North Wales which retains its ancient name, with the addition of the word *shire*. In the time of Cæsar, the present county of Merioneth formed part of the territory of the *Ordovices*, and after the Roman conquest it was included in the district called *Mervinia*, a subdivision of the great province of *Britannia Secunda*. The Roman station *Heriri Mons* is placed by Stukeley near Bala, in this county, though by others it is thought to have been situated at Tommen y Mûr, near Festiniog: *Caer Gai*, in the vicinity of Llanuwchllyn, near Bala, and Pennal, on the southern border of the county, near Machynlleth in Montgomeryshire, are also considered to have been the sites of Roman settlements. The Roman *Via Occidentalis* ran the whole length of the county, from south to north, entering it from the station *Loventium*, in Cardiganshire, and passing by the large encampment at Pennal, and the station *Heriri Mons*, to that of *Segontium*, on the shore of the Menai. A branch of the southern Watling-street also traversed it from the station *Mediolanum*, in Montgomeryshire, by *Caer Gai*, near Bala, to the *Via Occidentalis* at *Heriri Mons*. In the division made by Roderic the Great, this county was included in the kingdom of Aberfraw, or North Wales, excepting only the eastern and north-eastern parts of it, forming the ancient cantrevs of Mowddwy, Edeyrnion, and Glyndyrdwy, and part of that of Dinmael, which belonged to the kingdom of Powys. Though sometimes the scene of internal struggles, Merionethshire, from its remote and almost inaccessible situation, in the wars of the ancient Britons with the Saxons, Danes, and Normans, was never the scene of action until near the extinction of Welsh independence. Henry II., having assembled the choicest troops from every part of his extensive dominions, in the year 1165, entered the Welsh territory at Oswestry, while the power of all Wales was collected at Corwen, in this county, to oppose him. By cutting down the woods in his progress, to prevent surprise, notwithstanding some opposition which he met with from detached parties of the Welsh soldiery, Henry advanced to the Berwyn mountain, at the north-eastern extremity of Merionethshire, where he pitched his camp in order to refresh his forces. The English were stationed on the

acclivity of the hills, and the Welsh, presenting a dark and formidable front, were posted on the summit of the opposite mountains, each army appearing unwilling to commence the attack: but the situation of the English monarch soon became critical, for the Welsh, watching every movement, and neglecting no opportunity for intercepting his supplies, reduced the English army to the utmost distress for want of provisions and forage: these difficulties were still further increased by sudden and heavy rains, which rendered Henry's position in such a broken and uneven country almost untenable, and at last the waters, descending from the hills in sweeping torrents, compelled him to retreat into England with great loss of men and stores. In 1404, Harlech castle was suddenly seized by the valiant Owain Glyndwr, on his raising the standard of revolt against the newly-acquired authority of Henry IV.; but four years after it was retaken by an English army sent to suppress this rebellion. After the accession of Edward IV. to the throne of England, this castle, then in the possession of David ab Ievan ab Einion, a firm friend of the Lancastrians, was held for that party for several years, in spite of entreaties and menaces: finding the governor determined to continue the resistance, the king at last sent an army against him, under the command of William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, who, after encountering numerous obstacles in conducting his forces through these alpine regions, at length invested the fortress, which, however, was not surrendered until after a long siege, and then only on the most honourable terms: this appears to have been the last post defended on behalf of the house of Lancaster. At the close of the war, Dinasmowddwy and its neighbourhood became the resort of numerous felons and outlaws, who formed themselves into desperate bands of plunderers, by one of which, Lewis Owen, Esq., of Llwyn, near Dôlgelley, Vice-Chamberlain and Baron of the Exchequer of North Wales, was openly attacked and murdered, in 1555, on his way to the assizes at Montgomery; but by the most vigorous measures this evil was at length abated. Early in the civil war of the seventeenth century, Harlech castle was strenuously defended for the king by Sir Hugh Pennant, until, the garrison becoming mutinous, it fell into the hands of the parliamentarians: it was afterwards again in the possession of the royalists, but was finally taken, in March 1647, by a parliamentary force under General Mytton. Dôlgelley, having been originally garrisoned for the parliament, was besieged by a small party of royalists, who, however, were dispersed, and their leader made prisoner.

A great portion of this county (*viz.*, the hundreds of Edeyrnion and Penllŷn, and the small ancient hundred of Mowddwy,) is in the diocese of St. Asaph; the rest is in that of Bangor; and the whole is included in the province of Canterbury: the portion comprised within the first-mentioned diocese is in the archdeaconry of St. Asaph, and deaneries of Mowddwy, and Penllŷn and Edeyrnion; and that in the diocese of Bangor, is in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and deaneries of Ardudwy, Estimaner, and Tal y Bont: the total number of parishes is thirty-six, of which twenty are rectories, five vicarages, and the rest perpetual curacies. For purposes of civil government it is divided into the hundreds of Ardudwy, Edeyrnion, Estimaner, Penllŷn,



and Tal y Bont and Mowddwy, which last two, on account of the small size of Moddwy, have been united. It contains the market and assize towns of Bala and Dôlgelley; the market, sea-port, and sea-bathing town of Barmouth; the market and sea-bathing town of Towyn; the sea-port and sea-bathing town of Aberdovey; and the market towns of Corwen, Dinas-mowddwy, and Harlech. One knight is returned to parliament for the shire, who is elected at Harlech: the polling-places within the county, under the late Reform and Boundary Acts, are Harlech, Bala, Corwen, Dinas-mowddwy, Dôlgelley, and Towyn. This county is included in the North Wales circuit: the Lent assizes, and the Epiphany and Midsummer quarter sessions, are held at Bala; the Midsummer assizes, and the Easter and Michaelmas quarter sessions, at Dôlgelley: the county gaol is in the vicinity of Dôlgelley; and the county houses of correction, or bridewells, are at Bala, Corwen, and Dôlgelley. There are twenty-three acting magistrates. The rates raised in the county for the year ending March 25th, 1830, amounted to £16,760, and the expenditure to £16,383, of which, £14,543 was applied to the relief of the poor.

Nearly the whole of the county is occupied by wild and barren rocks and mountains; and though the latter are not so high as those of the adjoining county of Carnarvon, yet many are very lofty, and others of less towering height are, by their precipitous and craggy sides, rendered both picturesque and sublime objects. Contrasted with the gayer scenes of a highly cultivated country, the scenery of Merionethshire would be considered bleak and dreary; but a variety of objects, forming innumerable contrasts, render it strikingly pleasing and romantic; for, besides the grandeur of its maritime views and its lofty mountains and inaccessible crags, the enjoyment of a tour through this county is heightened by the diversified appearance of its lower hills, of several small level plains, and of numerous romantic valleys; while the whole district is interspersed with woods, lakes, rivers, torrents, cataracts, and all the varied decorations of nature in her wildest garb. From a line entering from Montgomeryshire, and running north-westward by Bwlch y groes, near Aran Vowddwy, to Drws y Nant, between Bala and Dôlgelley, and thence across the mountains to Llŷn Trywerin and Llŷn Morwynion, and terminating near the head of the valley of Festiniog, the rivers descend in opposite directions, on one side eastward, and on the other westward; and a farm-house on this line, called Pant gwŷn, is so situated that the rain which falls on the western side of the roof flows into Cardigan bay at Barmouth, and that which falls on the eastern side into the Irish sea at Chester bar. The principal streams on the western side of this parting ridge are, the Dovey, which flows south-eastward through the rich valley of Machynlleth; the Maw, which flows through Ganllwyd, and is joined by the Wonion, which runs from Drws y Nant through the Vale of Dôlgelley, the united streams emptying themselves into the sea at Barmouth; and the Traeth bâch, which runs westward, through the Vale of Festiniog: the principal on the opposite side is the Dee, which rises under a hill near the head of Bala lake, and flows north-eastward through the beautiful Vale of Edeyrnion, and thence eastward through the romantic vales of Glydyvrdwy

and Llangollen. The Vale of the Dovey far excels in extent and fertility those of any of the other streams, which circumstance is attributed by geologists to the difference in the qualities of the strata surrounding each. The principal and most elevated chain of mountains is the Berwyn range, which, commencing in the south-eastern part of Denbighshire, forms the lofty summit of Cader Verwyn, near the north-eastern extremity of this county, and stretching south-eastward presents numerous lofty peaks, and includes the mountains called the Arans and the Arenigs. The loftiest heights of the chain are, Cader Idris, which raises high its trifurcated summit to the south of Dôlgelley, near its south-eastern extremity, and from which it makes a rapid descent to the sea-shore at Sarn y Bwch; Aran Mowddwy and Aran Penllŷn, to the south of Bala mere; the Arenig mountain, to the westward of Bala; and Cader Verwyn, above mentioned. In point of elevation these mountains hold a middle rank between the towering peaks of Snowdon and the humbler swells of the Plinlimmon range: the height of the first above the level of the sea is two thousand nine hundred and fourteen feet; of the second, two thousand nine hundred and fifty-five; of Arenig, two thousand eight hundred and nine; and of Cader Verwyn, two thousand five hundred and sixty-three. The vegetable produce of the mountains is fern and furze, or gorse, upon the lower and drier outskirts; heath upon the loftier summits of argillaceous schistus, having its roots in shallow peat upon clay or rammel; and rushes, and a variety of mosses and other alpine aquatic plants, on the humid slopes and hollows, upon various depths of peat. These wastes abound with grouse, and the town of Bala, situated in the midst of them, is a place of great resort for sportsmen. The numerous lakes are very small, excepting that of Llŷn Tegid, or Bala mere, which is the largest in the principality, being nearly twelve miles in circumference, and has been fathomed in various places to the depth of from fifty-five to one hundred and twenty yards: the town of Bala is situated at its northern extremity. Some of the principal of the smaller lakes are, Llŷn Talyllyn, near the foot of Cader Idris, on the southern side of that mountain; Llŷn Bodlyn and Llŷn cwm Howel, near Cors y Gedol; Llŷn Raithlyn, near Trawsvynydd; Llŷn Cynwch, Llŷn Elider, Llŷn Teewyn uchâ and isâ, Llŷn y cwm bychan, Llŷn Arenig, &c. Bala mere is remarkable for a peculiar kind of fish called *gwyniaid*, the *salmo lavaretus* of Linnæus; Llŷn cwm Howel, for a deformed species of trout; and Llŷn Raithlyn, for a singular variety of perch. On the sea-coast are various marshes scattered along its whole extent, and the waste unenclosed sands of the Traeth Bychan, at the northern extremity of the coast of this county, occupy several thousand acres. Different embankments have been made on the land skirting this marsh, thus securing some hundreds of acres from inundation at spring tides, to which they were before liable; and the sandy æstuary of the Traeth Bychan, a little to the north of it has been wholly embanked and enclosed. The sea is thought in remote ages to have made great encroachments on the shore of this county, a supposition accredited by tradition and various existing evidences. Sarn y Bwch, above mentioned, is a ridge of huge stones covered by the tides, but ap-



pearing at low water: it stretches westward into the sea, from near the mouth of the river Dysynni, in the vicinity of the church of Llangelynin. Another similar line, but of much greater extent, extends south-westward from a point on the coast to the south-west of Harlech, and is called Sarn Badrig, or the "ship-breaking causeway," from the accidents which occur to vessels approaching this sunken reef unawares at full or half tides: this is about twenty-four feet broad. *Sarn* signifies a causeway, or pavement; and a monkish legend relates, that the latter was miraculously formed by St. Patrick, to facilitate his passage between Britain and Ireland: by some, these ranges are considered as the work of art, but by others merely as rocks in their natural position. By such as entertain the former opinion Sarn y Bwch and Sarn Badrig are asserted to have met each other, and to have formed against the sea the barrier of a rich tract of land, called *Cantrev Gwaelod*, or the "Low-land Hundred," the catastrophe of the inundation of which is recorded in ancient verse in a very old manuscript, called "the Black Book of Carmarthen;" and the names of several towns that were overwhelmed are yet preserved in the traditions of the Welsh. This event is said to have taken place about the year 500, at the time when Gwyddno Garanhir, father of Elphin, the patron of the Welsh bard Taliesin, was lord of the territory, owing to the negligence of a drunkard named Seithennin, who in the night left the sluices of the embankment open. In the sea, about seven miles to the west of Aberystwith, there is a collection of loose stones, called *Caer-Wyddno*, the fort or palace of Gwyddno; and adjoining to it are vestiges of what is supposed to have been the southern embankment of *Cantrev Gwaelod*. The depth of water over the whole extent of the bay of Cardigan is not great; and on the recess of the tide, stones bearing Latin inscriptions, and Roman coins of various emperors, have been at different times found at some distance within high water mark; and in different places in the water are observed prostrate trees. The Vale of Towyn, in the south-eastern part of Merionethshire, seems to have been restored by the sea some time after the inundation of *Cantrev Gwaelod*: a considerable part of it, formerly of value only as a turbarry, has been drained and embanked by the exertions of the late Edward Corbet, Esq., of Ynysmaengwyn, and converted into meadows of the richest quality.

In the larger valleys, and near the sea-shore, the climate is mild; but on the mountains it is cold and tempestuous, and on some of the higher summits the snow sometimes remains until June, though in the vicinity of the sea it soon disappears, even in the depth of winter. The soils are various, and those of the low lands are very fertile. The prevailing kind is peat or moss, which is found at all elevations, but of the greatest depth on levels and in hollows favourable to its production: it occurs of less depth on gentle slopes, upon clay or rammel, being such substrata as do not admit the filtration of water: this latter is generally covered with a coarse matted herbage, which characterizes what is provincially called *rhossy* land. *Till*, a hungry light mould, tinged by the orange oxyde of iron, is common on the mountains. Ferny soils, or hazel mould, is frequently found on the lower hills, producing fern, broom, and the larger ulex or gorse, besides various kinds of

underwood. All the smaller valleys traversed by rapid streams have a light gravelly soil, which becomes gradually more fertile in approaching its lowest levels: the light soils of the Vale of Dovey owe their superior fertility to their receiving from one side deposits from the soft shaly mountains of Montgomeryshire and Cardiganshire, while that of every other valley in the county is derived only from mountains of clay-slate, or of primitive siliceous substances. Free loams, well adapted for the general purposes of tillage, abound in the Vale of Edeyrnion, in the vicinity of Corwen; and lighter soils on the marine level, or semi-vale, of Ardudwy, on the western side of the county. The wastes on the sea-coast consist of extensive sands.

The quantity of land under tillage was computed, before the late continental war, at less than fourteen thousand acres, so that the inhabitants chiefly depended upon Montgomeryshire and Denbighshire for a supply of grain, of which Bala was the principal mart: a few cargoes of rye from London and Liverpool were also brought to Barmouth. But a great and favourable change has since taken place in the agriculture of this county; and there is scarcely even an upland farm upon which a sufficient quantity of oats and barley for the consumption of the occupier is not grown. Fallowing is scarcely ever practised, the common farmers considering it much too expensive and unprofitable an operation. The fields in the more elevated situations, having no other divisions than those made by low fences of sods and fragments of stone walls, cannot be brought under culture for wheat or any other winter crop, as it would be entirely devoured by sheep, which have the unlimited range of the whole farm from November until the Lent crops are sown, when they are turned out into their mountain walks. Oats are the species of corn principally cultivated: this grain is generally sown for three, and sometimes more, years successively, but with very inferior profit; after which the land is commonly sown with grasses, and depastured for five or six years, and then again brought under the same course of tillage: various species of white oats have been in cultivation for the last thirty years; and the hardy black oat, which was formerly the only sort sown, is now only partially grown, in situations where the land is of inferior quality: the latter, however, is more suited to the climate, and its straw is a highly nutritious food for cattle. In the narrow valleys of Merionethshire, which, like its streams, run generally from north-east to south-west, most barley is grown on the side having the southern aspect, and oats chiefly on the opposite side; the latter, which is called *all haul*, that is, "a place forsaken by the sun," having also generally a springy soil, while the opposite side has a dry gravel and hazel mould: the inhabitants of the northern aspects have a phrase current among them, that "the shade never went to the sunshine to borrow oatmeal." Besides oats and barley, which are the most common crops, wheat is grown on the best soils, and rye on temporary enclosures of small pieces of the waste lands, which are pared and burned, and after the crop is gathered are again thrown open. In the uplands, all the kinds of grain that are there grown were formerly, in most places, cut with the reaping-hook, instead of the common and more expeditious method of cutting with scythes, which is now practised. Potatoes are every



where commonly grown, in the eastern parts of the county with great care, but in the western districts, and more especially in the Vale of Ardudwy, in a more negligent manner. Fruit trees are profitably cultivated throughout the whole of the county. The artificial grasses are of the ordinary kinds, and are extensively cultivated: the seeds are produced in the county, with the exception of those of clover, which are generally procured at the large fair held at Wrexham in March, and from professed dealers in such commodities. Various valuable species of grasses are indigenous, such as white clover, dog's-tail, &c. The enclosed and unenclosed grass lands, which together occupy by much the greater portion of the county, are for the most part appropriated to the rearing of lean cattle, to be sold to the graziers of richer districts, who fatten them to supply places of great consumption. In these hilly regions are also produced great quantities of butter, of which about three tons per week are sent in firkins to Chester, during the six summer months, from the neighbourhood of Bala, besides a supply to Denbigh, Holywell, and other weekly markets: some is also sent by sea to Liverpool. Much cheese is also made, but it is of a very poor quality, all the richness of the milk being extracted by the butter, and in lieu of it they saturate the curd with rennet to such a degree as to render it quite spongy, and of a very strong flavour: many of the poorer class prefer this kind of cheese, of which several tons are annually sold at the fair at Dôlgeley: it is seldom coloured with annatto. Artificial irrigation is practised in different places, and on a more particularly extensive scale on the estate of Athelstan Corbet, Esq., of Ynysmaengwyn, in the Vale of Towyn. Lime is used as a manure within a convenient distance of the Gwerclas and Hâvod rocks, near Corwen, the only places in Merionethshire which produce white lime, and where about fifty thousand bushels are burned annually. The argillaceous limestone, found in different parts of it, derives its chief value as a manure from being burned with peat, the ashes of which become intermixed with the lime. Great quantities of peat ashes are applied to the land in every part of the county; and sea-thong (*alga marina*), and the fucus of various kinds, are also gathered in considerable quantities on the sea-coast after storms, and extensively employed as manures. The kind of plough in most common use is the old large heavy plough of North Wales, the same that is still used in the counties of Anglesey and Carnarvon. The cattle are remarkably small, and have few particularly good qualities, except their extreme hardness and consequent cheapness of rearing: those on the mountains are generally black, but much less in size, and less uniform in character, than the Anglesey breed. The sheep are of a small hardy kind peculiar to the mountains of Wales, having generally white faces and legs, and sometimes horns: the smaller weigh from seven to nine lb. per quarter, and yield a fleece of from three quarters of a lb. to a lb. and a half; the larger weigh from nine to twelve lb. per quarter, and carry from a lb. and a half to two lb. of wool. The wool is of a very mean clothing quality, being mixed with coarse long hairs, called by the manufacturers *kemps*, and by the Welsh *sythvlew*: this breed is, however, found to be susceptible of great improvement, as is more particularly seen in the flocks of different farmers in the

parishes of Tallyllyn and Llanvihangel: hardly any sheep of other breeds have been introduced. In this county are reared great numbers of the diminutive and exceedingly hardy ponies called *merlins*: they obtain their whole support, during winter as well as summer, from the coarse herbage of the mountain wastes, where they breed promiscuously, and from which they are never brought down until they are three years old and fit for sale. Those bred on the Berwyn mountains are then driven within a ring fence, and such as are considered the best for sale are separated from the rest, which latter are again set at liberty, and the former are driven for sale at the fair held at Llanrhaidr yn Mochnant. Great numbers of these spirited little animals are employed in carrying on their backs the produce of the manufacturers of the county, when purchased by salesmen; and their use is almost wholly confined to their native districts. Another breed, somewhat larger than these, and probably raised by an intermixture with the English horses, is occasionally seen, and is hardy, handsome, and exceedingly active in climbing the slippery steep slopes of the mountains. The large heathy mountains, more particularly those of the Berwyn range, swarm with a species of wild bees, and on a fine day these wilds may be traversed for miles without hearing the least noise save the monotonous hum of these busy insects. The woods were formerly very scanty, and of little value; but in modern times the native woodlands have received much attention, and extensive plantations have been made by different proprietors. The Vale of Edeyrnion, near the borders of Denbighshire and Montgomeryshire, and the vicinity of Bala, have been greatly ornamented with plantations of modern formation: in other parts of the county most of the vales are well wooded; and although the bleak exposure of the mountains is inimical to the growth of forest trees, yet there are various situations and soils in which timber sometimes acquires a very large growth: some verses, in celebration of a noted oak tree, formerly growing at Ganllwyd, in the parish of Llanddwylau, and which, when felled, measured six hundred and nine cubic feet, are still sung to the harp by the peasants of this county, by whom it was held in great veneration: many magnificent trees, produced from acorns of this monarch of the forest, are scattered in different places, some of the finest being on the Tan y Bwlch demesne. This county being, next to Carnarvonshire, the most mountainous of North Wales, its waste lands are very extensive; but most of them have been appropriated and many of them enclosed under different acts of parliament. Some mountains are enclosed up to their very summits; but many others are quite unsusceptible of improvement: the most improvable wastes are the marshes on the sea-coast. The principal fuel of the county is peat, of which it contains great abundance, almost every farm having its appropriated turbary: such as have no common-right buy this article by the load. On the sea-shore, between Towyn and Aberdovey, is found a bed of excellent peat, which extends to an unknown distance under the waters of Cardigan bay: to arrive at this peat it is necessary to remove several feet of sand deposited by the sea; and, owing to the saline particles contained in it, the flame soon corrodes culinary vessels exposed to its action.



The mineral productions of this county are various, consisting chiefly of lead and copper ores and slates; and its geology is interesting, although it has received but little illustration. To the westward of a line extending from the æstuary of the Dovey up the course of that river to its source, near Aran Mowddwy, thence along the stream of the Twrch from its spring to Bala mere, and from that place along the Dee to its confluence with the Trywerin, and then up the latter river to its own source and that of the Conway, the Merionethshire mountains are for the most part of the primitive siliceous kind, rugged, steep, and barren; and eastward of the same line they are chiefly composed of primitive argillaceous schistus. The peaks and summits of the Berwyn range, like those of the Snowdon chain, are composed of rocks of the trap formation, which are succeeded on the north-west by slates of various kinds, extending to Snowdon: argillaceous schistus also appears on the south-east of this chain, extending into South Wales. A line of dark-coloured argillaceous limestone extends from Cader Ddinmael, near Cerrig y Druidion, on the southern border of Denbighshire, south-westward across this county, being observable successively at the tremendous ravine called Glyn-diphwys; at Llwyn y ci, near Rhiwlas; on the borders of the river Trywerin, near Llanuwchllyn; at Llanvachreth, Braich y bedw, Blaenau, Hêngwrt uchâ, Caer Ynwch, Minfordd near Tâllyllyn, and lastly at Bwlch côch, near Cader Idris. A narrow tract of similar limestone extends in a nearly parallel direction, on the opposite side of the Berwyn chain, being found at Rhiwarth, Bryn Melyn, Cwm Hyved, Bwlch y Groes, and Cwm Tyllyddian, near Llanymowddwy, all on the eastern border of the county: some of the same kind also occurs at Rhiwaedog, near Bala. At Gwerclas, near Corwen, there is a detached rock of white limestone. The porous appearance of some of the rocks on the sides of Cader Idris has led some travellers to suppose that mountain, or at least some parts of it, to be of volcanic origin; and this opinion seemed to receive strong corroboration from the appearance of a large hollow, high in the mountain, now filled with water, and forming a lake overlooked by a steep cliff, greatly resembling the crater of a volcano: it is, however, now believed that no traces of volcanic matter are to be found. The upper part of the steep cliff above mentioned forms the summit of the mountain, and consists chiefly of immense columns of highly crystalline greenstone, similar to those forming the Giant's Causeway in Ireland, rising at a considerable angle from beneath a collection of broken rocks which lie between their base and the lake. The height of these cliffs is about one thousand one hundred feet, of which at least the lower half is occupied wholly by the columns of greenstone: similar, but smaller, columns appear above, and are interstratified with slates, greatly resembling primitive clay slate, lying at right angles with the columns of greenstone. The southern flank of the mountain consists chiefly of slates lying, at almost every possible angle, in different places; while on the north of the summit, between the lake at its base and the town of Dôlgeley, is an immense range of stony mountains, extending nearly from east to west, consisting chiefly of greenstone, which is in most places columnar, but in a few slaty. The profile of these

rocks, in the distance, resembles steps, the intervening hollows of which are sometimes partially filled by slates: some of the greenstone of this range encloses crystallized carbonate of lime, thus assuming the character of a porphyritic rock: in many places it is observable that the carbonate of lime has been decomposed, leaving cavities; which circumstance, together with the decomposition of the iron, forming an ingredient of the hornblende which abounds in many places, has given to the rock a cellular and rusty appearance. The peaks of the other principal summits of the Berwyn chain are similar in the general character of their geological formation to that of Cader Idris, excepting those situated eastward of Bala lake, where the hills and mountains are wholly composed of primitive schistus, that is, such as does not contain iron pyrites, or any traces of impressions of organized bodies. Shivery schistus, or shale, occurs in different parts of the county, as also do quartz, mica, and spar, in connexion with the slate strata. The Berwyn range of mountains has hitherto been found richer in lead than in copper. Ores of the former metal and of black jack are found in this county at Vigra or Buddugre, near Pont Ddû, in the parish of Llanaber; at Moel Isbri, in the parish of Llanelltyd; in the vicinity of Dôlgeley; at Bwlch y plwm, near Traeth Mawr; at Graig wen, near Dinas-mowddwy; at Melin llên y pair, in the parish of Towyn; and at Brÿndinas, near Dyfryn gwÿn, also in the vicinity of the last-mentioned place. A mine of sulphate of copper has been worked at Aberdovey, at the south-western extremity of the county; and great quantities of sulphate and some carbonate of copper at the Buddugre, or Vigra, and Clogiau mines, near Dôlgeley, which adjoin the second of the lead mines above-mentioned. These copper mines are valuable, the ores being rich, and are worked with spirit: the matrix is semi-indurated whin, intersected by veins of quartz; and as the ores are intimately blended, as it were, in the solid substance of the rock, the success of working them was originally much more uncertain than regular-sided *rake* veins. A gentleman, resident in Dôlgeley, learning that the ashes of the peat procured from a turbary near Dôlvrwynog, in the parish of Llanvachreth, could not be applied with advantage as a manure, suspected the cause, and by chemical tests found that they contained copper. He thereupon employed men to cut and stack the peat which produced these ashes, and constructed kilns for burning it: the ashes he shipped for Swansea, where they were made to yield excellent copper. From this circumstance it has been supposed that the surrounding mountains teem with copper-ore, which, through the medium of springs, or otherwise, had impregnated the peat of the hollows below with a solution of sulphate of copper. In the rocks in the neighbourhood of this turbary are various works for procuring copper, and vast quantities of copper-ore were procured some years ago at Benglog, in the same parish. In the Berwyn range, slates for the roofing of houses and other buildings are raised at Maen-Gwynedd, near Cader Verwyn; Dinas-mowddwy; Moel Grychan, near Aberllynvi; and Peniarth Uchâv, between Cader Idris and the sea. The quarries at Festiniog, near the north-western extremity of the county, are in a branch of the Snowdon mountains, and produce slates of an excellent quality, which are shipped at Traeth Bychan,



near the spot where they are raised: these, like the Carnarvonshire slates, bear different names according to their size: the "ton stones" weigh, upon an average, two tons per thousand; and the "singles," half a ton. The great proportion of argillaceous earth in the composition of the argillaceous limestone renders it of inferior value, both as a cement and a manure, so that it is only worked on account of the absence of better materials: great quantities of the white limestone, near Corwen, are quarried and burned.

The chief manufactures are those of *webs*, and knit woollen stockings and socks. The former is carried on in the town of Dôlgelley, and in the surrounding country, to the distance of twelve miles, as also in the Vale of Dovey; and in these districts almost every little farmer is a manufacturer of webs, and few cottages are without a loom. These webs, called by the London drapers Welsh plains, or cottons, are a sort of thick white cloth, made in pieces of from ninety to one hundred and twenty yards long, two pieces constituting a web. The same branch of manufacture is also carried on in the western part of Montgomeryshire, and the south-eastern part of Denbighshire: but the quantity of webs produced in Dôlgelley and its neighbourhood is far greater than in either of the other districts. The Dôlgelley webs may be divided into two classes,—the coarsest, which are three-quarters of a yard wide; and the finest, seven-eighths of a yard: these, as well as those made in the district of which Machynlleth is the centre, are indiscriminately termed by the drapers *strong cloth*, to distinguish them from those of the Glyn district, near Oswestry, which are termed *small cloth*, because they are about one-eighth of a yard narrower, although of the same length. This manufacture has long prevailed in the county of Merioneth, as appears from acts of parliament passed in the 1st and 3rd of James I., and from two orders of the Privy Council of Charles I., one to the magistrates of the county of Merioneth, in the year 1635, complaining that the Welsh cottons made at that time were of inferior quality to those formerly made, a circumstance injurious to the interest of the London merchants trading to France; and the other to the Lord President of the Marches, in 1637, limiting the length of the webs, and prohibiting the use of fell and lambs' wool in their manufacture, ingredients which are now found of great value, and in time of peace are imported to Barmouth, in great quantities, from Leghorn, London, and Dover: the warp is now made of the coarse fleece wool of the country, while the woof is a mixture, containing about one-third, and sometimes one-half, of lambs' wool. Until about the commencement of the present century, the only market for these webs was held weekly, on Thursday, at Shrewsbury, where they were exposed to sale in a hall belonging to the drapers' company of that town, into which no buyers but of that particular fraternity were admitted. But since that period the manufacturers have been exempted from the effects of that monopoly, by means of professed dealers, who travel over the country and buy the produce of their looms generally at their own houses: these are frequently the agents of drapers, who grant them a percentage on their purchases. The town of Bala is the centre of the stocking manufacture, and the chief

market for the sale of its produce: the boundary of the district in which it is carried on, commencing with Corwen, on the Dee, extends by Bettws into Denbighshire, where it proceeds by Ysptyty-Ivan and Llanrwst, and, including the south-eastern extremity of Carnarvonshire, passes by Penmachno to Festiniog in Merionethshire, and thence by Llanuwchllyn and Bwlch y Groes, along the northern side of the Berwyn hills to its commencement at Corwen: this line comprises a mountainous tract of about eighteen miles in length, and twelve in breadth. The stockings and socks are of all sizes and colours, and of various degrees of fineness: the number of pairs annually sold at Bala is calculated at nearly two hundred thousand, besides woollen wigs and gloves. The Merionethshire hosiery is universally recommended by medical practitioners, being, from the peculiar quality of the wool of which it is manufactured, particularly soft and warm. Besides the native manufactures, there is a woollen cloth manufactory at Dôlgelley, in which town also are dressed great quantities of native sheep and foreign lamb and kid skins, which are sold to the glovers of London, Worcester, Denbigh, and other places. Barmouth is the chief port of this county, and its harbour has received great improvement from an embankment of stone to secure its entrance, completed in 1802, at which time a new quay was also constructed. Aberdyvi, or Aberdovey, at the mouth of the river Dovey, possesses a harbour which might also be rendered very commodious, but was almost unfrequented until within the last few years, during which it has risen to an importance rivalling that of Barmouth. The principal articles of export are cattle, sheep, webs, stockings, dressed skins, ores of lead and copper, poles for the collieries of South Wales, bark, slates, and butter: the chief imports are corn, lamb and kid skins from Italy and other foreign countries, and the various kinds of ordinary shop goods.

The principal rivers are the Dee, the Maw, or Mawddach, and the Dovey, or Dyv, which are joined by numerous mountain torrents on every side, independently of various smaller streams, flowing directly to the sea: the chief of the latter are the Dwyryd and the Dysynni. The Dee has its source a short distance above Llyn Tegid, or Bala lake, which it soon enters a little below the village of Llanuwchllyn: issuing from this extensive sheet of water beneath the town of Bala, it takes a north-north-easterly direction through the beautiful Vale of Edeyrnion, and afterwards an easterly course by the town of Corwen, and through the picturesque Vales of Glyndyrvdwy and Llangollen, into the south-eastern part of Denbighshire: near the church of Llangar, a mile above Corwen, it is augmented by the Alwen, which descends along the northern border of this county from the south-western part of Denbighshire. The Maw rises in the mountains of the northern part of the county, and flows first southward and then south-westward, by the village of Llanvâchreth, to the vicinity of the village of Llanelltyd, where it is joined from the east by the Wonion: the latter stream, which is about equal in magnitude to the Maw, rises near the source of the Dee, at a place called Drws y nant, and winds through a narrow valley, in a less turbulent stream than is usual with rivers having a mountainous origin, passing by the town of Dôlgelley, about a mile



below which it joins the Maw, the united streams then expanding into a fine æstuary, stretching south-westward until within a short distance of the sea, when it turns westward to Cardigan bay, forming at its mouth the harbour of Abermaw, or, as it is called by the English, Barmouth: this river is navigable to within two miles of Dôlgeley. The Dovey rises at the foot of Aran Mowddwy, and flows southward through the rich vale to which it gives name, passing by the small town of Dinasmowddwy, a little below which, on entering the western part of Montgomeryshire, it changes its direction to south-west: near the town of Machynlleth the Dovey becomes the southern boundary of Merionethshire, and discharges its waters into the sea through a broad æstuary at Aberdovey. The Dwyryd has its source in the mountains on the northern confines of the county, and, gradually losing its character of a mountain torrent, as it emerges into a more level district, flows in beautiful meanders through the celebrated Vale of Festiniog, and, passing beneath the rich groves of Tan y Bwlch Hall, falls into the æstuary of Traeth Bâch, which opens into Cardigan bay, at the mouth of the inlet called Traeth Mawr: the latter, extending inland northward, forms for some distance the boundary between this county and that of Carnarvon, and receives, at its head, the torrent of the Glâslyn, up which the line of separation is further continued. The Dysynni descends in a very irregular course south-westward from the foot of Cader Idris and the lake of Talyllyn, and flows into the sea through a small æstuary, a little to the north of Towyn. The roads of Merionethshire, notwithstanding its vast extent of mountain wastes, have shared in the gradual improvement displayed in those of most other parts of the island during the last fifty years. Formerly, almost every valley or dale had its road winding along the bottom of it, which at its highest extremity ascended the mountains almost like a flight of steps; but the modern roads commence the ascent at the lower end of the vale, and attain the summit by a gradual rise along the sides of the hills that enclose it: some of the mountain passes yet, however, present great difficulties to the traveller. An abundance of hard siliceous stone is obtained from the mountain ranges, forming excellent materials for making and repairing the roads, the travelling on which is now as easy as the extreme hilly nature of the county will admit. The mail-coach road from London to Holyhead, by Birmingham and Shrewsbury, enters the north-eastern part of the county from Llangollen, in Denbighshire, passes through Corwen, and soon after quits it again for the south-western part of Denbighshire. The road from London to Montgomery, Welshpool, Harlech, and Carnarvon, by way of Worcester, or by Shrewsbury, enters from Llanvair, in Montgomeryshire, and passes through Dinasmowddwy and Dôlgeley, and by Trawsvynydd, Tan y bwlch, and Pont Aber Glâslyn, into Carnarvonshire: a branch from this, at Welshpool, reaches Bala by way of Llan-vyllin. Two roads branch from the Holyhead road, at Corwen and Dwyryd, or Druid, respectively, to Bala, whence the line of communication thus formed is continued to Dôlgeley. From the latter town an important line of road extends through Barmouth and Harlech, and across the Traeth Bâch sands, to Trêmadoc in Carnarvonshire.

The relics of antiquity are numerous and interesting, more particularly those of remoter ages. On the small plain near Cors y Gedol, in which are situated the small lakes of Llŷn Bodlyn, Llŷn Cwm Howel, and Llŷn Irdin, are numerous Druidical remains, forming a rare group of this class of antiquities, and comprising two circles formed of loose stones, one of which is about fifty-six feet in diameter, and the other of smaller dimensions. Half a mile southward from these, on the side of a hill, are two *carneddau*, or monumental heaps of stones, of extraordinary size; and to the eastward is a large *cromlech*, formed by two incumbent stones, one placed over the edge of the other, resting upon five erect stones somewhat inclined. Near this is another *carnedd*, upon which are two large *cromlechs*, the tabular stone of one of which is twelve feet long and nine broad. Four stone columns, from ten feet to twelve feet eight inches high, are situated in the vicinity of these *cromlechs*; three of them have fallen, but one yet retains its erect position: several *kistvaens*, or stone chests, lie scattered around. Near the fifth milestone, on the road from Harlech to Barmouth, are two *cromlechs*, near each other, singularly situated on *carneddau* of loose stones. The vicinity of Harlech abounds with monumental remains, more particularly such as are supposed to have been connected with the Druidical superstitions: on the steep ascent of an almost precipitous hill, and on its summit, are several circles, formed of loose stones, some of which are single, others concentric, while others again intersect each other: most of them, like those of Cors y Gedol, comprise also upright stones, one of which is in most cases situated in the centre. Craig y Ddinas, a conical hill, situated near the group of Druidical ruins first described, has its summit surrounded by a vast collection of rough stones, forming rude ramparts for the defence of the small plain which it encloses: this is generally considered to have been an ancient British fortified post, of a period as early as the Roman invasion; and on another elevated site, at a little distance, is Castell Dinas Corddin, an intrenched camp with an advanced work, supposed to be of equally remote antiquity. On the summit of a lofty rocky eminence, overlooking Nannau, the seat of Sir Robert Williams Vaughan, Bart., near Dôlgeley, there is also a very ancient British post, defended by a rampart of loose stones, called *Moel Ofrwm*, "the Hill of Sacrifice." Traces of Roman occupation are very numerous, of which the following are the most remarkable: near Pennal, on the banks of the Dovey, in the vicinity of Machynlleth, is a place called *Cevn Caer*, "the Ridge of the City," where Roman coins have been frequently found, and where there are yet extensive remains of a large and strong Roman fortification. In the vicinity of Rhiw Gôch, in the parish of Trawsvynydd, are the remains of a small fort, very singularly situated on a circular isolated rock, supposed to have been a Roman station, from the regularity of the facing stones of the remaining walls, and from the circumstance of the discovery of numerous coins and urns: its name, *Castell Prysyr*, signifies "a castle built in haste," which may account for the buildings being destitute of cement. In the adjacent enclosed country, in the parish of Maentwrog, there is a large Roman encampment, commanding a number of passes. At the south-eastern end of the town of Bala is a large



artificial mount, called Tommen y Bala, supposed to be of Roman formation, and afterwards the site of a British fortress; and in the vicinity of Llanuwchyllŷn are the remains of a Roman fort called *Caer Gai*, where various coins of that people have been discovered. Many other Roman coins have been found near Llanbedr, and at Dôlgelley and Harlech, at which latter place has also been found a golden torques: another of these rich and elegant ornaments has also been found on the mountain of Cader Idris. The *Via Occidentalis*, now called *Sarn Helen* (supposed to be a corruption of *Sarn Leon*, or *Sarn y Lheng*, the legionary way), entering from Cardiganshire, might formerly be traced on the banks of the Dovey, near Pennal, where it communicated with the station there situated: it may yet be traced between Dôlgelley and Trawsvynydd, at Pen y stryd, or "the head of the street," though now covered with turf, and only perceptible in consequence of its elevation above the ground on each side: near it are numerous tumuli. Beyond the station *Heriri Mons*, at Tommen y Mûr, it must have entered the county of Carnarvon between Pont-Aberglâslyn and Bethgelart. The branch of the southern Watling-street, already mentioned, entered this county from the vicinity of Llangynog, and passed by Trûm y Sarn to the Roman station at *Caer Gai*, near Bala, beyond which it is plainly visible, and is called *Sarn hîr*, or "the Long Causeway:" crossing the mountains by the pass called Bwlch y Buarth, it proceeds to Tommen y Mûr. On a mountain called Migneint, near Rhÿd ar Helen, within a quarter of a mile of the *Sarn Helen*, are some remarkable monuments, called *Beddau Gwyr Ardudwy*, "the Graves of the Men of Ardudwy," in which ancient division of the country they are situated: these graves are at least thirty in number, and local tradition states them to be sepulchral monuments of some persons of note, slain here in a battle fought between the men of Dyfryn Ardudwy and some of Denbighshire. In the vicinity of these graves are several circles of stones, the largest of which is about fifty-two feet in diameter, as also a large *carnedd*, with two upright stones, the whole of which appear to have been surrounded by one very large circle. In a field also near the course of the *Sarn Helen*, in the vicinity of Trawsvynydd, is a large rude upright stone, called *Llêch Idris*; and near it is a stone bearing a Latin inscription, called *Bedd Porws*, or "Porus' Grave." Near the village of Llanbedr are two rude upright stones, of the kind called by the Welsh *meini gwyr*, or "the stones of heroes." Near Corwen is a British fortified post of more modern date than those above mentioned, called *Caer Drewyn*; and the site of the encampment occupied by the Welsh forces, at the period of the invasion of the principality by Henry II., may yet be traced by a rampart of earth, situated between the church of Corwen and the village of Cynwyd. The remains of the buildings of the Cistercian abbey of Cymmer, in the parish of Llanelltyd, the only religious house in this county at the time of the Reformation, form a picturesque ruin, known to the Welsh under the name of *Mynachlog y Vaner*, and frequently called *Vaner Abbey*. There are yet striking remains of the castle of Harlech; and at a place called *Sychnant*, about three miles from Corwen, are some remains of a mansion which belonged to the celebrated Welsh hero, Owain Glyndwr. The principal seats are, Arthog,

near Dôlgelley, that of R. Fowden, Esq.; *Brÿn y Gwîn*, near Dôlgelley, that of Hugh Reveley, Esq.; *Caerynwch*, also near Dôlgelley, that of R. Richards, Esq.; *Cors y Gedol*, between Barmouth and Harlech, that of E. Mostyn Lloyd Mostyn, Esq.; *Dôlgûn*, near Dôlgelley, that of T. H. Lewis, Esq.; *Garthyngarad*, near Dôlgelley, that of E. Owen, Esq.; *Glân y Llŷn*, belonging to Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart.; *Glânwilliam*, near Maentwrog, the seat of W. Oakeley, Esq.; *Hèngwrt*, near Dôlgelley, that of G. H. Vaughan, Esq.; *Llwyn*, near Dôlgelley, that of T. Hartley, Esq.; *Nannau*, near Dôlgelley, that of Sir Robert Williams Vaughan, Bart.; *Palê*, near Bala, that of the Rev. Mr. Lloyd; *Peniarth*, that of W. Wynne, Esq.; *Penmaen Dovey*, near Towyn, that of J. Vaughan, Esq.; *Rhagatt*, near Corwen, that of E. Lloyd, Esq.; *Rhiwlas*, that of Richard W. Price, Esq.; *Rûg*, near Corwen, that of G. H. Vaughan, Esq.; *Tâlgarth*, that of C. T. Thurston, Esq.; *Tân y bwlch Hall*, that of W. Gryffydd Oakeley, Esq.; *Vronheulog*, that of John Davies, Esq.; and *Ynysmaengwÿn*, that of Athelstan Corbet, Esq. The better class of houses are frequently built of blasted stone and schistus, much of the latter of which will bear to be regularly squared. A few modern farm-yards are well planned and of good construction; but the rest are of a very mean description. In the vicinity of the schistose hills and mountains the fences are commonly walls of loose stones, built without mortar. Servants hired by the year usually commence their term of service on the 12th of May. The common bread of the inhabitants is oatmeal cake: this is made by mixing oatmeal with a due proportion of lukewarm water, rolling out the dough into thin round cakes, and baking them upon iron plates suspended over the fire, commonly called *bake-stones*: rye bread, and bread made from *muncorn*, or rye and wheat blended, are also in ordinary consumption. Some of the most remarkable of the numerous waterfalls are, *Rhaiadr Dôlmyelnyllŷn*, about five miles from Dôlgelley; *Pistyll Cain*, or "the Fall of the Cayne," about two miles further distant from the same place; and *Pistyll Mawddach*, or "the Fall of the Mawddach," in the vicinity of the latter. In the channel of the *Cynvel*, a tributary of the *Dwryd*, rises a singular columnar rock, called *Pulpit Hugh Llwyd Cynvel*, or "Hugh Lloyd of Cynvel's Pulpit."

MERTHYR, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of ELVET, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (W.) from Carmarthen, containing 246 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the south-western portion of the county, is intersected on the west by the river Cywin, which falls into the *Tâf* at Llanvihangel Abercowin; and on the south by the turnpike road leading from Carmarthen to St. Clear's. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 17. 1., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Martin, is a small plain building, undistinguished by any architectural details. There are places of worship for Presbyterians and a class of dissenters who assume no particular denomination. Some remains of an ancient monument, supposed to be of Druidical origin, are discernible; and within the parish is a farm, once the residence or the property of George Lloyd, a Welsh judge, called *Derllŷs*, which is supposed to have given



its name to that hundred. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £144. 10.

MERTHYR-CYNOG, a parish, comprising the hamlets of Upper Dyfryn Honddû, Lower Dyfryn Honddû, Yscir-Vawr, and Yscir-Vechan, each of which is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, in the hundred of MERTHYR-CYNOG, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (N. N. W.) from Brecknock, containing 833 inhabitants. The name, signifying "Cynog the Martyr," is derived from the erection of a church to the honour of Cynog, son of Brychan Brycheiniog, who is said to have been murdered on a mountain called the Van, in this parish, towards the close of the fifth century, and to have been canonized after his death. The parish is situated principally between the rivers Yscir and Honddû, by the former of which it is intersected on the west, and by the latter on the east, and is traversed on the same side by the turnpike road leading from Brecknock to Builth. The surface is chiefly mountainous, though occasionally alternated with valleys and low grounds, comprising a portion of arable lands, and, towards the sides of the rivers, some rich meadows, affording excellent pasturage. The prevailing scenery is strikingly varied, and in many parts beautifully picturesque: the winding vale of the Honddû abounds with features of pleasing character, and with objects of romantic appearance. Near the chapel of Llanvihangel Vechan the Vanolen is prominently conspicuous, rising almost precipitously in the vale to a very considerable height, and crowned near its summit with a cottage of pleasingly picturesque appearance; on the left is a beautiful knoll, luxuriantly wooded, towards the summit of which, on the right, is a projecting rock, from the fissures of which grows a yew tree, adding a romantic character to the landscape. Beyond the rich woods near Castle Madoc, the remainder of the vale is chiefly arable, but is agreeably softened by a few verdant meadows near the margin of the river. At the extremity of the dell called Cwm llogyn commences a range of mountains, which constitute more than one-half of the parish, extending on one side to the boundary of the hundred of Talgarth, and on the north to the hundred of Builth. Along this whole tract there is scarcely a house, except at the head of the river Honddû, where are a few small cottages, called "Pentre Blaen-Dôl-Honddû. The right of common forms a very important object to the occupiers of small farms on the hills, who, raising little more corn than what is sufficient for the supply of their families, depend greatly on the rearing of their flocks. The village is situated in a cheerless mountain dell, accessible only by a dreary road along a high ridge between deep dingles, watered by two branches of the river Yscir, over which there is a neat bridge of one arch, called Pontvaen.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 10. 5., endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the alternate patronage of Marquis Camden and John Lloyd Vaughan Watkins, Esq. The tithes and advowson were given by Milo Fitz-Walter, Earl of Gloucester, to the priory of Malvern, after the dissolution of which establishment they devolved to the crown, and were sold in the reign of James I. In

1646, they were the property of Sir Francis Fane, a zealous loyalist, and were, on that account, perhaps, sequestered by the parliament, who ordered an annual payment to be made out of the rectorial tithes of £50 to the vicar of Merthyr-Cynog; £40 to the officiating minister of Llanvihangel-Nant-Brân; £40 to the minister of Llandilo-Vawr; and £10 to the minister of Dyfryn Honddû chapel; all which places were then comprehended within, or considered to be dependent upon, this parish: at the Restoration this property reverted to the rightful owner, and the grants made by the parliament became void. Of the several places above named, the chapel of Dyfryn Honddû alone remains within the limits of the parish. The church, dedicated to St. Cynog, is a neat ancient structure with a square tower at the west end: the churchyard is surrounded with stately trees, of which only two or three are yews. There are places of worship for Independents and Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. Edward Gwyn, of Pant y Cored, in 1760, charged a tenement called Dôlwydd with the annual payment of £2 to the poor, to be distributed on the 20th of December. On the bank of the Honddû is a small farm, called Mynachtŷ, which name is derived from its having been the residence of the monks of Malvern, for the purpose of superintending their possessions in this parish, and of transacting the business relating to them: at the east end of the building is a stone, about five feet long, marked with a rude cross, the head of which is inscribed within a circle; and in the porch is another of the same size and character, having the head of the cross within a square: they are both considered as relics of the fifth or sixth century. A hill in this parish, called Alltarnog, bears distinct marks of a British encampment, of elliptical form and about two hundred yards in circuit, originally defended on the north by three ramparts, and on the south inaccessible from its precipitous declivity: it is supposed to have been occupied by the descendants of Maenarch, prior to the erection of their mansion in the Vale of Honddû. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £451. 10.

MERTHYR-DOVAN (MERTHYR-DYVAN), a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S. W.) from Cardiff, containing, with Highlight, 130 inhabitants. This small parish, bordering on the Bristol channel, is in general hilly, and the inhabitants are exclusively employed in agriculture. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £4. 17. 3½., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of R. F. Jenner, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Dovanus, is situated in a valley watered by a small stream which passes near Cadoxton, and falls into the Bristol channel at Barry Island. Highlight is an extra-parochial district, the property of C. K. K. Tynte, Esq., for ecclesiastical purposes attached to this parish, the inhabitants attending divine service here. The late Mr. Richards, of Barry, left £40, and the late Rev. Mr. Powel, £50, directing the interest to be given weekly to the poor in bread. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £84. 1.

MERTHYR-MAWR, a parish in the hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 1½



mile (W. S. W.) from Bridgend, containing 147 inhabitants. It is situated on the right bank of the Ogmore, near its mouth, forming the only portion of the hundred lying on that side of the river, and a little south of the turnpike road between Cardiff and Swansea. A part of the parish to the south is occupied by low barren sand hills, but it probably takes its name from a lofty and extensive elevation composing the greater part of it, and at the eastern foot of which, near the bank of the river, stands its small and pleasant village, with the church. This manor, together with the castle and lordship of Talavan, was given by Robert Fitz-Hamon, on dividing the ancient kingdom of Glamorgan among the Norman knights and others who assisted him in its subjugation, to Sir Richard Syward. Leland says, "Martyr Maur, a fair Manor Place of Stone, stondith on this West Ripe, a mile above Ogor mouth:" in his time it belonged to the Stradlings. Near the church is an elegant modern mansion, surrounded by a thriving plantation, the seat of the late Sir John Nicholl, Knt., Dean of the Arches, by whom it was erected. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Archdeacon of Llandaf. The church is dedicated to St. Teilaw. The river Ogmore discharges itself into the Bristol channel on the southern side of this parish: on its eastern bank are the remains of Ogmore castle, an account of which is inserted in the article on Ewenny. Slight vestiges of an old chapel, commonly called *Cappel St. Roque*, are discernible. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £94. 3.

**MERTHYR-TYDVIL (MERTHYR-TUDFYL)**, a market town, parish, and newly created borough, in the upper division of the hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 24 miles (N. N. W.) from Cardiff, and 175 (W. by N.) from London, containing, according to the last census, 22,083 inhabitants. This place derives its name from Tydvil, or Tudvyl, daughter of Brychan, Prince of Brycheiniog in the fifth century. Brychan, having towards the close of his life retired with part of his family into this neighbourhood, was attacked by a party of Saxons and Irish Picts, who put him to death, together with his son Rhûn Dremrudd, and his daughter Tydvil. A church was soon afterwards erected near the scene of slaughter, in honour of the murdered Tydvil, and received the appellation of Merthyr Tydvil, or "Tydvil the Martyr." Concerning the earlier history of this place, now so important for the richness of its mineral produce and the vast extent of its manufactures, very few events of general interest are recorded. It continued till the middle of the last century an obscure village, noticed only in the Welsh annals as containing within its limits a border fortress called Morlais castle, erected by Gilbert Lord of Glamorgan, for the protection of his estates in this part of the principality against the attacks of the tenantry of the adjacent territories of the lord of Brecknock, by whom they were frequently invaded. The uncertain and ill-defined limits of these contiguous lordships generated perpetual feuds between their respective owners; and the erection of the castle added materially to the acrimony with which the hostilities were conducted. In the reign of Henry I., the castle

is said to have been occupied by Ivor Bâch, a native lord of Upper Senghenydd, who from this place is supposed to have made a descent upon Cardiff castle, and to have taken Robert Earl of Gloucester and his lady prisoners, and detained them in confinement till they consented to observe the ancient customs of the country, and restore the laws of Hywel Dda. In the time of Leland this place does not appear to have been regarded as possessing any importance: that writer, having noticed Morlais castle, makes no further mention of Merthyr than as the parish through which "Morlais riveret goith to the ripe of Tave:" this fortress was demolished by the parliamentary forces in the middle of the seventeenth century. The first congregation of dissenters known to have assembled in Wales was formed at this place, about the year 1620, when Vavasour Powel, celebrated in the annals of nonconformity, while preaching to this congregation, was apprehended and committed to Cardiff gaol. According to a curious journal kept by the incumbent of the parish at that time, the dissenters were not contented with the liberty of paying only what they pleased for tithes, but were in the habit of entering the parish church in a body, during the performance of divine service, and forcibly wresting the Book of Common Prayer from the hands of the officiating minister; and when he ascended the pulpit to preach, a teacher of their own sect would climb up into one of the yew trees in the churchyard, and commence an address to his followers. In June 1831, serious dissensions arose between the workmen and the proprietors of the several mines in this parish, which were attended with consequences much to be regretted. The workmen having assembled in a tumultuous manner, the riot act was read by the police magistrate of the district, and the yeomanry and military, together with a company of the militia, which was then at Cardiff, advanced to the spot, and at length succeeded in restoring order, though unhappily not without the loss of several lives on the side of the workmen, and some of the military being wounded. Major Falls, who commanded the regular forces, was severely wounded at the beginning of the conflict, and the command of the military devolved upon Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan, of the Glamorganshire militia, whose coolness, intrepidity, and judgment were subsequently eulogised by the lord-lieutenant of the county, in his reply to an address of the gentry of Glamorganshire on the occasion.

The town is situated in a mountainous district near the extremity of the Yale of Tâf, and on the river of that name, by which it is partly separated from the county of Brecknock: it is very irregularly built, consisting of assemblages of huts, cottages, and houses, confusedly mixed together, without any regard to order or uniformity of style or arrangement, and occupying both banks of the river, which is crossed by two bridges, but the principal portion of the town is on the eastern bank. Some little improvement has been made, within the last few years, by the construction of a street forming the principal thoroughfare, in which are some shops and houses of more modern character. A mechanics' institute was established in 1829, at Dowlais, in which, since the philosophical society at Coedycummer has been discontinued, weekly lectures



are delivered on general subjects, but chiefly on mineralogy and metallurgy: there is also a society for the discussion, in the Welsh language, of subjects connected with the history and literature of Wales. A theatre, of very inferior character as a building, and now almost concealed by small houses, by which it is surrounded, was formerly opened by a respectable itinerant company; and races were formerly held on Twyn y Waun: but, from the depressed state of the iron trade within the last few years, both these sources of amusement have been discontinued. Cyvarthva Castle and Park form a fine object above the town; and Pen y darren House, with its gardens, is equally interesting at the other extremity. But the general aspect of the vicinity is unprepossessing, the face of nature being disfigured by towering heaps of scoria from the iron mines, which are undergoing continued increase, thus precluding the growth of vegetation upon them, and exhibiting, from their nakedness, in combination with the dense columns of black smoke incessantly emitted from the works, a repulsive appearance of rudeness and gloomy sterility. In the lower part of the parish, however, and in other detached portions, are still several well-wooded and extensive plantations. The vale of the Taf, at the distance of some miles below the town, is narrow and bounded by steep hills, but expands gradually towards the part on which the town is principally built. The parish extends about ten miles from north to south: at the northern extremity its breadth is about five miles, but towards the south it contracts to a breadth of less than one mile.

The mineral treasures of this district, though not fully explored, or rendered so extensively available as they have been since the middle of the last century, were not altogether unappreciated or neglected previously to that period, as is evident from the great heaps of scoria, and other remains which are frequently turned up by the plough in the adjacent lands. From the simple apparatus employed in the mining operations prior to that period it is evident that the process must have been tedious and the produce inconsiderable; and it appears from tradition that the ore was smelted in small blomerics blown by bellows similar to those used in the common forges of smiths. About one hundred and sixty years since, some small improvement was introduced into these operations; and works upon a more enlarged scale were constructed on the site on which the Pen y darren works have been subsequently established, in which the bellows were worked by a water wheel, which is said to have been one of the earliest instances of the application of water to this purpose known in the island. Charcoal was used in calcining the ore, instead of coke, the method of preparing which from mineral coal being at that time unknown; and the wood for the supply of these works is said to have been obtained from a common contiguous to the town, called Coedycymmer. To the general use of charcoal for this purpose may be attributed the great want of timber on the districts adjoining the town, which are known to have been in former times richly and extensively wooded. The present extent and importance of the iron and coal works, and the consequent enlargement of the town and the amazing increase in the amount of its population, are to be primarily

attributed to Mr. Anthony Bacon, subsequently member of parliament for the borough of Aylesbury, who, about the middle of the last century, in conjunction with some other gentlemen, obtained a lease for ninety-nine years, at £200 per annum, of a mineral tract in this district, abounding with coal and iron-ore, and extending about eight miles in length and four in width. Mr. Bacon soon afterwards erected a furnace and works at Cyvarthva, for smelting the ore, and subsequently a forge for the manufacture of bar iron. The Dowlais and Plymouth works were successively established by different companies; but they were not carried on to any great extent, or with any considerable benefit to the proprietors. Soon after the commencement of the American war, Mr. Bacon entered into a contract with government for supplying the different arsenals with cannon, and erected at Cyvarthva a foundry, and works for the boring of cannon, which in 1782 he let on lease to Mr. S. Homfray, who contracted with him for all the iron produced at Cyvarthva, at £4. 10. per ton long weight, and for as much coal as he should require, at the rate of four shillings per ton. Mr. Homfray, having entered into this contract for a term of fifty years, completed his establishment, and introduced a number of the best workmen from England; he made great improvements in the machinery for boring cannon, and also built some forges for manufacturing bar iron; but, in consequence of some misunderstanding with Mr. Bacon, he in a very short time disposed of his portion of the Cyvarthva works to Mr. Tanner of Monmouth, who afterwards sold it to Mr. Richard Crawshaw, an iron-master from London. After his retirement from the works at Cyvarthva, Mr. Homfray, in company with some other gentlemen, established the Pen y darren iron-works, in 1784, which he conducted with very great success; and in 1793 he discovered a method of producing what is here called Finers' Metal, a discovery of the highest value and importance in the manufacture of iron, as this valuable ingredient not only increases the quantity, but also improves the quality of the iron. After superintending the Pen y darren works for some time with considerable success, Mr. Homfray projected the construction of a canal from the Cyvarthva works at Merthyr-Tydvil to Cardiff, over a tract of country singularly difficult, from the hilly nature of the ground; but from some misunderstanding which arose between the managers and the proprietors, he finally withdrew from the concern, the superintendence of which devolved upon Mr. Richard Crawshaw, and has proved of incalculable benefit to the county at large, and to the shareholders in particular. On the death of Mr. Anthony Bacon, his various works were let on lease to different gentlemen; those at Cyvarthva were taken by Mr. Richard Crawshaw, who had previously held that portion of them which were originally leased to Mr. Homfray; the works at Hîrwaun, by Mr. Glover, and the Plymouth works by Mr. Hill. The Cyvarthva works, under the superintendence of Mr. Crawshaw, who had a great amount of capital at his command, rapidly increased in extent and improvement; and in the year 1800 that gentleman constructed an overshot water wheel of cast iron, fifty feet in diameter, at an expense of £4000, by the power of which the operations were greatly accelerated. This wheel was set in motion by



a stream of water brought from a considerable distance by an aqueduct eighty feet above the bed of the river; but, after being used for a considerable time with great effect, it was at length superseded by two steam-engines, one of eighty and the other of seventy horse power.

The principal establishments in the iron trade are, the Cyvarthva works, belonging to Messrs. Crawshay and Sons; Dowlais, belonging to Messrs. Guest, Lewis, and Co.; the Plymouth works, to Messrs. Hill; and the Pen y darren, to Messrs. Thompson and Forman. In the year 1830, the two first had each nine furnaces in blast, exclusively of others out of work or under repair; the third had five furnaces in operation, and the fourth had four; making a total of twenty-seven furnaces in blast. The average quantity of pig iron produced from each furnace per annum is two thousand five hundred tons. In the same year the quantity of iron manufactured at these works collectively was sixty-six thousand five hundred tons, in the making of which were consumed five hundred thousand tons of coal, two hundred and eighty thousand tons of iron-stone, and more than one hundred thousand tons of limestone; and the number of men employed, including those in the mines and quarries connected with them, was, at Cyvarthva, three thousand; at Dowlais, three thousand five hundred; at the Plymouth works, one thousand five hundred; and in the Pen y darren works, one thousand; making a total of nine thousand persons. The stratum of coal found is of excellent quality for smelting the ore, and is accompanied with parallel veins of argillaceous iron-ore, which penetrate the mountains to a great depth, and yield upon an average about thirty-five parts of metal out of a hundred: the mines are worked by levels. The limestone is not so strong as that found in some parts of England; but it varies in quality, and in colour from a deep black to a richly variegated marble of all colours. Stone of excellent quality for millstones is also found in abundance in the mountains in the neighbourhood. The home trade of this place, consisting chiefly of the importation of shop goods and manufactured articles for the supply of this populous district, is also very considerable; these are brought to the town by the canal from Cardiff, chiefly from Bristol. The canal from Merthyr-Tydvil to Cardiff, better known by the name of the Glamorganshire canal, was projected originally by Mr. Homfray, while connected with the Pen y darren iron-works, as related above, and was commenced under an act of the 30th of George III., and completed under another act of the 36th of the same reign, in 1796. It begins at the Cyvarthva iron-works, is carried over the river Tâf by an aqueduct, and over a line of country singularly difficult from the hilly nature of the ground, and terminates at Cardiff, a distance of twenty-five miles, having in its whole course a total fall of six hundred and eleven feet. About two miles and a half from the town, opposite to Troed y rhiw mill, is a powerful steam-engine, constructed by Messrs. Bolton and Watt, for raising water from the river Tâf, for the supply of the canal. There are several tram-roads from the iron-works, mines, and collieries in this rich mineral district. The Merthyr-Tydvil rail-road takes a course parallel with the canal from Merthyr to the aqueduct, but on the opposite side

of the river, a distance of about ten miles, by which means any interruption to the conveyance of the mineral produce during dry seasons, when the canal is scantily supplied with water, is obviated by forwarding it on the rail-road, in waggons constructed for the purpose. The value of land has increased in a ratio corresponding to the improvement of this place in commercial and manufacturing importance. One farm in the neighbourhood, which in the year 1775, the time when the first furnace was erected, was let at £2. 10. per annum, now produces a rental of £50; and another, which at the same time was let for £5 per annum, has since been advanced to £100 per annum. The increase in population has been also equally progressive: the return according to the census of 1801 was seven thousand seven hundred and five; in 1811, eleven thousand one hundred and four; in 1821, seventeen thousand four hundred and four; and in 1831, twenty-two thousand and eighty-three. Since this last return, a petition addressed to parliament for an extension of the representative franchise to this place states upon oath the number of inhabitants to be twenty-six thousand five hundred and fifty. The market days are Wednesday and Friday; and there are three market-places. A fair for cattle is held annually on May 14th; and at a place called Twyn y Waun, on a neighbouring hill within the limits of the parish, are fairs on the first Monday in July, and the first Monday in August, also for cattle. Merthyr-Tydvil has, with the parish of Aberdare, and the village of Coedycummer, in the adjoining parish of Vainor, county of Brecknock, been constituted a borough by the late act for amending the representation of the people, with the privilege of returning one member to parliament: the right of voting is vested in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of at least ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act demands: the number of such tenements within the limits of the borough, which are correctly detailed in the Appendix to this work, is about eight hundred and thirty in Merthyr-Tydvil and Coedycummer, and one hundred and thirty-five in Aberdare: the returning officer is to be annually appointed by the high sheriff for the county. It has also been made a polling-place in the election of knights for the shire. The parish, together with the parishes of Aberdare and Gellygaer, is under the superintendence of a stipendiary police magistrate, appointed by act of parliament of the 10th of George IV., with a salary of £600 per annum, one-half of which is, under the provisions of that act, levied on the several furnaces in the three parishes, and the other half by a rate on the inhabitants of the parish of Merthyr-Tydvil alone: the present magistrate, I. Bruce Bruce, Esq., of Dyffryn, in the parish of Aberdare, was appointed to this office in 1829. The petty sessions for the upper division of the hundred of Caerphilly are held in the town. A court of requests for the recovery of debts not exceeding £5, under an act obtained in the 49th of George III., is held in the town, on the second Thursday in every month, before an unlimited number of commissioners, of whom, in giving judgment, the senior commissioner present has the casting vote. Its jurisdiction extends over the parishes of Aberdare,



Gellygaer, Llanwonno, Merthyr-Tydvil, and Ystrad-yvodog, in the county of Glamorgan; the parishes of Llangynider, Penderin, and Vainor, in the county of Brecknock; and the parish of Bedwelty, in the county of Monmouth.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £20. 5. 7½, and in the patronage of the Marquis of Bute. It is in contemplation, on the death of the present rector, to subdivide this extensive parish into parochial districts, which are already marked out for that purpose, and of which Dowlais will be one. The church, dedicated to St. Tydvil, and entirely rebuilt within the last few years, is a spacious structure, in the later style of English architecture, with a low tower: it has recently received three hundred and forty-four additional sittings, of which number, two hundred and eighty-two are free, in consideration of which, the Incorporated Society for the enlargement of churches and chapels granted £150 towards defraying the expense. At Dowlais there is a church, erected by the proprietors of the Dowlais iron-works, at an expense of £3000: it is a neat and appropriate edifice, containing six hundred and fifty sittings, of which one-half are free: the living is a rectory not in charge, also in the patronage of the Marquis of Bute. There are three places of worship for Particular Baptists, and one for General Baptists, three for Independents, two for Wesleyan Methodists, and one each for Calvinistic Methodists and Unitarians. A National school is supported in the town by subscription: the building is capable of accommodating four hundred children; at present one hundred and fifty boys and eighty girls receive gratuitous instruction. John William, in 1735, bequeathed a rent-charge of £4, one-half of which he appropriated to the teaching of poor children of dissenters to read Welsh, and the remainder to the poor of the dissenting congregation at Merthyr. The only vestiges of antiquity in this parish, worthy of notice, are the remains of Morlais castle, occupying the highest point of a lofty hill surrounded by a desolate tract of country now abounding with rabbits. The ruins of this ancient fortress, though inconsiderable, convey some idea of its original strength: the walls enclosed a pentagonal area of no great extent. The principal apartment of the castle, though almost buried in the ruins of the other parts of the building, is yet remaining: it is a circular room of about thirty feet in diameter, with a vaulted roof supported on a single central pillar; the inner wall is divided into twelve arched compartments, in which were originally windows: the entrance into this apartment is by a narrow gallery or passage, now so obstructed by the ruins of the walls as to be almost inaccessible. Immediately below the ruins of the castle, the lesser Tâf, impetuously rushing through its rugged bed to its confluence with the greater river of that name, is crossed by a bridge of picturesque appearance, called "Pont Sarn," thrown over a chasm in the limestone rock, thirty feet in width, the sides of which are fringed with underwood, and at the base are fragments of rock obstructing the channel of the river, which roars beneath. At a short distance above Pont Sarn is a hollow in the rock, called Dryford Cavern, into which a spring falls from above, and in times of flood, overflowing the brink, forms a cascade of interesting and romantic appearance. Several chaly-

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beate springs flow from the mountains in various parts of the parish. At a place called Gethin, between the river Tâf and the canal, are the remains of a small but very ancient furnace; and about two miles lower down, between Gethin and the engine for supplying the canal, are the ruins of a similar furnace, near which, in the river, are the oak stakes which anciently formed a weir, called Wattle Weir; but of the origin or history of these works nothing has been recorded even by tradition. Gwilym Tew, an eminent Welsh poet, is said to have been a native of Tavedale, in the vicinity of this town. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of this extensive parish, for a few years preceding March 1829, amounted to £2896. 2.: at present (1832) it is nearly £6000.

MEVENNYDD (MEVENYDD), a township in the parish of LLANRHÏSTID, lower division of the hundred of LLAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 10½ miles (S.) from Aberystwith, containing 740 inhabitants. There are some respectable residences in this township, one of which is Mabus, a pleasant seat of the Lloyds, situated on an eminence above the small river Gwyre. The river Aëron has its source here, in a small lake called Llŷnaedwen.

MEYLLTYRN (MYLLTEYRN, or MELLTEYRN), a parish partly in the hundred of GAFLOGION, and partly in that of COMMITMAEN, Lleyn division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 9 miles (W. by S.) from Pwllheli, containing 268 inhabitants. This parish is divided by the small river Rhŷdlâs into two nearly equal parts, of which the eastern division is in the hundred of Gaflogion, and the western in that of Commitmaen: it is separated from the parish of Bottwnog by the river Avon Trevaes, and from that of Brŷncroes by the river Avon Bôdnithoedd. The village is small, but is pleasantly situated on a wide plain; the lands in the vicinity are fertile, and the inhabitants are wholly employed in agriculture, except during the season of the herring fishery, which for the time affords employment to the whole population. At Sarn, a village in this parish, an annual fair for cattle and horses is held on the 27th of June. The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacy of Bottwnog annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £5. 15., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Peter ad Vincula, is a small edifice in good repair: in the churchyard is an ancient upright stone of large dimensions, without either sculpture or inscription. There is a place of worship in the parish for Calvinistic Methodists. Dr. Rowland bequeathed land for the maintenance of one poor widower of this parish in the almshouse at Bangor; and there are some other charitable bequests for the relief of the poor. Henry Rowland, afterwards Bishop of Bangor, and the munificent founder of the grammar school at Bottwnog, was born in this parish, in 1551, at a small farm-house near the church, which is still remaining: he died in 1616, and by his will ordered that the school should be built either in this his native village, or in the adjoining village of Bottwnog. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £70. 5.

MIAWST, a joint hamlet with Trech Gwinnon, in the parish of LLANARTHNEY, higher division of the



hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. by S.) from Carmarthen. The population is included in the return for the parish. It occupies a vale near the source of the Gwendraeth Vâch river, where the population is thinly scattered, and exclusively employed in agriculture.

MICHAEL-CHURCH, a parish in the hundred of PAINSCASTLE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. W.) from Kington, containing 159 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church, is situated at the south-eastern extremity of the county, bordering upon Herefordshire, and is sometimes called Michael-Church upon Arrow, from its position on the banks of that river: it extends about four miles in length and three miles in breadth, and comprises some good tracts of arable and pasture land, which are enclosed and in a tolerable state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery, especially on the eastern and south-eastern sides of the parish, is agreeably diversified; and the views over the adjacent country, from Huntingdon hill, abound with variety and interest. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Kington, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Hereford. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is not remarkable for any architectural details of importance. This parish has the privilege of sending poor children to be gratuitously instructed in the free grammar school of Kington, in the county of Hereford. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £119.

MICHAELSTON LE PIT, a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. W. by W.) from Cardiff, containing 105 inhabitants. Lias and mountain limestone, together with lead-ore, are found in this small parish, which is exclusively agricultural, and presents some fine well-wooded enclosures. Courtyrala, an Italian villa, the seat of T. B. Rous, Esq., is pleasantly situated above a stream artificially widened and improved, over which a rustic bridge has been formed, amid scenery of the most romantic and picturesque character: the grounds are disposed with great taste, and disclose, at various points of view, the most admired scenes of the adjacent country. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £4. 10.  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of T. B. Rous, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Michael. A school for the education of children of both sexes is supported by the family of Rous. On the summit of a hill, in this parish, are vestiges of an earthwork, supposed to be of Roman construction. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £41. 3.

MICHAELSTON super AVON, a parish, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, which separately maintain their own poor, in the hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. S. E.) from Neath, and containing 1050 inhabitants, of which number, 793 are in the Lower division. The name of this parish is derived from the dedication of its church to St. Michael, and its distinguishing adjunct from its situation on the river Avon, which falls into Aberavon bay in the Bristol channel. The parish, which is pleasantly situated in the Vale of Avon, within a mile and a quarter of the town of Aberavon, through which passes the turnpike road from Cardiff to Swansea,

comprises a large tract of country, of which nearly one-half is mountainous, and the remainder good arable and pasture land: the soil is tolerably fertile, and the inhabitants of the Upper hamlet are altogether employed in agriculture. The village, which is in the Lower hamlet, is pleasantly situated in a sequestered part of the vale, which, till within the last few years, was rarely visited by strangers: it formerly consisted only of a few solitary cottages thinly scattered on the hills, but the mineral wealth with which the mountainous district of the parish abounds has effected an important change, and the establishment of various works has completely transformed it into a scene of cheerful activity, the population having increased above sixty per cent. since the census of 1821. Numerous comfortable cottages have been built for the accommodation of the workmen, a handsome modern residence for the proprietor of the works, and a beautiful cottage for the minister of the parish, who was previously non-resident. The parish abounds with iron-ore and coal, a large vein of the latter, from ten to twelve yards in depth, having been recently discovered. In the coal are often found vegetable impressions of fern and reeds; and a fine specimen of what is conjectured to be an extinct species of the palm, or fern tree, has been recently found: it is part of the trunk of the tree, about two feet and three-quarters in length, and one foot and a half in diameter, and consists of what geologists call carboniferous sandstone; the higher and lower parts of the tree are still in the ground. The works established at Cwm Bychan are chiefly for the manufacture of pyroligneous acid, sugar of lead, and tin plates, and afford employment to about four hundred men. Fire clay is also found in the parish in great abundance and of good quality. A rail-road from the works communicates with the shipping-place at Taibâch, near the mouth of the river Avon; and another extends from the coal-works along the left bank of that river, where vessels can lie in safety while waiting for their freight. A portion of the lower division of the parish is included within the new boundaries of the contributory borough of Aberavon. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Mr. Coke, to whom belong the tithes of the Higher hamlet: those of the Lower are the property of the Earl of Jersey. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, and pleasantly situated on the western bank of the river Avon, is a small edifice of great antiquity, in a very dilapidated condition, and contains an ancient altar-tomb, with an inscription which is now nearly obliterated. There are two places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. A school-room has been built by the proprietors of the works in this parish, for the instruction of the children employed in them, the school being supported chiefly by monthly contributions from their parents. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor, during the few years immediately preceding March 1829, amounted to £54, of which sum, £20 was formerly assessed on the Lower hamlet, but its proportion is much larger now, in consequence of the improvements in this division of the parish.

MICHAELSTON super ELY, a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W.) from Cardiff, containing 60 in-



habitants. This small parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Michael, and its distinguishing appellation from its situation on the southern bank of the river Ely, which separates it from the parish of St. Fagan, is beautifully situated in the south-eastern part of the county, and comprises a moderate portion of rich arable and pasture land, which is in a good state of cultivation. It was formerly distinguished for a castle erected here, probably by some of the Norman invaders of the principality, but of which little of the history has been preserved, and scarcely the ruins are at present distinguishable. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and the distant views extend over a fertile and highly cultivated tract of country. The living is a discharged rectory, with the rectory of St. Bride's super Ely consolidated, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £8. 6. 8., and in the patronage of Llewellyn Trehearne, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is not remarkable for any architectural details. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £12. 4.

MICHAELSTON (UPPER), a hamlet in the parish of MICHAELSTON SUPER AVON, hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. E. by S.) from Neath, containing 257 inhabitants. Prior to the introduction of mineral and chemical works into the Lower hamlet, this formed the more considerable portion of the parish, and paid two-thirds of the poor's rate: the average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £34.

MIDDLETON, a township in that part of the parish of ALBERBURY which is in the lower division of the hundred of CAWRSE, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (E. by S.) from Welshpool, containing 100 inhabitants.

MILFORD, a newly created borough, sea-port, and market town, in the parish of STREYNTON, hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (N. W.) from Pembroke, 8 (S. S. W.) from Haverfordwest, and 256 (W.) from London: the population is returned with the parish. This town, which is celebrated for the spacious and commodious haven to which it gives name, is said to have derived its appellation from a stream which turned a mill anciently belonging to a priory, about a mile from the present town, and over which there was a ford, prior to the erection of a bridge at this place. It was in the famous haven of Milford that Henry II. embarked with the troops which he had assembled for the conquest of Ireland; and here also he landed, on his return from that expedition. In the reign of Henry IV., an army of twelve thousand men, which had been sent from France to the assistance of Owain Glyndwr, in his insurrection against the authority of that monarch, landed at this place, from which they marched to the siege of Haverfordwest, and afterwards to that of Carmarthen. The Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., attended by a small body of French retainers, ill disciplined and scantily provided for the great design he had undertaken, also landed in this haven, where he was received by Rhÿs ab Thomas, with a numerous train of his dependents and followers, whose warlike appearance encouraged him at once to proceed on his arduous enterprise. On this occasion it is said that Rhÿs, who had previously, in his assurances of loyalty

to Richard, declared that any person ill affected to the state, daring to land in those parts of Wales where he had any employment under the king, "must resolve to make his entrance and irruption over his belly," laid himself on his back on the ground, that the earl, on landing, might pass over him: a tradition still popular in the neighbourhood states that Rhÿs, in the evasive redemption of his pledge, remained under a small bridge, while the earl passed over it. Immediately after his landing, Richmond, having despatched orders to his partisans in other parts of the country, to join him with their forces at Shrewsbury, set forward upon his march, forming his small army into two divisions, one of which he commanded himself, taking his route through Cardiganshire, and the other he placed under the conduct of Rhÿs, who, passing through Carmarthenshire, was to collect his followers on his march, and to rejoin the earl at Shrewsbury. In the reign of Henry VIII., although the present town of Milford was not then in existence, the port of Llanelly, in Carmarthenshire, was esteemed a creek to the harbour; and in the reign of Elizabeth, when the country was threatened with the Spanish invasion, an engineer named Ivy was sent hither, to survey the haven, and to report on the means necessary to be adopted for its defence against the enemy; but his conduct gave so much dissatisfaction to the inhabitants of this part of the coast, that a spirited memorial was drawn up, signed by the Bishop of St. David's and the principal gentlemen and magistrates of the county, and presented to the leading members of the Privy Council. In this memorial they set forth the great importance to "her Majesty and the realm" of properly and effectually fortifying the haven of Milford, and entreat that some engineer of experience should be sent down for that purpose. In consequence either of this remonstrance, or of Mr. Ivy's report of the means necessary for the defence of the place, orders were issued for the construction of two forts near the entrance of the haven, which were begun in situations very ill chosen for the purpose, but were never finished; and their remains, called respectively the Dale and Nangle blockhouses, are still visible. About the commencement of the American war, it was resolved by government to form a dock-yard at Nayland, on the northern shore of the haven, and a little to the east of the present town; and some land in the vicinity was purchased for the erection of forts and batteries for its defence; but, after two ships had been built there by contract, *viz.*, the Milford frigate, and the Prince of Wales of seventy-four guns, and when one of the fortifications had been constructed to a considerable extent, the design was abandoned, after nearly £20,000 had been expended. The late Admiral Lord Nelson, who, after the battle of the Nile, visited this place in company with the late Sir William Hamilton, then proprietor of it, regarded Milford Haven as the finest and most extensive harbour in the known world, capable of floating more than the whole navy of England within its limits in perfect safety. George IV., on his return from Dublin in 1821, encountering a gale of wind near the Land's End, the royal squadron twice entered this haven; and his Majesty, having landed at Milford, ultimately proceeded by land to London. In commemoration of this event a tablet, about six feet in height, ornamented in the centre with a large shell, and with wreaths of flowers



down the sides, was placed at the end of a public building near Milford Quay, by the Hon. Robert Fulke Greville, on which is engraved a long inscription detailing the circumstances of that occurrence.

The present town is of very recent origin, and owes its rise and importance to the Hon. Mr. Greville, nephew of the late Sir William Hamilton, and subsequently, after the death of his uncle, proprietor of the estate. This gentleman, during the lifetime of Sir William, perceiving the advantages which might be derived from the situation of the property, procured an act of parliament in 1790, enabling Sir William Hamilton, his heirs and assigns, to make docks, construct quays, establish markets, with roads and avenues to the port, to regulate the police, and to make this place a station for conveying the mails to Waterford, which previously had been compelled to stop at Haverfordwest, eight miles distant from the place of shipping. To this arrangement may be attributed the origin of the town, which it was resolved to build opposite to the finest anchorage in that part of the haven called the Man of War Roads. The first building erected on this site was a large and commodious inn, for the accommodation of the passengers by the mail coaches and packets; and the ground plan having been regularly laid out, the allotments were eagerly taken and built upon, and a flourishing town soon arose. The earliest settlers in the new town were some families from the island of Nantucket, on the coast of North America, of whom the Starbucks first, and afterwards the family of Rotch, came by invitation of government to establish the South Sea Whale fishery at this port, which trade was carried on successfully for some years, but was afterwards entirely discontinued. The increasing population soon caused the establishment of a market, for which a good market-house has been built, and which is well and cheaply supplied for the inhabitants and the shipping, this having been formerly a station for men of war; and the accession to the trade of the place procured, in a short time, the erection of a custom-house, in 1823, to which that of Pembroke became subordinate. A very great addition to the prosperity and importance of the town was made by carrying into effect Lord Spencer's plan for establishing a royal dock-yard at this port, which took place about the commencement of the present century, when a frigate of forty guns, and a sloop of thirty, were built here, and proved to be the best ships of their respective classes in the service. In 1809, the Milford of seventy-four guns was launched here; and in consequence of the design of government to fix the new dock-yard and naval arsenal at this place, a petition was presented to the House of Commons, in 1813, for leave to bring in a bill for the improvement of the town, by building a bridge across one of the inlets from the haven to the village of Haking, to be constructed in such a manner as to convert the inlet into a floating dock of sixty acres. Under these favourable circumstances the town, which had already become considerable in its extent and population, promised greatly to increase in importance; but its further progress was arrested by the removal of the royal dock-yard and arsenal to Paterchurch, or Pembroke Dock, which took place in 1814. It has still, however, retained its distinction as the station for the post-office packets to Waterford, from which it has derived a considerable

degree of prosperity; but it is at present in contemplation to remove this establishment also to a place called Hobbs Point, near Pembroke Dock, where a handsome pier is now being built with that view.

The town of Milford is beautifully situated, five or six miles from the mouth of the haven, on a point of land sloping down to the water, by which it is almost surrounded, being bounded on the east by Prix Pill, on the west by Priory Pill, and on the south by the main haven, which here expands into a spacious reach, having the appearance of a large inland lake, enclosed by rocky shores presenting rich and highly varied scenery. The present town, elevated upwards of sixty feet above the level of the sea, consists of three parallel streets, intersected at right angles by others leading down to the haven: the lower street contains only one row of houses, overlooking the water, and having in front a fine terrace, at one extremity of which stands the principal hotel, a spacious and handsome pile of building, affording every accommodation for passengers to and from Waterford. The houses, which are for the most part built of stone procured on the spot, are regularly disposed, and many of them are of very handsome design. The approach to the town from the sea is defended by two batteries, mounting each seven guns, and erected on the opposite shores of the haven; and between the adjacent villages of Haking and Hubberstone there is an observatory, which, however, having never been finished, is now going to decay. The air is remarkably salubrious, and the surrounding scenery abounds with variety and beauty, and in some places is highly picturesque. Milford Haven is one of the most extensive and secure harbours in the kingdom, or perhaps in the world: it is formed by the junction of the rivers called the Eastern and Western Cleddy, from the mouths of which it extends nearly ten miles in length, being from one to two miles in breadth, and has five bays, ten creeks, and thirteen roadsteads; the whole affording good anchorage and safe shelter for ships of the greatest burden, which, from the strength and depth of the tides, can put to sea in any winds with more expedition than from any large harbour on the coast of Britain: its total navigable length, from its mouth up the main haven and the Western Cleddy to Haverfordwest, is twenty-one miles; from its mouth, ascending the haven and the Eastern Cleddy, to Canaston bridge, about twenty miles. It has been stated by a naval officer once resident at this place to be capable of receiving, at the same time, one thousand ships of the line, one thousand fifty gun ships, one thousand frigates, one thousand sloops of war, and one thousand transports, without the least danger of their being in each other's way; and that one hundred sail of the line might be brought to act simultaneously against any number of ships that might attempt to enter the harbour.

The trade and present importance of the town arise from its being a great resort of shipping, not only on account of the custom-house, but also of the packet and quarantine establishments, and the convenience of its situation as a port for vessels in distress and under circumstances of peculiar destination. The principal business is that of ship-building, which, since the removal of the royal dock-yard, is still carried on upon a less extensive scale: there are several yards for the repairing of vessels, in which also vessels of upwards of one hun-



dred tons' burden are built. Coal for the supply of the post-office steam-packets is brought from Scotland; American timber is imported for ship-building and domestic uses, and also various articles of Baltic produce, but upon a small scale. The principal exports are, stone coal, for drying malt, of which great quantities are shipped for London and different ports on the Bristol and English channels, and limestone and culm, which are sent coastwise. A large oyster fishery is carried on for the supply of distant markets, the oysters of this coast being esteemed unrivalled in quality. The number of vessels belonging to the port, according to the official returns of 1831, is one hundred and sixteen, of the aggregate burden of eight thousand one hundred and four tons. The post-office steam-packets sail daily to Waterford, and daily return, conveying the Irish mail: they are commodiously fitted up for the reception of passengers. The jurisdiction of the port extends over the whole haven, and along the entire coast from near Laugharne, in Carmarthenshire, to St. David's Head: it is under the control of a Lord High Admiral and a Vice Admiral of the port, a harbour-master, a superintendent of quarantine, and a collector of the customs: an agent for the post-office packets, and an agent for Lloyd's, who is likewise a consul for foreign nations, are also resident in the town. Some good quays have been constructed, and there are extensive warehouses for bonding stores, and two bonding yards for timber. The custom-house is a neat and substantial building, commodiously situated, and well adapted to its purpose. A public brewery is conducted upon an extensive scale; and a considerable trade is carried on in ship-chandlery and other articles necessary for the supply of the shipping. The market days are Tuesday and Saturday, and the markets, which are abundantly supplied and numerous attended, are held in a convenient and sheltered area for the purpose. The lord of the manor holds courts leet, at which constables and other officers are appointed. By the recent act of parliament for amending the representation, Milford has been made a contributory borough to Pembroke in returning one member to parliament: the constituency of course consists entirely of the ten pound householders, duly qualified and registered: the number of houses of sufficient value to qualify their tenants is one hundred and five, the limits marked out for the franchise not only including the whole area between Prix Pill and Priory Pill, chiefly occupied by the town, but also the old village of Haking, on the opposite side of the latter inlet, and are more minutely detailed in the Appendix. A chapel of ease to the mother church, dedicated to St. Catherine, is situated at the eastern extremity of the street fronting the haven: it was erected chiefly at the expense of the Hon. Charles Francis Greville, lord of the manor, and was consecrated for divine service in the year 1808. It is an elegant structure in the later style of English architecture, with a lofty embattled tower, and consists of a nave, chancel, and north and south aisles: the roof is richly groined, and the windows are embellished with stained glass: the font, which is of very elegant design, is of Derbyshire marble, and opposite to it is a vase of red porphyry, which was brought from Egypt, and intended to be placed here, also the top-gallant mast of the French ship *L'Orient*, which was blown up in the

battle of Aboukir. A little to the east of the present edifice are the remains of an ancient chapel, which was also dedicated to St. Catherine, and, after having been desecrated for many years, was converted into a powder magazine: it consisted of a nave and chancel, with a finely vaulted roof, which is still entire: the western end has fallen down, but the boundaries of the ancient cemetery may be distinctly traced. There are places of worship for Baptists, the Society of Friends, Independents, and Wesleyan Methodists. Milford gave the title of baron, in the peerage of Ireland, to the late Sir Richard Philipps, Bart., of Picton Castle, who dying without issue, in 1823, that dignity expired.

**MINERA**, an extensive chapelry in that part of the parish of **WREXHAM** which is in the hundred of **BROMFIELD**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**, 4 miles (W. by N.) from Wrexham, containing 502 inhabitants. It comprises the western portion of the parish, which is hilly, and abounds with mineral wealth. The present name is supposed to be derived from this circumstance: its ancient appellation was *Mwyn-Glawdd*, or "the mine upon the ditch," in allusion to *Offa's Dyke*, which passes through it. It is bounded on the north by the river *Alyn*, which rises in this district. The greater portion of the inhabitants are employed in working the mines, which are on an extensive scale, consisting of iron, lead, and coal, the last of which are worked to a considerable extent; but the lead mines are at present discontinued, owing to the influx of water, and, though seven steam-engines and a mill have been employed in clearing them, the attempt has hitherto proved unsuccessful; the population has accordingly decreased since the census of 1821. The living is a perpetual curacy, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of *St. Asaph*, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £400 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Vicar of *Wrexham*. The chapel is a small cruciform structure. This place separately maintains its own poor, according to an arrangement entered into in March 1830.

**MISKIN** (**MYSGYN**), a hamlet in the parish of **LLANTRISSENT**, hundred of **MISKIN**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5 miles (N. E.) from Cowbridge. The population is included in the return for the parish. It was probably at a remote period a place of some consequence, having given name to the hundred: the river *Ely* bounds it on the west and is here crossed by a bridge.

**MOCHLAS** (**MECHLAS**), a township in the parish of **KILKEN**, Northop division of the hundred of **COLES-HILL**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**, containing 80 inhabitants, who are exclusively employed in agriculture, the number having increased nearly twofold since the census of 1821.

**MOELVRE**, a joint hamlet with *Iddole*, in the parish of **LLANDEVEYLOG**, hundred of **KIDWELLY**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 3 miles (S.) from Carmarthen, containing, with *Iddole*, 440 inhabitants. There are a few agreeable mansions in this hamlet, which commands a fine view of the river *Towy*, by which it is bounded on the west, and is the most improving hamlet in the parish, the population having increased nearly a fourth since the census of 1821: the road from Carmarthen to Kidwelly passes through it.

**MOLD**, a parish, comprising the borough and market town of *Mold*, and the chapelries of *Nerquis* and



Tryddin, which are separately assessed for the maintenance of their poor, in the hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, and containing 9385 inhabitants, of which number, 8086 are in the town of Mold (and that part of the parish immediately adjacent not comprised within the two chapelries), 6 miles (S.) from Flint, and 200 (N. W.) from London. The ancient British name of this place, *Yr Wyddgrug*, signifying "a lofty and conspicuous hill," and also its Roman name of *Mons altus*, of like import, were derived from a high mound on the north-western side of the present town, now called the Bailey Hill, a lofty eminence, partly natural and partly artificial, upon which a fortification appears to have been erected at a very early period, but whether originally by the ancient Britons, or by the Romans, is not accurately known. The only plausible arguments for ascribing it to the Romans are, the eligibility of its site for a place of defence, its proximity to the seat of their mining establishments in this part of the principality, and the discovery of a gold coin of the Emperor Vespasian near the spot. The advantages of the situation caused it to be subsequently the site of a more stately castle, erected by the Normans for the defence of the territories which they afterwards obtained possession of in this part of the country, and who, in their own language, describing its elevated situation, gave it the appellation of "*Mont-ault*," of which its present name is supposed to be a contraction. The historical events connected with this place refer to a very remote period. Soon after the final establishment of Christianity in this part of the principality, a severe conflict took place between the combined forces of the pagan Saxons and Picts, who were carrying desolation through this portion of the country, and the inhabitants, who had been recently converted, and of whom thousands had been but lately baptized. The latter calmly awaited the approach of the enemy at a place within a mile of the town, since called Maes Garmon, or "the Field of Germanus," under the command of Bishops Germanus and Lupus, the former of whom, having given his troops orders to repeat after him the word "*Alleluiah*," led them on to battle. This triumphant shout, uttered by the whole army, struck such terror into the hearts of the pagans, that they fled on all sides; numbers perished by the swords of their pursuers, and many, attempting to escape, were drowned in the adjacent river. This celebrated victory, which took place in Easter week, in the year 420, has been distinguished by historians with the appellation of "*Victoria Alleluatica*;" and the memorial of it has been perpetuated by the erection of a pillar, in 1730, on the spot where St. Germanus is said to have stood, on the base of which is a Latin inscription commemorative of the event.

From this period till after the Norman Conquest little is known of the history of this place, of which, under its present name, the first notice occurs in the 9th year of the reign of William Rufus, when that monarch granted it to his vassal, Eustace de Cruier, who did homage to him for the territories of Mold and Hopedale, which he erected into a kind of inferior lordship marcher, and for the defence of which newly acquired territories he built several castles, and among them, in all probability, the castle of this place. In the reign of Henry I.,

Mold formed part of the extensive possessions of Robert, Seneschal of Chester, surnamed, from his residence at this place, Robert de Montault, or Montalto. During his occupation of the castle it sustained many severe attacks from the Welsh; but it was so strongly fortified, both by nature and by art, that it resisted every effort to reduce it; and in numerous subsequent sieges, during a period of fourteen years, it opposed an impregnable barrier to the attempts of the native Britons to repossess themselves of the territory of which they had been despoiled by the Normans. The garrison, which was very numerous, made repeated inroads on the adjacent territories of their Welsh neighbours, till, in 1144, Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, in retaliation for their depredations, invested the castle with a large body of forces, which he commanded in person, took it by storm, put all the garrison to the sword, and is said to have levelled the walls with the ground: it is, however, stated that he occupied it by a small body of troops in 1149, when he advanced to give battle to Ranulph, Earl of Chester, whom he defeated with great slaughter. It appears to have been subsequently rebuilt by the English, from whom, in 1198, it was again taken by the Welsh, under the command of Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, who kept possession of it for some time. After remaining alternately in the hands of the English and the Welsh till the year 1240, it was stipulated in the treaty of peace concluded at that time between Henry III. and Davydd ab Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, that the latter should surrender all such territories as had been claimed by the vassals of the former, except those of Mold, which he was suffered to retain in fulfilment of a treaty previously made between him and the Seneschal of Chester. The year following Henry revoked this treaty, and entered into a new agreement, by which he compelled Davydd to deliver up to Roger de Montalto, Seneschal of Chester, the whole of his lands in the lordship of Mold, together with the castle and all its dependencies. In 1245, Davydd besieged the castle, which he took by storm, and put the whole of the garrison to the sword: Roger alone escaped the carnage, being fortunately absent from the castle, at the time of its surrender. The castle, always an object of obstinate contention between the native princes of North Wales and the English, appears soon afterwards to have fallen into the possession of the latter, who held it till the year 1263, when it was besieged and taken by Gruffydd ab Gwenwynwyn, Lord of Powysland, who razed it to the ground. It was again rebuilt by the English, and restored to the family of De Montalto, and was placed under the custody of Roger de Clifford, justiciary of Chester, against whose oppressive tyranny, and that of his deputy, Roger Scrochil, the inhabitants of Ystrad Alun, or Molesdale, were loud in their complaints, a short time previously to the final subjection of the principality by Edward I. In 1322, Sir Gruffydd Llwyd, who had been knighted by that monarch for bringing him the news of the birth of his son in the castle of Carnarvon, and who, for some time after Edward's death, had continued a faithful adherent to the government of his son Edward II., finding the English yoke no longer tolerable, took up arms; and having assembled a large body of his countrymen, and overrun all North Wales and the marches, he seized upon this castle, but kept



possession of it only for a very short time: his insurrection was not attended with success, and he was soon afterwards defeated and taken prisoner. From this time little more occurs of any military movements in which the castle of Mold had a share; it remained in the possession of the descendants of Robert de Montalto, who in 1302 did homage for it to Edward Prince of Wales at Chester; but in 1327, the last baron, in failure of male issue, conveyed it to Isabel, queen of Edward II., for life, and afterwards to John of Eltham, younger brother of Edward III., after whose decease without issue it reverted to the crown. It appears to have continued an appendage of the crown till the reign of Henry IV., by whom the castle and lordship, together with those of Hope and Hopedale, were granted to the Stanleys, afterwards Earls of Derby. Its final demolition, as a place of strength, is supposed to have taken place during this reign, and is attributed to Owain Glyndwr, who, in the course of his determined efforts to overthrow the government of Henry IV., committed depredations upon most of the estates in the principality belonging to the partisans of that monarch. On the first division of the principality into counties, in the reign of Henry VIII., Mold was annexed to the county of Denbigh; but in the thirty-third year of that monarch's reign it was assigned to the county of Flint, of which it has ever since that time continued to form a part. During the parliamentary war in the reign of Charles I., the ancient mansion of Gwysaney, near this town, was garrisoned for the king; but in 1645 it was taken by the parliamentary forces under Sir William Brereton. The lordship of Mold remained in the possession of the Stanleys till the death of James, the seventh earl, a zealous adherent to the cause of Charles I., who, after the battle of Worcester, was taken prisoner by the parliamentary forces and beheaded at Bolton in Lancashire. After his death the lordship was sold by the parliament; and a proposal having been made for repurchasing it by the Earl of Derby, the conditions of which that nobleman failed to fulfil, Charles II., in 1664, ordered that the former purchasers should retain it.

The town is pleasantly situated on a gentle acclivity in a small but fertile plain, watered by the river Alyn, which is here crossed by several bridges, and surrounded by rugged eminences, which are rich in mineral treasure: it consists principally of one long street, intersected at right angles by two smaller ones, is tolerably well paved, but indifferently supplied with water, and not lighted: the houses are not distinguished either for their regularity or style of building; but in the environs are numerous handsome seats and elegant mansions; and the surrounding scenery is richly diversified, and highly embellished with features of picturesque beauty. The views from the higher grounds, though confined, extend over a tract of country richly cultivated and varied with objects of interesting character and romantic appearance. The parish abounds with mineral wealth: the western district is rich in lead-ore, which is generally found imbedded in limestone or chert; but the operations are much impeded by the subterraneous stream of the Alyn, which here flows underground for the space of somewhat less than a mile: the eastern part of it contains an abundance of coal of excellent quality, which is procured in great quantities

for the supply of the neighbouring works; and some fine seams of cannel coal are also found within two miles to the south of the town: calamine is also procured here. In the townships of Argoed and Bistre, in the north-eastern part of the parish, potters' clay is found in abundance; and large manufactories of earthenware and fire bricks have been established, affording employment to the poor in that district. Near these works are others for smelting lead; and almost adjoining the town are some extensive cotton mills. These mills, for the spinning of cotton twist, are situated on the river Alyn; they were erected in 1792, lighted with gas in 1812, and greatly enlarged in 1825, and at present afford employment to more than three hundred persons. Upwards of four thousand acres of waste land were enclosed in this parish under the provisions of an act obtained in 1792. The turnpike roads from Chester to Ruthin, and from Holyhead to Wrexham, pass through the town. The market days are Wednesday and Saturday; and fairs are held annually on February 13th, May 12th, August 2nd, and November 22nd. By the late act for amending the representation of the people Mold has been constituted a borough, contributory with Flint and the other boroughs in the county in the return of a member to parliament: the right of voting is vested in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of ten pounds and upwards, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the present number of such tenements within the limits of the borough, which are co-extensive with the township of Mold, and include an area of about five hundred and seventy acres, is about one hundred and fifty, of which one hundred and forty are in the town. Though Flint is the county town, yet, from the want of a county hall there, and the central situation of this place, which is now within the North Wales circuit, the assizes are held here, in a house hired for that purpose from a private individual; and it is in contemplation to erect at Mold a county hall and prison, plans and specifications of which have already been submitted to the notice of the county magistrates: the estimated expense of these buildings is £11,000.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £10, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, and said to have been erected in the early part of the sixteenth century, is a spacious and handsome structure, in the purest character of the later style of English architecture, consisting of a nave, north and south aisles, and a chancel, with a lofty square embattled tower, enriched with sculpture and crowned with pinnacles, which, though of more recent erection, precisely corresponds with the general design. In taking down the old tower the workmen discovered, at the depth of a foot below the ground, a layer of burnt wheat, barley, rye, and beans, three inches thick, upon an earthen floor from four to five yards square, under which was deposited in regular order a great number of human bones, about half a yard in depth, and a stone which had been worked into the foundation, upon which was inscribed "Here lieth the body of Gwenllian, daughter



of Evan ab David ab Yorwerth." The walls of the church are crowned with an elegant pierced parapet, under which are the figures of various animals finely sculptured in stone. The interior of the church is richly embellished with architectural details and sculptured ornaments: the nave is separated from the aisles by a fine range of seven light clustered columns with foliated capitals, supporting on each side a series of obtusely pointed arches, the spandrils of which are highly enriched with finely sculptured devices of angels bearing shields charged with emblematic allusions to the Passion of Our Saviour, among which is a representation of the Veronica, and with the armorial bearings of such benefactors as contributed towards the erection of the church, among which the arms of the Stanley family are conspicuous. The aisles are lighted by spacious and lofty windows of elegant design, enriched with tracery, and corresponding in form to the arches of the nave; and at the eastern extremity of each aisle are three highly enriched and canopied niches, in which were formerly statues now destroyed. The niches in the south aisle are almost concealed by monuments, including a very superb one to the memory of Robert Davies, of Llanerch, Esq., who died in 1728, on which is his effigy in an erect posture, habited in Roman costume. Near this is a mural monument to the memory of his grandfather, Robert Davies, of Gwysaney, the ancient residence of the family prior to their acquisition of Llanerch in the Vale of Clwyd. In the same aisle is an ancient mural tablet to the memory of Robert Warton, otherwise Parfew, abbot of Bermondsey in Surrey, and afterwards Bishop of St. Asaph, from which see he was translated, in 1554, to that of Hereford, where he died in 1557, and was interred: above his armorial bearings, in a shield on which are also quartered the arms of the see of St. Asaph, is a label, inscribed "*Robtus pmissione Divina Epus Assav*," supported at one end by an angel, and at the other by a bishop. In the churchyard was dug up a stone, bearing the inscription "*Fundamentum Ecclesie Christus*," and underneath it the signature "*W. H. Eps.*," supposed to have been that of Bishop William Hughes, who died in the year 1600. There are two chapels within the parish, one at Nerquis, three miles from the town, and the other at Tryddin, about five miles distant. There are places of worship for Independents, and for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, all of which are well built, particularly that for the last-named sect. In 1744, the Rev. Hugh Lloyd, vicar of this parish, built a school-house, which he endowed with a rent-charge of £10, payable from certain lands in the parish, for the support of a master for the gratuitous instruction of poor children: this endowment was subsequently augmented by Mr. Dodd, who in 1780 bequeathed £100 for the support of this school, and also by a bequest of Mr. James Hughes, of the parish of Mile End, in the county of Middlesex, who in 1793 left to this school £100 three per cent. consols. The produce of these several bequests is now paid to the support of a National school, erected by subscription in 1823, in which sixty boys and fifty girls receive gratuitous instruction. A tenement in the parish of Caerwys was charged by an unknown benefactor with the payment of £20 per annum, to be distributed weekly in bread to the poor; and a rent-charge of £18

on a tenement in the parish of Hawarden; another of £8 on a tenement in the vicinity of this place; and a third of £2 on a tenement in the parish of Llanverras, were also severally bequeathed by unknown benefactors to the poor of this parish. The Rev. Dr. Wynne, of Tower, bequeathed £2. 10. per annum to poor widows and widowers of Broncoed and Mold; John Wynne, Esq., of Waen, bequeathed £1 per annum to purchase shoes for the poor of those places, and an unknown benefactor gave the same annual sum to buy hats for the poor of Llwynegrin and Mold. The interest of various benefactions in money, and the proceeds of other sums which have been vested in the purchase of land to a considerable amount, are annually distributed among the poor of this parish.

Of the ancient castle not a vestige at present can be discerned, and its very site is completely covered with thriving plantations: the three fosses by which it was formerly defended are still traceable, and from these it appears to have originally consisted of the upper and lower ballium, and an elevated donjon, or keep, each of which was separated from the others by a deep fosse. The Bailey Hill, on which it stood, though at present difficult of ascent, was rendered still more arduous by the erection of strong ramparts and the formation of a deep moat: from the summit of this hill a fine view of the surrounding vale is obtained, and in the distance the bare summit of Moel Vamma, towering amidst the Clwydian range of mountains, is seen to great advantage. Offa's Dyke enters this parish from Denbighshire, pursuing its course through a small valley on the south side of Bryn Yorkyn mountain, to Coed Talwrn, and Cae Twn, a farm near Tryddin chapel, beyond which it ceases to be here traceable. Numerous tumuli are found in various parts of the parish, affording evidence of the obstinacy with which the possession of the Vale of Alyn was contested by the various hostile parties who overran this part of the country in the earlier periods of its history. Several of these have been opened, and found to differ materially in their construction and contents, thus proving that they were raised at various periods and by different races of people. The environs of the town are enlivened by numerous ancient mansions and handsome seats, the residence of some of the principal families of the neighbourhood, and with the remains of others which are now occupied by farmers. The ancient mansion of Gwysaney, formerly the residence of the family of Davies, of Llanerch, and already noticed as having been garrisoned for the king during the parliamentary war, is in this parish. Tower, or Bryn Coed, formerly the seat of Dr. William Wynne, though small, presents a singular specimen of the style of domestic architecture during the ages of lawless violence in which it was erected: it consists of an ancient square tower of three stories, and appears to have been designed as a place of fortified habitation. During the war between the houses of York and Lancaster, it was inhabited by Reinalt ab Gruffydd ab Bleddyn, one of the captains who defended Harlech castle for Henry VI., and who was constantly engaged in feuds with the people of Chester. In 1465, a considerable number of the latter came to Mold fair, and a fray arising between the hostile parties, great slaughter ensued on both sides; but Reinalt, who obtained the victory, took the mayor of Chester prisoner, and conveyed him to his mansion,



where he hung him on the staple in his great hall. To avenge this affront, a party of two hundred men was despatched from Chester to seize Reinalt, who, retiring from his house into the adjoining woods, permitted a few of them to enter the building, when, rushing from his concealment, he blocked up the door, and, setting fire to the house, destroyed them in the flames: he then attacked the remainder, whom he pursued with great slaughter, and such as escaped the sword were drowned in attempting to regain their home: the staple on which the mayor was hung still remains fixed in the ceiling of the lower apartment. Lees wood, the seat of J. W. Eyton, Esq., is a large handsome mansion, beautifully situated on a fine slope, and surrounded with woods and pleasure grounds tastefully laid out: the entrance is through a magnificent gateway, and the grounds comprehend much finely varied scenery. Peutrehobin, a fine old family mansion, built in 1540, and formerly the property of Trevor Lloyd, Esq., retains much of its ancient character. Hartsheath, the deserted mansion of Gwilym Lloyd Wardle, Esq., is pleasantly situated on a long eminence in the Vale of Alyn, of which it commands a fine view: the grounds, which are richly wooded and tastefully disposed, combine a pleasing variety of picturesque scenery; and the views embrace many interesting objects of romantic character, among which is the isolated rock of Caergwrlle, abruptly rising from the vale, and crowned with the ruins of its ancient castle. Nerquis Hall, the seat of Miss Gifford, a good family mansion built in 1638 by John Wynne, Esq., is pleasantly situated: the grounds comprehend some varied scenery, in which the spire of Nerquis chapel, at no great distance, forms an interesting feature. Rhual, an ancient family mansion noticed by Leland, now the residence of Col. Philips, a descendant of the founder was erected in 1634, by Evan Edwards, Esq.: the house, which is substantially built, contains some good paintings, among which is a portrait of the founder by Vandyke. Plâs Teg, formerly the property of the family of the Trevors, for many years occupied as a farm-house, and now the residence of — Roper, Esq., is a stately mansion, said to have been built in 1610, from a design by Inigo Jones: it consists of a centre flanked at the angles by square towers, the whole five stories high; the hall is forty-three feet long and twenty-three feet wide, and above it is a dining-room of the same dimensions, to which the ascent is by a spacious and noble staircase; in each of the towers is an apartment twenty-two feet long and nineteen feet wide; and the whole building has an air of great regularity and an appearance of simple grandeur. In the various mines in this parish are found impressions of fern and other vegetable plants in great perfection, a variety of marine shells of pearly freshness, and fossil remains of various kinds, in great abundance. Wilson, the celebrated landscape painter, who lived in the adjoining parish of Llanverras, was interred in the churchyard of this parish, near the north side of the church. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor of the entire parish amounts to £2827. 9., of which sum, £2277. 13. is assessed on that portion which is distinct from the chapelries of Nerquis and Tryddin, which are described under their appropriate heads.

MONINGTON, a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (W. S. W.) from Cardigan, containing 102 inhabitants. This place was by the Welsh called Eglwys Wythwr, signifying literally "the church of eight men," there being at the time of its foundation precisely that number of freeholders in the parish. The parish comprises but a moderate area, which is all enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is not distinguished by any peculiar features; but the views from the higher grounds embrace some objects of interest. The living is a vicarage not in charge, consolidated with that of St. Dogmael's, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is situated at the south-western declivity of a lofty eminence. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £67. 18.

MONKNASH (MONK-NASH), a parish in the hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (W. S. W.) from Cowbridge, containing 121 inhabitants. This manor, together with the castle and lordship of Neath, was given by Fitz-Hamon to Sir Richard de Grenville, and by him conferred on the monks of Neath abbey, from which circumstance it has derived the prefix to its name. The parish is situated on the shore of the Bristol channel: the coast is extremely dangerous for some miles between it and Barry. The Nash sands are a perilous ridge, covered at high water, but exposed at low water, on which the Frolic steam vessel from Tenby to Bristol, laden with passengers, struck, in the month of March, 1831, the weather being exceedingly tempestuous and hazy, when all on board perished: recently two light-houses have been erected near them, which serve to warn navigators of the danger, as they stretch several miles westward from the coast, and the sounding immediately contiguous is four fathoms. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Hon. William Booth Grey. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £36. 11.

MONTGOMERY, a borough, market town, and parish, in the lower division of the hundred of MONTGOMERY, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 7½ miles (S.) from Welshpool, and 17½ (W. N. W.) from London, through Shrewsbury, and 169 by way of Ludlow, containing 1188 inhabitants. The ancient British name of this place, Trê



Arms.

Valdwyn, or "Baldwyn's town," was derived from the erection of a castle and the consequent establishment of a town here by a Norman adventurer of that name, for the security of this part of the principality, which he had reduced by force of arms, and for which, upon that condition, he had previously done homage to William the Conqueror, by whom he was appointed lieutenant of the marches. Baldwyn, though justly regarded



as the founder of the castle and town, did not long retain possession of the territories which he had thus gained by conquest. In the reign of William Rufus, Roger de Montgomery, who had been created Earl of Shrewsbury, and had obtained from that monarch a licence to secure to himself such territories on the west of the river Severn as he could obtain by force of arms, entered the principality of Powys with a considerable army, and, seizing this castle and town, strengthened the fortifications of the former, and surrounded the latter with a wall: having thus succeeded in securing permanent possession of them, he was in a short time regarded their second founder, and they have consequently since that period been distinguished as the castle and town of Montgomery. In the following year the Welsh, mustering all their strength, took the castle by surprise, plundered the town and laid waste the adjacent territory: but the castle was soon repaired and the fortifications strengthened by William Rufus, who, hearing while in Normandy of the dreadful outrages committed by the forces of Gruffydd ab Cynan, Prince of North Wales, and the sons of Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, advanced at the head of a large army to the Welsh frontier, to repress their incursions. His repeated attacks were, however, attended with very inconsiderable success; the Welsh sustained the conflict with obstinate intrepidity and persevering vigour, and the only advantage which the English monarch derived from his campaign was the opportunity of throwing supplies into the castle of Montgomery. The Welsh, elated with their recent success, immediately after the retreat of the English army, laid siege to this fortress, which at that time was considered the strongest and best fortified of any in the marches. The garrison opposed a brave and resolute defence, and for many days successfully repelled the vigorous attacks of the assailants; but the Welsh, having at length made several breaches in the walls, by undermining them, carried the castle by storm, put the garrison to the sword, and levelled the fortifications with the ground.

This arduous struggle between the Norman lords of the marches, to retain possession of the territories which they held by right of conquest, and the native Welsh, whose ardent anxiety to regain their lost dominions incited them to acts of the most desperate valour, was maintained with equal obstinacy on both sides for several years; and many of the leaders of both parties were slain. But the English finally prevailed; and having, by their superior numbers and discipline, gained a decisive victory over the stubborn Welsh patriots, compelled them once more to retire to their strong holds in the mountains. After this the Earl of Shrewsbury rebuilt the castle of Montgomery; and in 1114, Owain, brother of Gruffydd ab Rhys, Prince of South Wales, being taken prisoner by the English, was confined in it, but he effected his escape and fled for refuge to the court of Gruffydd ab Cynan, Prince of North Wales. In 1223, Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, having made numerous incursions into the territories of the English vassals, and perpetrated various acts of depredation and violence, for which he refused to render any satisfactory atonement, Henry III., who had taken the field with a powerful army to chastise his insolence, returning towards the marches from a successful expedition into Radnorshire, rebuilt the

castle of Montgomery in a situation better adapted to check the incursions of the Welsh, and on a site, the advantages of which, united with its own natural strength, rendered it at that time impregnable. The custody of this important fortress the English monarch confided to his great justiciary, Hubert de Burgh, with an annual salary of two hundred marks, which allowance for the maintenance of the garrison was augmented in times of war. In 1228, the soldiers of the garrison, assisted by such of the natives as were under their control, attempted to open a road through the adjoining forest, an extensive tract of fifteen miles in length, which had long afforded a secure retreat to the Welsh, who, concealing themselves in this impenetrable recess, made frequent predatory incursions on the lands of the English vassals, whom they often surprised and murdered. While the men were engaged in this work, they were suddenly attacked by a large party of the natives, who, issuing from their concealment, compelled them with great slaughter to retire for refuge within the castle, to which they afterwards laid regular siege. The garrison, upon this occasion, sent to England for assistance, and Henry, attended by Hubert de Burgh, coming to their relief with all possible expedition, the Welsh raised the siege and retired into their strong holds. Henry having, soon after his arrival here, received a reinforcement, resolved to penetrate into the recesses of the forest; and having with great difficulty opened a road for his army, by setting fire to the woods, at length reached a solitary abbey of Carmelite friars, called *Cridia*, which, as it had hitherto afforded an asylum to his enemies, he reduced to ashes. Upon the site of this monastery Hubert de Burgh laid the foundation of a castle, in the erection of which Henry's whole army was employed with incredible labour and under innumerable difficulties. In the middle of a thick forest in the heart of an enemy's country, surrounded by skirmishing parties of the foe, and exposed to every hazard, the English persevered for three months in the erection of this new fortress, which it was intended to make impregnable. During this period the Welsh, watching every movement, and ready to take advantage of every favourable opportunity, frequently intercepted the English convoys, and slew their foraging parties; till at length, from the want of provisions, and a suspicion of treachery in his camp, Henry was induced to relinquish his undertaking, when it was nearly completed, and to conclude a treaty of peace with the Welsh prince, Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, in which it was stipulated that this fortress, in the erection of which so much labour, blood, and treasure had been expended, should be levelled with the ground.

In 1231, a party of the Welsh forces having made an incursion into the territories dependent upon the castle of Montgomery, the English, who had secretly posted themselves in a situation to cut off their retreat, suddenly attacked them, and putting the greater number to the sword, conveyed the remainder captives into the castle, where, by the command of Hubert de Burgh, they were instantly delivered to the executioner, and their heads sent as a present to the English monarch. Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, to avenge this outrage upon his countrymen, laid waste the English marches with the most unrelenting fury; and, in the general consternation which the violence and



rapidity of his devastation had excited, Hubert de Burgh was himself compelled to take refuge in England. Llewelyn, intent upon conquest and revenge, bore down all opposition; and among other fortresses, then in the power of the English, of which he obtained possession, took the castle of Montgomery, which he committed to the flames, and put all the garrison to death. But the castle was almost immediately recovered by a party of English forces, and Llewelyn again attempted to retake it, for which purpose he encamped his troops on a meadow at a short distance, in part of which was a deep morass. Near this place was the Cistercian abbey of Cymer, one of the brethren of which was instructed by Llewelyn to deceive the garrison with false intelligence. The English soldiers, seeing the friar pass under the walls of the castle, entered into conversation with him, and, being informed that Llewelyn with a small force was waiting for a reinforcement, and might be easily taken or put to flight, a party of horse was despatched from the castle to attack him by surprise. On their approach, the Welsh, apparently with great precipitation, retreated into a wood; and the English, in the eagerness of their pursuit, plunged deep into the morass, in which many were suffocated or drowned, and the rest, encumbered with their armour and entangled in the bog, became an easy prey to the Welsh, who quickly put them to death with their spears. Henry had been for some time preparing for a campaign against Wales, and this disaster tended to accelerate the arrival of the English army, commanded by that monarch in person, who, on his reaching the abbey of Cymer, in resentment for the treachery of the friar, set fire to the grange, and would also have burnt the monastery itself, had not the abbot saved it by the payment of three hundred marks.

In 1259, the English monarch concluded a truce for one year with Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, which was ratified by commissioners on both sides at the ford of Montgomery, and on its expiration was renewed at the same place, with additional stipulations. The castle of Montgomery, together with several other fortresses, was ceded by Simon de Montfort, under the sanction of the English king, to Llewelyn, in 1265; and, in the year 1268, a conference was held there, and a treaty of peace concluded, between Henry and Llewelyn, through the mediation of Ottoboni, the pope's legate in England, which was ratified by the contracting parties in person, and received from the legate the sanction of the pope's authority. By this treaty the territories taken by both parties during the war were to be restored, the Prince of Wales was to do fealty to the English king for the principality, as had been done by his predecessors, and was to pay into the English treasury the sum of twenty-five thousand marks. After the melancholy death of Llewelyn, in the reign of Edward I., and the entire subjugation of Wales by that monarch, Madoc, an illegitimate son of the Welsh prince, raised a formidable insurrection in the northern parts of the principality, and gained several brilliant victories over the English, particularly in the marches; but being at length attacked by the united forces of the lords marcher, on the mountain called by the Welsh Mynydd Digoll, and by the English the Long Mountain, about five miles from Montgomery, he was defeated and slain with most of his adherents. Edward I. granted to

Bogo de Knouill, constable of the castle of Montgomery, a certain quantity of timber out of his forest of Corn-don, to defray the expense of repairing the walls and ditches round this town and castle; and a grant for the same purpose was made by Edward III., under the authority of which a toll was to be taken for seven years on certain articles exposed for sale at the market, among which squirrels' skins are enumerated. In 1354, the castle, together with the hundred of Chirbury, in which it was then regarded as being comprised, is mentioned, in an inquisition obtained for the reversal of the attainder against him, as forming part of the possessions of Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, at the time of his death; after which it passed, by the marriage of his sister and sole heiress Anne, to the house of York, and thence came into the possession of the crown. It appears to have been held, as stewards of the crown, by the immediate ancestors of Lord Herbert of Chirbury, and to have been the principal residence of that family. During the parliamentary war in the reign of Charles I., the castle was garrisoned for the king, by Lord Herbert, whom that monarch had previously appointed governor, but who, in 1644, on the approach of a parliamentary army under the command of Sir Thomas Myddelton, embraced the adverse cause, and displaced the royalist troops by a garrison of republican soldiers, of whom he was entrusted with the command. An army of four thousand royalists, under the command of Lord Byron, soon after Lord Herbert's defection, approaching Montgomery, compelled the forces under Sir Thomas Myddelton to make a precipitate retreat to Oswestry, leaving Lord Herbert with a weak garrison but ill supplied with ammunition and provisions. The royalists immediately laid siege to the castle, which must soon have been surrendered; but Sir Thomas Myddelton, being strengthened with a reinforcement under the conduct of Sir William Brereton, Sir John Meldrum, and Sir Thomas Fairfax, immediately marched to its relief. A general engagement now became inevitable: the royalists, to the number of five thousand men, were posted on the hill above the castle, and the parliamentarians, to the number of three thousand, were drawn up in the plain below: the former, descending the hill, commenced the attack, and for some time gained considerable advantage; but the parliamentary soldiers, led on by some of the ablest of their generals, and urged by the necessity of throwing succours into this important fortress, rallied, and, after many desperate efforts, succeeded in reversing the fortune of the day, and ultimately, after a severe and sanguinary conflict, obtained a complete and decisive victory. The royalists were pursued towards Shrewsbury; more than five hundred of them were killed in the battle and in the pursuit, and fourteen hundred were taken prisoners: of the parliamentarians, only sixty were killed and one hundred wounded. The castle was afterwards dismantled by order of the parliament; but it appears that Lord Herbert received a compensation for the loss which his property sustained on that occasion.

The town is pleasingly and romantically situated partly on the summit and partly on the declivity of a hill rising from the southern bank of the river Severn, and under the shelter of a mountain of loftier elevation. Though the county town, it is small in extent and of inconsiderable importance, consisting only of four streets



diverging nearly at right angles from the market-place, which is in the centre: the houses are well built and of respectable appearance; and the town, which is partially paved and amply supplied with water, has a prepossessing aspect, well adapted to render it the residence of genteel families. The environs are strikingly beautiful, abounding with richly diversified and highly picturesque scenery; and the hill on which the town is built commands a fine and extensive view of the Vale of Montgomery, watered by the river Severn, and bounded in the distance by the Shropshire mountains. There is neither any trade nor manufacture carried on: the market, which is amply supplied with corn and provisions of all kinds, is on Thursday; and fairs are held annually on March 26th, June 7th, September 4th, and November 12th, for cattle, sheep, and horses.

The inhabitants received their first charter of incorporation in the 11th of Henry III., who made the place a free borough, and endowed it with many privileges and immunities. By this charter the government is vested in two bailiffs and twelve principal burgesses, or common-councilmen, assisted by a town-clerk, who acts as recorder, a coroner, two serjeants at mace, and other officers, who are annually elected at Michaelmas by a common hall of burgesses, each of whom, after serving the office of bailiff, is styled an alderman. The elective franchise was conferred in the 27th of Henry VIII., who, as the shire town, empowered it, in conjunction with its contributory boroughs of Llanidloes, Llanvyllin, Machynlleth, and Welshpool, to send one member to parliament. Since that period the right of election has undergone material alteration: on a petition to the House of Commons, in 1680, complaining of an undue return, it was resolved that the right of election was vested not only in the burgesses of Montgomery, but also in those of the contributory boroughs of Llanidloes, Llanvyllin, and Welshpool; and on a similar petition, presented to the House in 1728, it was resolved that the elective franchise was confined solely to the borough of Montgomery, which since that time has continued to return one member, to the exclusion of the above-named contributory boroughs. These resolutions of the House of Commons being at variance with each other, the burgesses of Llanidloes, Llanvyllin, and Welshpool, and also those of Machynlleth, the latter having neglected to support their claim at the two former periods, were, by an act of the 28th of George III., allowed the power of asserting their privilege of voting for a member for Montgomery before another committee of the House, and of appealing within twelve calendar months against any future decision. By the late act for amending the representation these boroughs have been again permitted to share in the return of a member, the elective franchise having been extended to the resident inhabitants, duly qualified according to the provisions of the act; and, for the purpose of taking the votes, the bailiffs of Montgomery are to appoint deputies at each place, who will send to them their poll books, for the purpose of



Corporate Seal.

ascertaining the aggregate amount, and making the return. The elective franchise was formerly in the burgesses at large, the number of whom claiming it for the borough of Montgomery was, at the time of passing the late Reform Act, about one hundred and eighty-five: it is now vested in the resident burgesses only, if duly qualified according to the provisions of the act, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the present number of tenements of this value, within the limits of the borough, which are co-extensive with those of the parish, including an agricultural district of nearly ten miles in circumference, and have not been altered by the late Boundary Act, is about fifty: the bailiffs are the returning officers. The freedom of the borough is inherited by the sons of burgesses, on their coming of age, and obtained by gift of the bailiffs and burgesses in common hall assembled. The bailiffs are justices of the peace within the borough, in which the county magistrates have a concurrent jurisdiction. The corporation have power to hold a court of record for the recovery of debts to any amount, every third Tuesday, the jurisdiction of which extends over the borough. Though Montgomery is reputed the county town, the assizes are held at Welshpool; but the quarter sessions are always held here. The election of a member for the county has hitherto taken place either here or at Machynlleth, being regulated by the sitting of the county court at the time of issuing the writ. The town-hall, standing in the centre of the town, is a neat plain building of brick, supported on arches enclosing a sheltered area for the use of the market: the upper part, which was very inadequate to the purpose of holding the quarter sessions, was taken down in 1828, and two handsome and convenient rooms were constructed on a plan better adapted to that use, at the sole expense of Lord Clive, to whom the building belongs. The principal room is sixty-seven feet and a half in length, and twenty feet and a half in width, having a moveable partition at one end, forming a retiring-room for the jury: this apartment, which is well lighted and handsomely fitted up, is used for assemblies and public meetings, and in the centre of the west side is the court-room, which is twenty-nine feet and a half in length, and twenty-one feet wide, and is commodiously arranged for the business of the sessions. The new county gaol and house of correction, at the lower end of the town, on the left of the road to Shrewsbury, was built at an expense of £10,000, defrayed by the county: it is a handsome edifice of stone of a durable quality, procured from the rock on which the castle formerly stood, and is arranged in the form of a cross, having the governor's house in the centre, the whole being enclosed within a boundary wall upwards of twenty feet in height: the governor's house commands a view of all the wards, and the working of the tread-mill, which is a double one, having one wheel in the felons' ward, and the other in the vagrants' ward, and the machinery is so contrived, that the labour can be regulated according to the force supplied. The building comprises six wards, with spacious airing-yards to each, in two of which there are a tread-wheel and an



engine-house to supply the prison with water; above the engine-house and tread-wheel is an infirmary, with two sick wards and matron's rooms; and over the governor's apartments is the chapel, to which there is a separate entrance from each ward: beyond the chapel is an ante-room leading to a committee-room for the visiting magistrates, and two waiting-rooms; and on the roof, over the entrance and turnkey's lodge, is the place of execution. The ward for female prisoners, which, according to the plan, is to occupy a distinct wing, will not at present be completed: they will in the interim be confined in the old house of correction, which, by recent alterations and additions, has been made sufficiently convenient for that purpose, and comprises two wards and apartments for the keeper.

The parish of Montgomery was anciently included in that of Chirbury, to which the church was originally a chapel of ease. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Salop, and diocese of Hereford, rated in the king's books at £17. 4. 4½., and in the patronage of the Crown. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is an ancient and venerable cruciform structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a tower at the extremity of the north transept, which was erected in 1816, at an expense of £1700, defrayed solely by Lord Clive. The chancel is separated from the nave by an exquisitely carved screen and ancient rood-loft, removed from the priory of Chirbury, after the dissolution of that establishment: the north transept, called Brockton chancel, was built by the prior of Chirbury, for the accommodation of the tenants of his manor of Calmore, in this parish; and the south transept, called Lymore chancel, is appropriated to the seat of Lymore Park, the property of Lord Clive. The roof is neatly panelled into compartments, and in some parts is richly carved; and the east end of the chancel and the west end of the nave are lighted with large lancet-shaped windows. In the south transept, or Lymore chancel, which is separated from the church by two finely pointed arches, is a splendid monument to the memory of Richard Herbert, Esq., father of Lord Herbert of Chirbury, and Magdalene his wife, in which are the recumbent effigies of the former in complete armour, and of the latter by his side on an altar-tomb, in the front of which are representations of their six sons and two daughters in a kneeling posture; and under the tomb is the figure of Richard wrapped in his winding sheet. Near this monument are the effigies of two knights in complete armour, of the noble family of the Mortimers, Earls of March. Previously to the Reformation there was a chapel in one of the transepts, dedicated to St. Mary. The churchyard, which is of considerable extent, and commands a fine view of the adjacent country, is surrounded with a beautiful walk shaded by lime and elm trees of stately and luxuriant growth. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. Edward Herbert, Esq., in the reign of Elizabeth, bequeathed a rent-charge of £9. 12., issuing from a tenement called Oxley, or Gwern-yr-Ychen, in the parish of Llandyssil, of which sum, £5 was to be appropriated to a master and £2 to a mistress, for teaching poor children, and the remainder to the poor. Mr. John Lloyd, a native of this town, in 1747, bequeathed the residue of his estate and effects to his executor, John Edwards, of Deptford, in the county of

Kent, to be applied to such charitable uses as he should think fit. Mr. Edwards, becoming possessed of this property under the provisions of the act of mortmain, which invalidated the conditions of the bequest, appropriated £4 per annum to the teaching of ten boys and ten girls, children of burgesses, including a boy and a girl from Oxley, and also one boy and one girl from Weston-Madoc, in the parish of Churchstoke: this endowment is augmented by Lord Clive to £20 per annum, which is paid to a master for teaching twenty children. There are Sunday schools in connexion with the established church, and also with the congregation of Calvinistic Methodists, in the former of which forty-five boys and thirty-five girls are instructed: the girls are annually clothed by subscription. There are likewise several charitable donations and bequests in land and in money, the produce of which is annually distributed among the poor of the parish.

Of the ancient castle there are but very inconsiderable remains, consisting chiefly of the fragment of a tower at the south-western angle, and a few detached portions of low walls, which afford but a very inadequate memorial of its former extent and magnificence. This fortress occupied the extremity of a long eminence, on the northern side of the town, and apparently impended over it, the projecting ridge being of great height, very steep, with an escarpment quite precipitous: it was defended by four deep fosses cut in the solid rock, anciently crossed by draw-bridges. Between the extremity of the building and the precipitous declivity of the height on which it stood is a level spot of ground, which is supposed to have formed the place of parade for the garrison. Within the last thirty years part of the shattered walls fell down, and among the disjointed fragments a labourer found several silver spoons, which he soon after sold to an itinerant dealer; and, at various times, ancient military weapons, broken swords, arrow heads, and cannon balls, have been discovered among the ruins. At the bottom of the hill, on the north side of the road leading to Garthmill, are the remains of a smaller fortress, surrounded by a moat, and having an artificial mound near the western extremity of the area: they are supposed to indicate the site of the ancient castle originally built by the Norman Baldwyn, prior to the erection of the later castle by Henry III. On a hill at no great distance from the latter are the remains of a very extensive camp, evidently of British origin: this hill is intersected by several deep fosses in that part where it is most accessible, and in other parts it is sufficiently protected by its precipitous declivity: the approach is guarded by four smaller fosses, from which were two entrances to the main work. Between the towns of Montgomery and Welshpool are the remains of a spacious Roman fortification, called the Gaer: it is situated on the Roman road which passed through the Vale of Severn, from Caer-Sws or Maglona, near Machynlleth. Of the walls by which the town was anciently surrounded, flanked by round and square bastion towers, and in which were four gates, called respectively, "Arthur's, Cede-wen, Ceri, and Chirbury" gates, all of which have long since disappeared, there are still some remains, varying in different places, from a few inches only to several feet in height above the surface of the ground. A fosse



near the bottom of the town still indicates the ancient site of Black Hall, once the hospitable mansion of the family of Herbert: it was consumed by fire, on which occasion the lodge in Lymore Park, at a small distance from the town, was enlarged and fitted up for the reception of the family: it is still kept up by Lord Clive, and, with its ancient front of timber frame-work and plaister, forms an interesting and venerable feature in the scenery of the park. From the castle hill, and from that on which the large British camp above noticed is situated, are extensive and fine views of the vales of Montgomery, Churchstoke, and Chirbury; but the most magnificent prospect of the surrounding country is obtained from the hill immediately above them. The ground continues gradually to rise to the summit of this eminence, which is crowned by a fine cluster of fir trees, and the view embraces the extent of the Vale of Severn for several miles, through which that noble river pursues a winding course among verdant meadows and luxuriant groves, by which latter it is frequently intercepted from the sight, assuming the appearance of numerous small lakes, the banks of which are richly decorated with picturesque and romantic scenery. Among the many interesting objects which this extensive prospect embraces are, Powis castle and park, numerous gentlemen's seats and pleasure grounds, picturesque villages, and distant hills of varied appearance, in beautiful and harmonious contrast, beyond which are seen, in towering magnificence, the lofty mountains of Plinlimmon and Cader Idris, and the fine chain of the Arans. Edward Herbert, first baron of Chirbury, and distinguished equally for the versatility of his talents and the eccentricity of his character, is by some said to have been a native of this place. He has been noticed above, as holding the office of governor of Montgomery castle: he was the author of several works, including memoirs of his life, and of a work entitled "*De Veritate*," upon which he appears to have principally rested his claim to literary reputation, and his character as a philosopher: he was born in 1583, and died in 1648. This is one of the parishes incorporated for the maintenance of their poor in the house of industry at Forden: the average annual assessment upon it for this purpose is £337. 16.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE, an inland county of NORTH WALES, bounded on the south-east, east, and north-east by the English county of Salop, and a small detached portion of Denbighshire; on the north, by Denbighshire; on the north-west and west, by Merionethshire; on the south-west, by Cardiganshire; and on the south, by Radnorshire; the two latter counties forming part of South Wales. It extends from 52° 21' to 52° 51' (N. Lat.), and from 3° to 3° 54' (W. Lon.); and includes an area, according to Evans' Map of North Wales, of four hundred and ninety-one thousand six hundred statute acres, or about seven hundred and sixty-eight square miles. The population, in 1831, was 66,485.

At the period of the Roman invasion of Britain, this county, in common with nearly all the rest of North Wales, was included in the territory of the *Ordovices*. Under the Roman dominion it contained the station *Mediolanum*, considered by Sir Richard Colt Hoare and most other antiquaries to have been situated in the Vale of the Tanat, or that of the Vyrnwy;

besides which there are supposed to have been other minor establishments of this people, at Caer-Sws, in the vicinity of Newtown, and at the Gaer, near Montgomery. The Roman roads which traversed it were the *Via Devana*, which, from the station *Nidus*, at Neath, in Glamorganshire, crossed the eastern part of it, in its progress to the station *Deva*, at Chester; and a branch of the southern Watling-street, which crossed the northern part of it to *Segontium*, the present Carnarvon; besides which were several vicinal ways. On the partition of the sovereignty of North Wales, about the year 876, by Rhodri Mawr, or Roderic the Great, among his three sons, Montgomeryshire was included in the kingdom of Powys, the seat of the government of which, originally established at Pengwern, the present Shrewsbury, was afterwards, on the native Britons being driven from the plains of Shropshire into the mountains of the principality, by the victorious arms of the Mercian monarch Offa, removed to Mathraval, near Meivod, in the beautiful Vale of the Vyrnwy. Henceforward this sovereignty was called indifferently the kingdom of Powys, or of Mathraval, the extent of which, however, was still further diminished by the invasions of the Mercians, whose warlike leader raised a conspicuous barrier between his newly-acquired territories and those still possessed by the Cymry, which included in the Mercian kingdom the eastern part of the territory at present forming the county of Montgomery. Numerous were the excursions made across this boundary by the princes of Powys, in their attempts to recover possession of their former dominions, and in predatory expeditions. During the reign of Alfred the Great of England, an army of marauding Danes, under the command of the celebrated piratical leader named Hasting, in 894, extended its ravages into this county, and advanced to the village of Buttington, the *Butdigintune* of the Saxon Chronicle, in the vicinity of the present town of Welshpool, where, receiving intelligence that an English army was approaching to oppose them, they intrenched themselves on both banks of the Severn. Ethelred, governor of Mercia, two other aldermen, and the king's thanes residing in the strong holds which he had erected, with the people summoned from the east of Pedridan, the west of Selwood, the east and north of the Thames, the west of the Severn, and some parts of North Wales, invested their camp for some weeks, and reduced them to such extremity that they were obliged to eat the flesh of their horses. Roused by their sufferings to furious action, the North-men made at last a desperate attempt to break from their prison, and, throwing themselves upon the Anglo-Saxons who formed the eastern part of the blockade, after a warm action, in which several royal thanes perished, the greater number achieved their escape, and hastened eastward to the coast of Essex without further molestation. The kingdom of Powys, after the Norman Conquest of England, became the principal object of attack to the foreign adventurers. One of these, named Baldwyn, swore fealty and did homage to the Conqueror for this part of Cambria, which he promised to secure by force of arms; and having partially accomplished his purpose, he erected a fortress at the present town of Montgomery, then called by the Welsh, after his name, *Tré Valdwyn*, or "Baldwyn's Town," from which the





Engraved by J. & C. Walker.

DRAWN AND ENGRAVED FOR LEWIS' TOPOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY.

Drawn by R. Craghead.







county derives the name, which it still bears in their language, of *Sir Dré Valdwyn*, or *Swydd Dré Valdwyn*. This castle must, however, have soon fallen into the possession of the Welsh, since Roger de Montgomery, who for his services had been created by the Conqueror Earl of Arundel and Shrewsbury, and had received a license to conquer from the Welsh to the west of the Severn, entered Powys-land a few years after with a powerful body of forces, and took the castle and town of Trê Valdwyn, which he fortified anew in his own right, and gave to it his own name of Montgomery, which it has ever since retained, and communicated to the county of which it is the ancient chief town.

A circumstance which facilitated the conquests of the Norman barons in this quarter was the subdivision of Powys between two of the descendants of Mervyn, son of Roderic the Great, into Powys-Vadoc and Powys-Gwenwynwyn, the former comprising the northern, and the latter the southern, parts of the original sovereignty: these again afterwards became divided among the descendants of those two princes. The year following the capture of Trê Valdwyn castle, the Welsh, mustering all their strength, retook it by a *coup de main*, plundered the town, and desolated the surrounding country. This castle was again repaired and strengthened by William Rufus, who, to put an end to the depredations committed by the Welsh forces under Gruffydd ab Cynan and the sons of Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, led an army into the marches, but was compelled to withdraw it with great loss, after throwing succours into Montgomery castle. The latter, on the retreat of the English, was immediately beleaguered by the Welsh, who, after a vigorous siege, at last took it by storm, and levelled it with the ground. The Norman arms soon afterwards again prevailed, and this castle was rebuilt by the Earl of Shrewsbury. In 1080, Gruffydd ab Cynan, laying claim to the throne of North Wales, and landing a large army of mercenaries in Pembrokeshire, was joined by Rhys ab Tewdwr, Prince of South Wales, and their confederated armies marched northward against Trahaiarn, the reigning prince of Gwynedd, whom they encountered on the hills of Carno, in this county, where they totally defeated his forces, and slew Trahaiarn himself, in a most sanguinary conflict. In the year 1191, in consequence of various depredations having been committed by the Welsh on the inhabitants of the marches, Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury, in the absence of Richard I. in the Holy Land, besieged Castell Côch, now Powis Castle, near Welshpool, which he took after a vigorous resistance; and having left in it a strong garrison, he returned to England. This fortress was retaken by Gwenwynwyn, prince of this part of Powys-land, in 1197. That chieftain, disapproving of the conduct of the prince of Gwynedd, submitted to become a vassal to King John, and to hold his territories *in capite* of the English crown; and, after the succession of his son Gruffydd to the government, the last-mentioned fortress was taken and dismantled by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, in the year 1233. Henry III., having rebuilt Montgomery castle, committed it to the custody of Hubert de Burgh; and, while in the possession of this governor, it was besieged by the Welsh, but relieved by an English army. A great number of Welsh, taken prisoners in one of their

predatory excursions, having been put to death by the English, Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, in retaliation, took and burned this fortress, putting the garrison to the sword. After repeated successes obtained by the Welsh in the great revolt under Owain Glyndwr, this chieftain, assembled the states of Wales at the town of Machynlleth, on the western border of the county; and by that assembly his title to the principality was solemnly acknowledged. During the civil war of the seventeenth century, Montgomery castle was garrisoned for the king by Lord Herbert of Chirbury, who, on the approach of the parliamentarians under Sir Thomas Myddelton, surrendered that fortress without opposition. In a short time, the royalist forces under Lord Byron approached Montgomery, and obliged the army under Sir Thomas Myddelton to make a precipitate retreat to Oswestry, leaving Lord Herbert, who had thus changed sides, with a slender and ill-provided garrison to defend the castle, the siege of which was immediately commenced by the royalists. Meanwhile the parliamentary army, being reinforced by troops under Sir William Brereton, Sir John Meldrum, and Sir Thomas Fairfax, marched back to the relief of this important post, though much less numerous than the royalist army, the latter amounting to about five thousand men, and the parliamentarians only to about three thousand. A general engagement ensued, in which the parliamentary forces at first gave way, but rallying with desperate valour, they at length gained a decisive and sanguinary victory, and the main body of the routed troops was pursued towards Shrewsbury. Lord Powis, on the breaking out of the civil war, had garrisoned Castell Côch, or Powis Castle, for the king; but it was taken by the parliamentarians under Sir Thomas Myddelton, in October 1644.

Montgomeryshire is partly in the diocese of St. Asaph, partly in that of Bangor, partly in that of Hereford, and partly in that of St. David's, the whole being included in the province of Canterbury: in the first it contains forty-one parishes, which are in the deaneries of Cede-wen, Cyfeiliog, and Poole, and in the archdeaconry of St. Asaph; in the second, seven parishes, which are in the deanery of Arustley, and archdeaconry of Merioneth; in the third, four parishes, which are in the deanery of Pontesbury, and archdeaconry of Salop; and in the last two parishes, which are in the deanery of Maelienydd Ultra Ithon, and archdeaconry of Brecknock: the total number of parishes is fifty-four, of which twenty-six are rectories, eighteen vicarages, and the rest perpetual curacies. For purposes of civil government it is divided into the nine hundreds of Cawrse, Deythur, Llanvyllin, Llanidloes, Machynlleth, Mathraval, Montgomery, Newtown, and Pool. It contains the boroughs and market towns of Montgomery, Llanidloes, Llanvyllin, Machynlleth, Newtown, and Welshpool; and the market town of Llanvair. One knight is returned to parliament for the shire, and one representative for the contributory boroughs; but, for many years prior to the passing of the late act for amending the representation of the people, the borough of Montgomery was the only one which exercised the elective franchise, all the rest, with the exception of Newtown, which is a newly created borough, having for some time discontinued to join in returning a member to parliament. The member for the county has hitherto been



elected either at Montgomery or Machynlleth, according as the county court was to be held at either of these two places next after the issuing of the writ for that purpose. The polling-places in the election of a knight for the shire, according to the Boundary Act recently passed, are Montgomery, Llanidloes, Llanvair, Llan-vyllin, and Machynlleth. This county is included in the North Wales circuit: the assizes are held at Welshpool, and the general quarter sessions at Montgomery: the county gaol and house of correction are situated at Montgomery. There are thirty-seven acting magistrates. The rates raised in the county, for the year ending March 25th, 1829, amounted to £29,062; and the expenditure to £37,937, of which, £30,993 were applied to the relief of the poor.

A great portion of the county consists of wild and sterile mountains: the highest of these are in the south-western part of it, in a line extending from Pumlumon, or Plinlimmon, just within its south-western boundary, northward between Llanbrynmair and Carno, and by Llyn Gwyddior, into Merionethshire: this is the parting ridge between the rivers flowing eastward and those taking a contrary direction. The most extensive and fruitful vale is that which is traversed from south-west to north-east by the river Severn, which has its source in the southern part of this range, and as high as Llanidloes ceases to be a mountain torrent, taking its course thenceforward through a delightful valley, more like the extensive vales of England than those stripes of cultivation by which the mountains of Wales are generally intersected. Numerous villages lie scattered beneath the hills in this fertile district, and the deep banks of the river are successively adorned by the beautifully situated town of Newtown, and by numerous gentlemen's seats. Below Montgomery, which is situated a short distance eastward from the river, bending northward, the vale greatly expands in front of the isolated hills of Breiddin, while the river flows beneath the superb groves, lawns, and terraces of Powis Castle, and becomes navigable at Pool Quay, three miles below Welshpool. The valleys to the north of the Vale of Severn are much less extensive and fertile; those of the Vyrnwy and Tanat are fertile and highly picturesque, and are watered, the former by rivers descending from the parting ridge to the west, and the latter by streams descending from the Berwyn range of mountains, which, commencing near Chirk Castle, in Denbighshire, occupies the northern and north-western parts of this county in its course south-westward to the coast of Merionethshire. The Vale of the Dovey, which, occupying the westernmost part of the county, extends from north-east to south-west on the western side of the parting ridge, is distinguished for its fertility. The Plinlimmon, or southern range of mountains commences on the north-east, with the Breiddin hills, on the eastern side of the Severn, on the border of Shropshire, and includes the Long Mountain as far as Nant Cribba: hence it extends by Montgomery castle, along the Kerry hills (which occupy the south-eastern side of the county, and along the summit of which is carried the boundary line between Montgomeryshire and the counties of Salop and Radnor, and between North and South Wales), to the Llangurig mountains, and terminates in the naked summit of Plinlimmon, rising to the height of two thou-

sand four hundred and sixty-three feet above the level of the sea: this is environed by various other heights of less elevation, of which the Biga mountains form a line of high table land on the northern side of the valley of the Severn, which is here somewhat narrow. In the Severn range, Breiddin hill rises to the height of nine hundred and ninety-nine feet above the level of the Severn; the Long mountain to that of one thousand three hundred and thirty feet above the level of the sea; and Llandinam mountain to that of one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight feet above the same level. Two others of the most distinguished summits, respectively called Moel y Golva and Cevn y Castell, form a group with Breiddin hill: the former, in the shape of a vast rugged cone, attains an elevation of one thousand one hundred and ninety-nine feet above the sea. Breiddin hill is crowned by a lofty obelisk, erected in commemoration of the naval victories of Admiral Lord Rodney. The general character of the Severn range is a regularity of outline, gradual slopes, and rounded summits, indicating the soft nature of the rocks of which the hills are composed; while its surface is uniformly covered with herbage, which supports numerous flocks of small sheep. The vegetable produce of the Berwyn range is fern and furze, or gorse, upon the lower and drier outskirts, heath upon the loftier summits, and rushes, with a variety of mosses and alpine aquatic plants, on the wet slopes and hollows. Many isolated hills and rocks rise in almost every part of Montgomeryshire that is not occupied by some of the principal ranges above mentioned: of these, the Carno mountains rise in a proudly pre-eminent group, nearly in the centre of the county. The narrow and rocky valleys generally have their sides adorned by hanging woods. In the western and south western districts are various small lakes, the sources of rapid streams. With regard to climate, the hills are particularly bleak, and are for the most part exposed to the full effects of cold easterly winds. In the narrow valleys the wind is frequently boisterous, but the climate is highly salubrious, and instances of longevity are numerous. Of the westerly winds, which prevail, on an average, during nine months of the year, the strongest are those which blow from the south-west and north-west: the north-west wind is here termed *Gwynt y Creigiau*, in allusion to the high mountains of Snowdon and the Arans, from which it rushes into this county: the easterly wind, which prevails during most of the other three months, is called *Gwynt Cŏch y Mwythig*, or the "red wind of Salop," as it effectually checks the verdure of spring, and converts the green blades into reddish husks.

The dry argillaceous mountains have generally a thin light peaty soil upon a substratum of hungry light mould, tinged yellow by oxyde of iron: the Berwyn range of mountains has upon its loftier summits a shallow peat resting upon clay or rammel, and, on springy slopes and hollows, various depths of peat. A ferny soil, or hazel mould, is common in different places, more particularly on the sides of the inferior hills, where it produces naturally fern, broom, and the larger ulex, or gorse, together with various kinds of underwood. The *till*, or hungry light soil, tinged as above mentioned with oxyde of iron, is also frequently found on the slopes of the smaller valleys. The narrow valleys, however,



produce abundant vegetation of a more valuable kind, and are enlivened by rich corn-fields and meadows : these, more particularly in their higher recesses, and on their declivities having a southern aspect, frequently possess light soils, consisting of various admixtures of sandy loam, pebbles, broken shale, peat, &c. ; and in their lower levels, free loams, well adapted for the general purposes of tillage ; the last also abound in the greater part of the Vale of Severn, and in some parts of those of the Vyrnwy and Tanat. But the finest arable land in Montgomeryshire is on the eastern side of it, bordering on Shropshire, where agriculture is conducted on the more improved systems, and the management of land differs but little from that practised in the adjoining county of Salop : the soil here consists of strong loams, well adapted for the culture of wheat or for permanent pasture, which occupy the lower parts of the vales of Severn and Vyrnwy, with their outskirts. The soils of the eastern parts of the county, beyond a line drawn from the Llanymynech lime-works, at the south-eastern extremity of Denbighshire, south-westward by Guilsfield, Powis Castle, Nant Cribba, &c., to the border of Radnorshire, are of a brown colour.

The middle, western, and south-western parts of the county, owing to their elevated exposure and the ungenial nature of the soil, are unfavourable to the growth of corn ; so that only about sixty thousand acres of this county are under tillage, including about a third of the vale lands, which produce a considerable quantity of grain for exportation : fallowing is practised on the strong soils of the Vales of the Severn and Vyrnwy. The kind of corn formerly of most extensive cultivation was oats, but since the close of the last century it has been wheat ; great quantities of oats, however, are still grown, more especially on the uplands : the proportion of barley to the quantity of wheat is as three to four. Rye is occasionally though seldom cultivated, chiefly on the hills, where it is generally the first crop on the new enclosures after paring and burning. Wheat is most commonly cut with the reaping-hook, though sometimes with cradled scythes : oats and barley usually with naked scythes, and light crops of every species of grain are now frequently cut with the naked scythe, in preference to the more tedious mode with the sickle. Peas, which were formerly much grown in the valleys, are now cultivated only occasionally, and on a small scale : beans are scarcely ever seen. Turnips are commonly cultivated, as also are potatoes and mangel-wurzel, by the best farmers, on kindly soils. Hemp gardens, one of which was formerly attached to almost every cottage in the eastern part of the county, are now seldom seen. The most common artificial grass is red clover, to which trefoil and rye-grass are sometimes added. The quantity of productive grazing land is about one hundred and eighty thousand acres : those portions situated on the eastern side of the county are almost wholly appropriated to the dairy, much of the produce of which, both in butter and cheese, is sent to the markets of Shrewsbury, Chester, and Bridgenorth : the latter article is generally made like that of Cheshire, though sometimes like the Gloucester cheese : annatto is used to colour it in the lowlands, but seldom in the uplands. The principal object of the farmer, in the hilly districts, is the rearing of cattle to be fattened in more fertile parts of the island for places requiring

a large supply : the Vales of Severn and Vyrnwy are almost the only districts in which the pastures are rich enough for fattening cattle. Meadows artificially irrigated are common in situations convenient for the purpose. Lime, as a manure, is carried to a distance of thirty or forty miles into this county from the Porthywaen and Llanymynech rocks, near its north-eastern confines : the stone itself, and coal for burning it, are also conveyed by the Montgomeryshire canal to Welshpool, Berriew, Newtown, and other places, where, on the wharfs, have been erected many kilns, which, when in full employ, produce from four to six hundred bushels of lime each per day. Among the agricultural implements, the "Lummas plough," a variety of the Rotherham plough, is the kind in common use, and is generally lock-ironed : the Scotch plough is also much used on level land. The cattle of the uplands are of the common small kind : in the vales they are of a larger and superior kind, and those reared in the Vales of Severn and Vyrnwy are much esteemed by the graziers. The native breed of the county is short-legged, and commonly of a red colour, with black faces ; but a kind which has of late years become very numerous in the Vale of Severn is long-legged, and of a light brown colour, except their faces, which are white : they are said to have been brought originally from Devonshire. The Herefordshire cattle, with white faces, are also becoming very common. The most remarkable breed of sheep is that peculiar to the Kerry hills, almost the only kind in North Wales which produces perfect wool, that of every other being more or less mixed with coarse long hairs, called by the manufacturers *kemps*. The characteristics of this breed, which is without horns, hardy, and comparatively tame, are, large woolly cheeks, white bunchy foreheads, white legs covered with wool, and a broad beaver-like tail : their whole form, however, falls short of compact symmetry : the average weight of their fleeces is one lb. and a half ; that of their carcasses, when fat, from ten to fourteen lb. per quarter : the Kerry hills, before their enclosure, under an act of parliament obtained in 1797, are said to have generally depastured in summer about twelve thousand of these sheep, besides horses and cattle. A black-faced and particularly fine-woolled race of sheep is bred upon the Long Mountain near Welshpool, and on the other hills, on the English border, stretching thence northward to Wrexham in Denbighshire. The other hilly parts of the county are occupied by the small ordinary kind of mountain sheep, which weigh from seven to twelve lb. per quarter, and yield fleeces weighing from three quarters of a lb. to one lb. and a half. These various breeds of sheep have in some instances been intermixed, and different varieties, from several parts of England have been introduced by individuals into the enclosed districts : among these the South Down sheep are the most numerous. In the hilly parts of Montgomeryshire, great numbers of very small and hardy ponies, commonly called *merlins*, breed promiscuously, and range the mountains untrained until they are three years old, when they are brought down for the first time, and driven to fairs like flocks of cattle or sheep : the place of sale generally exhibits a scene of great activity and violent exertion, since each that is purchased, though most likely never before touched by human hands, being immediately seized from among the



untamed herd, displays all the restiveness of its natural ungovernableness. Numbers of these small animals are employed in their native districts, more particularly in conveying the produce of the manufactures of the county to the markets of Welshpool and Shrewsbury; and they are unrivalled in the agility with which they climb the slippery ascents of the mountains. There is also a breed rather larger than these, which are hardy, handsome, and active; and the vales of this county have long been noted for an excellent breed of horses, the superiority of which has been by some attributed to the introduction of some blood horses from Spain into this part of the country, by Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester; and by others, to the circumstance of a stud of horses having been kept by Queen Elizabeth at Park, near Caer-Sws, in the Vale of Severn. Many excellent draught horses, both for the coach and the waggon, are obtained from England. Orchards and gardens are numerous in the vale lands on the eastern side of the county, but all attempts profitably to establish the former in the more elevated regions have hitherto failed, the blossoms being seldom preserved from the effects of late frosts; and even should the trees escape the paralyzing effects of easterly winds, the cold and wet so frequently experienced during the summer months render the flavour of the fruit much less delicious than that ripened in more favourable aspects: in plentiful seasons a few farmers make cider or perry for their own consumption. Montgomeryshire has ever been distinguished for its woods, and it is still the best wooded county of North Wales, and one of the best in the island in proportion to its extent. Its timber, about a century ago, was so abundant that the fuel of a great part of the county consisted almost entirely of the best species, namely cleft. The first sale of timber from this county for the use of the navy was from Aber-tanat wood, on the confines of Shropshire, about the year 1730, and was followed, about 1750, by others from the woods of Powis Castle park, Aber Naint, and Trêv-Edryd; since which time Montgomeryshire has contributed annually to the supply of the navy and for building merchant vessels. About the year 1770, the size and quality of the Montgomeryshire oak were so well known and esteemed in the several dock yards, particularly those of Plymouth and Deptford, that a great competition arose among the buyers, which raised the price above that of timber of the same kind produced in almost any other part of the kingdom: this rivalry, however, subsided about the commencement of the present century. Owing to the constant demand upon this county, the extent of its woods gradually lessened until within the last thirty years, when planting, which before that period had been adopted by a few spirited individuals, first began to be practised on a large scale by many proprietors. There are several nursery gardens for forest trees in different places, and one more particularly extensive near Welshpool. The amount of waste lands has been greatly lessened by the four following enclosures: *viz.*, that of Strata Marcella, Tîr y Myneich, and Deythur, or Deuddwr, amounting to about two thousand six hundred acres, under an act passed in 1788; that of Plâs Dinas and Mechain Iscoed, amounting to about five thousand acres, under an act passed in 1789; that of Cedewain, Hopetown, and Overgorddwr, amounting to about fifteen thousand

acres, under an act obtained in 1796; and that of the Kerry hills, amounting to about twenty thousand acres, under an act passed in 1797. Before the allotment of these commons about one-half of the county was reckoned waste, and there yet remains nearly two hundred thousand acres of this description of land, notwithstanding that various other extensive wastes have since been enclosed, some by acts of parliament and others by common consent of the parties interested, such as the lordship of Arwystli, Mechain Uwchcoed, Llanvyllin, Caer Einion Uwchcoed, and Iscoed, and Teitrêv. Many of the unenclosed hills have a good depth of soil, and are covered with moss, fern, and grasses to their very summits; but the higher mountains, abounding with turf, can hardly be more advantageously applied than in depasturing in summer a hardy race of sheep, and affording fuel to a district where wood is scarce and coal very distant. As a great part of the low lands in the manors of Strata Marcella, Tîr y Myneich, and Deythur, above mentioned, was subject to frequent inundations by the sudden overflow of the rivers Severn and Vyrnwy, especially the former, a clause of the act for their enclosure enabled the commissioners to form embankments to keep the floods within proper bounds, which, with the whole enclosure, were completed at an expense of nearly £26,000. Commencing on the Severn a little below Pool Quay, they are continued to Cymmerau, at the junction of the two rivers, and thence extend for some miles along the course of the Vyrnwy towards Llanymynech: the banks have been repeatedly broken down in different places by flood waters descending with irresistible force from the mountains. The chief articles of fuel are, coal imported by the Montgomeryshire canal, and peat in the mountainous districts, where the former article cannot be conveniently procured: the quantity of wood burned as fuel is now very inconsiderable, and consists merely of the waste pieces and small branches.

The mineral productions of this county are various, but not of the first importance. The mountains are almost entirely composed of argillaceous schistus; but in those of the Berwyn chain are ranges of primitive rocks. Breiddin hill, however, is chiefly composed of greenish serpentine; and Moel y Golva, its south-western extremity, contains some burr for millstones; but a soft shale is the chief component of the whole of the Plinlimmon range, and of the hills as far north as the Vale of Vyrnwy, though in some places beds of a more compact and regularly stratified stone are found and quarried for flooring, gravestones, &c. Slates, for the roofs of houses and other buildings, are obtained only in the Berwyn range, chiefly at Llangynog, where there are two extensive quarries, from which about a million of slates are sold annually: those here raised are strong and durable, but quartzose veins pervading the whole rock from which they are obtained, they exhibit a coarser surface than others of a more homogeneous composition: the Llangynog slate resists the action of sulphuric acid for ten days: some slabs contain beautiful cubes of mundic. It is worthy of remark, that the strata of these quarries, and of the whole north-eastern part of the Berwyn range, dip eastward, while south-westward from the deep ravine called Bwlch sych, in the parish of Hirnant, about three miles to the south-west of Llangynog, they incline westward: the slate range



extends in this direction by Llanwddyn, where quarries have been lately opened, to Dinasmowddwy, and other places more westward, in Merionethshire. The Plinlimmon mountains are not distinguished for either the abundance or the richness of their ores: lead-ore has been raised on the Berth-lwyd estate, near Llanidloes, and at Esgair hîr, on the border of Cardiganshire, near the copper mine called Esgair Vraith: this latter mine is called by early writers the "Welsh Potosi," and is on a north and south vein of sulphate of copper, which forms a tangent with the east and west lead vein of Esgair hîr. The largest mine in the county, however, is that in the Berwyn range at Llangynog, producing the species of lead-ore called *galena*, or potters' ore: its produce for many years during the early part of the last century was no less than four thousand tons annually. The vein, which extended from east by south to west by north, and was of great breadth, and one of the richest ever discovered in Britain, on being pursued eastward became quite barren; and, on the workmen following its dip westward, the work became inundated, and was consequently relinquished. Early in the present century this mine was let on lease by the proprietor, the Earl of Powis, to a company, who, at a great expense, drove a level beneath, and resumed the working of the original vein, which runs through a coarse argillaceous schistus. At Craig y Mwyn, near Pistyll Rhaiadr, to the north of Llangynog, is an ancient lead mine; and at Dylivau, to the west of Llanbrynmair, is a very considerable work of the same kind. Near the site of an ancient British smelting-hearth, at Dôl y Velin blwm, near Llanvyllin, numerous pieces of lead-ore have been found and collected by washers, to the amount of many tons. In an angle of this county, at Coedwae, on the border of Shropshire, coal is obtained from a few pits capable of producing about twelve tons per day: this is of a pleasant, though swift-burning kind, its inflammable carbon being combined with more maltha than bitumen. A small tract of dark-coloured argillaceous limestone extends in a south-westerly direction from its commencement in the Porthywaen limestone rocks into Powis Castle park: this kind of limestone is not burned. On Plinlimmon mountain is found granite; also the granitell of Kirwan, composed of quartz and shale; siliceous and schistose porphyry; and great quantities of pure quartz. Barytes, united with vitriolic acid, is found at Gallt y Maen, Llanwyddelan, and Llangynog.

Some of the most important manufactures of North Wales are carried on in Montgomeryshire, *viz.*, those of flannels and webs, the pieces of which, displayed on the tenters, form a singular contrast with the verdure of the vales, through which is heard the monotonous sound of looms, fulling-mills, and other machinery. The flannel manufacture is confined to a district occupying the middle and southern parts of the county, which lie contiguous to the Severn and its contributory streams, from Llanidloes to Pool Quay, and to the Dovey and its contributory brooks from Dinasmowddwy to Machynlleth. Formerly the whole manufacture was performed manually by the farmers and cottagers in their own houses; but now they are aided by machinery, great numbers of carding and spinning machines having been erected on the different streams. Besides these, there are now also other manufactories

on a larger scale at Newtown, Llanidloes, Machynlleth, Welshpool, &c., some of which employ about a hundred weavers. The Montgomeryshire flannels are seven-eighths of a yard wide, and each piece generally from one hundred to one hundred and sixty yards in length, though those of a finer sort are sometimes as much as two hundred and forty-two yards long. They are three times bleached under the hammers of the fulling-mill, the first time with urine, the second with fullers' earth, and the third with soap: the fullers' earth is brought by sea from London to Chester, and thence by inland navigation. The nap on these flannels is raised by carding, and by the adhesion of the several foldings when the pieces are laid in a particular manner for the purpose: its texture is particularly soft, owing to the quality of the wool of which they are composed, which renders them well adapted to be worn next the skin even of the most delicate invalid. The principal manufacturers are the wholesale venders of their own flannels; the farmers and cottagers, who still make them after the old method, were formerly universally accustomed to take each his own manufacture to meet the Shropshire and other drapers at the Welshpool flannel market, which is regularly kept every alternate Thursday throughout the year; but latterly the market at Newtown has increased so as almost to rival that of Welshpool, and a commodious market or flannel hall has been recently erected at the former place by subscription, under an expectation of securing the market to be held there, to the exclusion of Welshpool. The Rochdale "stoved white Welsh flannels" are very different from the real produce of the principality, having their warp sized in the weaving, and being afterwards stoved with brimstone: owing to their being drawn finer in the thread than the coarseness of the wool will admit of, they also generally appear threadbare, and the length of each piece never exceeds forty yards. One of the three districts in which are manufactured *webs*, or, as they are called by the London drapers, "Welsh plains," or "cottons," is the town of Machynlleth, with the Vale of the Dovey, in this county: the article is a coarse kind of thick white woollen cloth, made in pieces of from ninety to one hundred and twenty yards long, and seven-eighths of a yard broad, two of these pieces constituting a web. The webs of this county, as of that of Merioneth, are styled "strong cloth," to distinguish them from those of the Glyn district, near Oswestry, which are called "small cloth," because the pieces are about one-eighth of a yard narrower, though of the same length. The principal exports are, store cattle and sheep; raw wool, flannels, and webs; ores of lead and copper; oak bark for tanners; alder and birch bark for dyers; timber for the navy, and poles for the South Wales and Shropshire collieries; slates; grain, flour, and oatmeal; and butter and cheese. The chief imports are, coal, lime and limestone, and groceries and other ordinary shop goods.

The principal rivers are, the Severn, with its tributaries the Vyrnwy and the Tanat, all of which descend eastward from the mountain ridge running across the western part of the county; and the Dovey, or Dyvi, flowing westward from the same ridge: the romantic Wye also has its source on the southern side of Plinlimmon, in this county, and, pursuing a south-easterly course by Llangurig, soon enters Radnorshire. The



Severn rises in a powerful stream from a chalybeate spring on the eastern side of Plinlimmon, at the distance of about a mile from the source of the Wye, whence, as a mountain torrent, it descends eastward towards the town of Llanidloes, under the name of Havren, traversing the narrow valley called Glyn Havren. In this early part of its course it is joined by the streams of the Bâchwy and Glâslyn, all formed by the waters of the numerous springs dispersed in the surrounding mosses, and near Llanidloes it forms a junction with the Clywedog: at this place it loses the violence of its character, and, taking a north-easterly direction, flows through a broad and pleasant valley, by Newtown, and within one mile and a half of Montgomery, receiving the waters of the Miwl at Abermule, and of the Rhiw at Berriew, or Aber-Rhiw, besides smaller rivulets. From the latter place it takes a north-north-easterly course to Welshpool; and at Pool Quay, a little below that town, it becomes navigable, and, gradually assuming an easterly direction, flows onward in a deep bed until, on being joined from the north-west by the Vyrnwy, it enters the county of Salop. The Vyrnwy has its source in two branches rising in the parting ridge, one in the vicinity of Bwlch y Vedwen, near the confines of Merionethshire, which flows eastward by Llanvair, below which town it suddenly turns to the north-east, and enters the Vale of Meivod; and the other near Llanwddyn, which runs eastward till it meets the former branch at Mathraval: after this junction it is called the Vyrnwy, and pursues a north-eastern course until near the northern confines of the county, when it as suddenly assumes an easterly course, and, soon forming a confluence with the Tanat, becomes the north-eastern boundary of the county, and so continues to its junction with the Severn, first separating Montgomeryshire from a detached portion of Denbighshire, and afterwards from Shropshire: this river is navigable during several of the winter months as high as Llanymynech, and is particularly distinguished for the abundance, variety, and excellence of its fish, which reputation is also shared by its tributaries. The principal of these, the Tanat, which has its source in the Berwyn mountains, towards the northern extremity of the county, is joined, a little below the village of Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, by the small river Rhaiadr, which descends from the same mountainous district along the confines of Denbighshire, and forms the grand cataract of Pistyll Rhaiadr: the Tanat, at this confluence, becomes the northern boundary of the county, which it separates from Denbighshire, until, gradually bending eastward, it reaches the confines of Shropshire: here, on approaching Llanymynech, it suddenly turns southward to its confluence with the Vyrnwy, near Llandisilio, after having, for a few miles, bounded on the west a detached portion of Denbighshire. The Dovey, descending from the foot of Aran Mowddwy, a mountain of the Berwyn range in Merionethshire, flows by the town of Dinasmowddwy into the westernmost part of Montgomeryshire, which it crosses through a rich vale in a direction from north-east to south-west, passing by the town of Machynlleth, for a few miles above and below which it forms the western boundary of the county, which it wholly quits on being joined by a small stream from the heights around Plinlimmon.

The Montgomeryshire canal, which is a continuation of a branch of the Ellesmere canal to the Llanymynech lime-works, enters the county in crossing the Vyrnwy, by an aqueduct of five arches, each of forty feet span, and twenty-five feet above the level of the water in the river, besides a number of smaller flood arches: hence it proceeds along the Vale of the Severn to Welshpool, and thence by Berriew and Garthmill to Newtown, where it terminates. It was formed under the provisions of an act obtained in 1795; of a second, passed in 1815; and of a third, in 1821. Its total length is twenty-four miles; the number of locks is nineteen, of bridges fifty-five, and of aqueducts eight: it has two feeders, one from the Severn, and the other from the Tanat: a branch, three miles long, extends to the village of Guilsfield. The total expense of this canal was upwards of £125,000: the chief traffic upon it consists in the importation of limestone and coal, and the exportation of timber, grain, and the produce of the dairy. Strenuous and successful efforts have been made, since the commencement of the present century, in the improvement of the turnpike roads, to which an extent of nearly three hundred miles has been added; and at the same time, since the opening of the Montgomeryshire canal, the land carriage of lime, coal, and timber, has been greatly reduced in the parts adjacent to that line of communication, which have also the advantage of obtaining, by its means, materials of a more durable nature than any procured on the spot. The bridges are very numerous, and those in the more cultivated districts are generally very good ones, but those in the eastern and south-eastern parts of the county are constructed almost wholly of wood, and are frequently in bad repair. Several bridges of stone have lately been erected under the direction of the county surveyor, among which may more particularly be noticed those over the Severn, of three arches each, situated respectively at Llanidloes, Caer-Sws, and Newtown, and that over the Vyrnwy at Llanymynech. The road from London to Montgomery, Welshpool, Dôlgeley, Harlech, and Carnarvon, by way of Worcester, enters this county from Bishop's Castle in Shropshire, and passes through Montgomery, Welshpool, and Llanvair, to Mallwyd and Dinasmowddwy in Merionethshire: from Mallwyd, a branch of this road proceeds through Cemmes and Machynlleth, to Aberystwith. There are also separate roads from London to Montgomery and Welshpool, through Shrewsbury. From Welshpool a road is continued by Newtown and Llanidloes to the Devil's Bridge and Aberystwith: from Newtown a branch of this road proceeds through Llanwnnog and near Llanbryn-mair to the Machynlleth road near the village of Cemmes; and from Welshpool, one by Llanvillin to Bala in Merionethshire.

The only remains of encampments and fortifications decidedly Roman are at Caer-Sws, the Gaer near Montgomery, and Mathraval, each being quadrangular, where also various minor relics of the Romans have been found. At Cwm-glân-Avon, near Llangynog, are the remains of a very ancient building, fourteen yards long and seven broad, called Cubil, supposed to have been a smelting furnace, perhaps of Roman construction, as there are several extensive mining levels of unknown antiquity in the vicinity, and great quantities



of scoria lie adjoining to it. The *Via Devana* entered this county from a station at Castell Collwyn, in Radnorshire, and, taking its course northward by Caer-Sws, is still visible beyond the latter place in the parishes of Aberhavesp, Trêgynon, Llanwyddelan, Llanlligan, Llanvair, and Llanervul. The other Roman road which crossed this county entered it from Shropshire, near the village of Llandrinio, in the vicinity of which, at a place called *Street*, it is plainly visible: at Mediolanum it crossed the *Via Devana*, and thence proceeded by Llangynog and Trûm y Sarn into Merionethshire. A vicinal way branched from the *Via Occidentalis* at Pennal, near Machynlleth, just beyond the western boundary of the county, by Caer-Sws: it is visible between Newtown and Welshpool, in a direction towards the great Roman camp called the *Gaer*, near Montgomery. From Caer-Sws to Meivod ran the vicinal road now called Sarn Swsan, vestiges of which may be traced from the former place, by Gwyn-vynydd, as far as the banks of the Vyrnwy, near Llŷsyn: by Dr. Worthington it was traced to Street Vawr, near Coed y Clawdd, in the parish of Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant, on the northern border of the county; and thence it crossed Rhôs y Brithdir to Pen y Street, and passed through Llam-iwrch to Caer-Vâch, a small Roman camp, in its further course towards Chester. The line of demarcation raised by Offa, between his dominions and those of the Welsh, is still called by the English "Offa's Dyke," and by the Welsh *Clawdd Offa*, and may be traced along nearly the whole of its course through this county. It enters it from the south, at Pwll y Piod, on the road between Bishop's Castle and Newtown, and thence proceeds near Mellington Hall, by Brompton mill and Lymore Park, near Montgomery, and by Forden Heath, Nant-cribba, Leighton Hall, and Buttington church: here it is lost for five miles, the channel of the Severn probably serving for that space as a continuation of this famous boundary, which, however, again appears just below the influx of the small stream called Bele into the Severn, on the northern side of the latter river, whence it is continued by the churches of Llandisilio and Llanymynech, to the edge of the vast precipitous limestone rock in the latter parish, and thence across the north-western part of Shropshire into Denbighshire. It consists of a vast ditch and rampart, the latter being on the English side: in its vicinity, near Mellington Hall, is an encampment called Caer-ddin; at Brompton mill, a mount; and at Nant-cribba, another ancient fortification. On the summit of a high mountain, near the village of Llandinam, is a strong British camp; and various intrenchments, supposed to have had some relation to the castle of Mathraval, the seat of the princes of Powys, and the foundations of which may yet be traced, lie scattered in the vicinity of Meivod. There is also a British camp, called Gardden, of a circular form, on a hill near Llanvair, and another near Llanervul: the remains of a third may be seen at Castell Caereineon. Near Cann Office, on the road between Llanvair and Mallwyd, is a tumulus seventy yards in circumference. On each of the two summits of Plinlimmon is a carnedd, or large heap of stones: other monuments of the same kind are very numerous in the parishes of Llanervul and Llangadvan, where the largest are from thirty to sixty yards in circumference; these are sepulchral. On a hill called Pencoed, in the last-mentioned parish, are numerous

small hollows and hillocks, supposed to be places of interment of the Britons. At the period of the Reformation there were, at Llanlligan, a Cistercian nunnery, and at Ystrad Marchell, or Strata Marcella, a Cistercian abbey. The most remarkable specimens of ecclesiastical architecture are seen in the churches of Montgomery, Llanidloes, Newtown, and Llanwnnog. The castles of Powis and Montgomery, the latter of which is in ruins, are striking specimens of the fortifications raised by the Anglo-Normans to secure their conquests from the native Welsh: there are also remains of that of Dôlvorwyn, near Newtown. Powis Castle is the venerable mansion of Viscount Clive, eldest son of the Earl of Powis, and, being built of red calcareous stone quarried out of the adjoining park, is called by the Welsh *Castell Côch*, or the "Red Castle." Among residences of a more modern date those most worthy of notice are, Aberiarth Hall, near Machynlleth, belonging to Sir T. D. King, Bart.; Black Hall, near Newtown, the seat of Charles Jones, Esq.; Bôd-Heilyn, that of J. Humphreys, Esq.; Bôdvâch, near Llanvyllin, belonging to Lord Mostyn; Broadway, near Montgomery, the seat of Sir C. T. Jones, Knt.; Bronhyddon, near Llanvyllin, that of Robert Perrott, Esq.; Brynaber, also near Llanvyllin, that of M. Bibbey, Esq.; Bryngwyn, near Llanvyllin, that of M. Williams, Esq.; Brynllwarch, near Newtown, that of W. Pugh, Esq.; Cyvronydd, near Welshpool, that of P. Jones, Esq.; Dôlerw, near Newtown, that of W. Lutener, Esq.; Dôl-llys, near Llanidloes, that of George Meares, Esq.; Dôlvorgan, near Newtown, that of John Edwards, Esq.; Dôlvorwyn Hall, near Newtown, that of the Rev. J. Pryce; Diserth, near Welshpool, that of J. D. Corrie, Esq.; Garth, near the same town, that of R. Mytton, Esq.; Upper Garthmyl, that of C. Jones, Esq.; Lower Garthmyl, that of — Johnes, Esq., M. D.; Glandulas, near Llanidloes, that of William Owen, Esq.; Glandwr, near the same town, that of B. Woosnam, Esq.; Glân Severn, near Welshpool, that of William Owen, Esq.; Glasgoed, near Llanvyllin, that of D. Evans, Esq.; Glân Havren, near Newtown, that of Mrs. Herbert; Glyn Severn, near Llanidloes, that of I. Hunter, Esq.; Greenfields, near Machynlleth, that of Col. Edwards; Gregynog, near Newtown, that of C. H. Tracy, Esq.; the Gro, near the same town, that of the Rev. C. Wingfield; Leighton Hall, near Welshpool, that of Panton Corbett, Esq.; Llanerchydôl, near the same town, that of David Pugh, Esq.; Llwydiarth Hall, near Llanvyllin, belonging to Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart.; Llwyn, near the same town, the seat of W. Humphreys, Esq.; Lymore Park, near Montgomery, belonging to Viscount Clive; Mellington Hall, near the same town, the seat of T. B. Browne, Esq.; Nantcribba, near Welshpool, belonging to Viscount Hereford; Newtown Hall, near Newtown, the seat of the Rev. G. A. Evors; Penbrÿn, near Montgomery, that of Thomas Jones, Esq.; Pennant, near Berriew, that of J. B. Williams, Esq.; Pentre Nant, near Montgomery, that of W. Morris, Esq.; Pen y lan, at Meivod, that of I. Mytton, Esq.; Rhiwport, at Berriew, that of W. Jones, Esq.; Trelydan Hall, near Welshpool, that of J. C. Jukes, Esq.; Vaynor Park, at Berriew, that of Mrs. Winder; and Vronvelen, near Machynlleth, that of D. P. Evans, Esq. In those parts of Montgomeryshire where the hills consist almost wholly of shale, the



houses of the gentry were formerly built of massive timber, and now most commonly of brick, made from clay found in the valleys. The ordinary houses in such districts are generally of timber, wattle or lath, and plaster; and the roofs chiefly slated, though sometimes of shingles, or oak, split and cut into the form of slates. There are many farm-houses and offices upon new and improved constructions. The cottages in the greater part of the county have a very wretched appearance, and consist only of two small rooms. On the schistose hills, and in their vicinity, where there is an abundance of flattish stones, the fences are frequently dry stone walls: hawthorn sets, for hedges, are grown in great quantities by the nurserymen. The farmers in the low lands excel in their family fare; but in the mountainous districts the bread has generally a large proportion of rye or barley, and cakes made wholly from oatmeal are much used. Servants hired by the year generally commence their term of service on the 1st of May. There are several springs, the waters of which contain a large proportion of hepatic air: two of these are in the parish of Meivod, where also there is one extremely limpid, the waters of which have been found efficacious in the cure of scrophulous and other ulcers. Two saline and sulphureous springs have been lately discovered in the parish of Llanvair, which have been much frequented during the last few summers, many having derived considerable benefit from drinking the waters. Near the church of Llanervul is a well, called Fynnon Ervul, famous for its medicinal virtues; and one adjoining the church of Garthbeibio, called Fynnon Dydecho, which is constructed so as to form a cold bath, its waters being reputed to have some efficacy in the cure of rheumatic affections. The small river Rhaiadr, about four miles from the village of Llanrhaidr, on the northern border of the county, after sliding gently down a small declivity, precipitates itself over a perpendicular rock upwards of two hundred feet in height, and then forms a second cataract as its raging waters fall into a small natural basin beneath: this grand cascade is called Pistyll Rhaiadr.

MOOR, a township in the parish of HAWARDEN, hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  mile (N.N.E.) from Hawarden, containing 132 inhabitants.

MORDRYDD, a hamlet in the parish of LLANSPYTHID, hundred of DEVYNOC, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.W.) from Brecknock, containing 160 inhabitants. It is situated in the upper part of the vale of the river Tarrell, which separates it from the parish of Llanvaes, and at the northern declivity of the Green Mountain. At some distance to the south, and partly within this hamlet, rise the rocky and elevated conical mountains called the Brecknockshire Beacons, to the height of two thousand eight hundred and sixty-two feet above the level of the sea. The Calvinistic Methodists have a small place of worship here. Gilbert Court, an old mansion built by some member of the family of Parry, in the reign of Elizabeth, near the southern bank of the Tarrell, is now a farm-house in this hamlet, in which is also situated Bôlgoed, which formed part of the estate conferred by Bernard Newmarch on his follower Sir John Skule. Not a vestige of the mansion occupied by this knight is now visible; but on a farm called Cilwhibarth there is a

large mound or barrow, which Mr. Jones is of opinion was the "*mons placitorum*" of the manor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £120. 2.

MORETON (ABOVE), a township in the parish of RUABON, hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (N. by E.) from Ruabon, containing, with the township of Moreton Below, 2957 inhabitants. It is rich in mineral productions, abounding both with iron-ore and coal, the working of which affords employment to a great majority of the population, which has increased one-tenth since the census of 1821.

MORETON (BELOW), a township in the parish of RUABON, hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (N.E.) from Ruabon. The population is included in the return for Moreton Above. Numerous respectable and pleasing residences are observable in various directions, among which Moreton Hall is most prominently conspicuous.

MORRISTON, a chapelry in the parish and hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (N. by E.) from Swansea. The population, which is very considerable, is returned with that of the hamlet of Lower Clàs, in which it is situated. This village, which is of recent origin, derives its name from its founder and late proprietor, Sir John Morris, who built it for the residence of the persons engaged in the various copper-works and collieries in this district. It is pleasantly situated on the western bank of the river Tawy, which is here navigable for sloops of small burden, and which, falling into the harbour of Swansea, affords a facility for the conveyance of its mineral produce to that port, which is further aided by the Swansea canal passing close to the village. The different ranges of building are formed with great regularity, after a plan by Mr. W. Edwards, designed about the year 1768, with a view to the formation of regular streets, in the probable event of its ultimately becoming a town, from the future extension of the works, and the advantages of its situation in the heart of an extensive district abounding with mineral wealth, and on the bank of a navigable river near the sea-port of Swansea. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, and in the patronage of Sir John Morris. The chapel is a neat structure, and is appropriately fitted up. There are places of worship for Independents and for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. A school has been established in the village, and is supported by the proprietors of the different copper-works and collieries in the neighbourhood, for the gratuitous instruction of the children of the persons employed in their works. This chapelry is now included within the new boundaries of the contributory borough of Swansea, under the late Reform Act.

MORVIL, a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (S.E.) from Fishguard, containing 201 inhabitants. This place is distinguished in the historical annals of the principality for the gallant resistance opposed by the Welsh to the encroachments of a party of Norman invaders, who in the latter part of the eleventh century, under the sanction of the reigning monarch, landed on the coast of Pembroke, with a view to establish them-



selves in such territories as they could obtain by conquest in this part of the principality. The parish is situated in the northern portion of the county, near the western declivity of the Precelly mountain, and is bounded on the south by a rivulet, which, flowing westward, falls into the river Cleddy. The surrounding scenery is not distinguished by any peculiarity of features from that which prevails generally in this part of the principality; but the views, though not extensive, are interesting from the majestic appearance of the mountains by which the parish is nearly surrounded. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £2, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Sir R. B. P. Philipps, Bart. The church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £49. 9.

MOTHEVEY (MYDDVAI), a parish, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, in the higher division of the hundred of PERVETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (S.) from Llandovery, and containing 1192 inhabitants, of which number, 550 are in the Upper, and 642 in the Lower, division. This parish is situated on the turnpike road leading from Llandilo, through Llangadock to Llandovery, and is watered by the rivers Towy, Rhythan, Gwytherig, Sevin, Clydach, Brân, and Usk, which last river is said to have its source among the Black Mountains within its limits. The surface is boldly undulated, and in some parts hilly and even mountainous: the lands, with the exception of a considerable portion of rocky and sterile ground, are enclosed and in a high state of cultivation, those in the lower grounds being extremely fertile, and consisting of many well-wooded enclosures; and the scenery, which is strikingly diversified, is characterized by features of picturesque beauty and romantic grandeur. The luxuriant richness of the vales is finely contrasted with the rugged barrenness of the mountains; and the numerous rivers that flow through the lower grounds add greatly to the beauty of the scenery, which is further enlivened by the several gentlemen's seats which are scattered over the parish. Kilgwyn, the seat of James Price Gwynne Holford, Esq., is an elegant and spacious mansion, beautifully situated on the banks of the river Sevin, and comprehending within the grounds, which are tastefully laid out, a rich variety of interesting scenery. Llwynywormwood, the mansion of John G. H. G. Williams, Esq., is also a handsome residence, pleasantly situated higher up on the same stream, and commanding some interesting prospects. A small woollen manufacture is carried on in the village; and there are two king's mills in the parish, Kilgwyn and Brân, each of which pays a chief-rent of £2 to the lord of the manor, to whom also is paid a fee of ten shillings on the marriage of every freeholder, in lieu of the uncivilized feudal custom of a first night's lodging with the bride: a fair is held in the village on the 18th of October. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 6. 8., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church is dedicated to St. Michael, from which circumstance the parish is sometimes called "Llanvihan-

gel Myddvai:" it is an ancient structure, situated in a vale at the foot of the mountainous district in the eastern part of the parish, but not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. In the chancel is a stone to the memory of Dr. Morgan Owen, who was buried here; he was promoted to the see of Llandaf in 1639, and died in 1644: and in the churchyard are, an ancient yew tree, twenty-five feet, and a sycamore, fifty-four feet, in girth. There was formerly a chapel of ease at Dôl Hywel, which is now in ruins. From the parish register, which was formerly kept in the Latin language, it appears that, during the usurpation of Cromwell, all the marriages at this place were solemnized by John Powell, Esq. There are two places of worship for Independents, and one for Calvinistic Methodists. A National school, in which about fifty children of both sexes receive gratuitous instruction, is supported by subscription. Dr. Owen, Bishop of Llandaf, bequeathed £10 per annum, payable out of the tithes of this parish, for the relief of poor persons not receiving parochial aid: after some litigation the sum of £238. 18. 5. was awarded by a decree of the court of Chancery, in 1709, as arrears due to the parish, which sum is now invested, in the name of the churchwardens, in the Old South Sea Annuities; and an unknown benefactor bequeathed a sum of money, the interest of which, amounting to £6. 7. 5., is annually distributed among the poor. Some interesting remains, supposed to be of British and Saxon origin, are said to have been found on a farm called Pen-tŵyn by the late John Josiah Holford, Esq.; and in the year 1807, thirty small silver coins were found near the ruins of Dôl Hywel chapel. In a field not far from the vicarage-house, called Monks' Field, are two tumuli. In the mountainous district is Craig Cwm Clyd, a rock nearly sixty yards in perpendicular height. During the thirteenth century this place was much frequented by physicians; among whom was Rhiwallon, who, in conjunction with his three sons, during his residence here, distinguished himself by a manuscript treatise on the practice of physic, which is preserved among the Welsh manuscripts in the library of the Welsh charity school in London. Tradition affirms that his descendants continued to follow the practice of medicine at this place till within the memory of persons living at the beginning of the present century. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £342. 19.

MOUGHTREY (MÔCH-DRÊ), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of MONTGOMERY, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S. W.) from Newtown, containing 544 inhabitants. It constituted formerly, with the parish of Kerry, a district in the ancient province of Ferregs, granted by Elystan Glodryd, lord of Ferregs and Maelienydd, to his second son Morgeneu. It is situated in the southern part of the county, bordering upon Radnorshire, and comprises a large tract of land, of which one-half is enclosed and cultivated, and the remainder allotted as sheepwalks to the several farms, under the provisions of the Kerry enclosure act, passed in 1797. The surface is boldly undulated, rising in several parts into abrupt eminences, and surrounded by lofty hills, which circumscribe the parish in the form of an amphitheatre. In the mountains are many singular chasms, and the whole surface



of the hills was formerly richly wooded: the surrounding scenery is in many points highly picturesque, and the views, though partially obstructed by intervening heights, comprehend many interesting objects. The manufacture of flannel is carried on upon a limited scale, affording employment to a portion of the inhabitants. This parish formed one of the twenty-four prebends with which Thomas Beck, Bishop of St. David's, in 1287, endowed the college of St. Mary at Aberguilly, in the county of Carmarthen, and which were afterwards transferred by Henry VIII. to the college of Christ Church in Brecknock: the prebend is valued in the king's books at £1. 7. 1., and is in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Archdeacon of Brecknock. Moughtrey and Kerry are the only parishes in the county of Montgomery which are within the diocese of St. David's, a circumstance which is attributed to the successful resistance opposed by the celebrated Giraldus Cambrensis, Archdeacon of Brecknock, to the forcible attempts of the then Bishop of St. Asaph to take possession of those churches, and annex them to his diocese. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, but in a very dilapidated condition: it stands in a vale watered by a stream which falls into the river Severn. There is a place of worship for Independents. On a point of land between two small brooks, near a hill in this parish, called the Craig, there is a strong military station of small extent; and near Craig Mill are evident traces of a Roman road leading across the summit of the hills, from Caer-Sws to Abbey Cwm Hir, in the county of Radnor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £278. 14.

MOUNT (MOEL Y MWNT), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3½ miles (N.) from Cardigan, containing 131 inhabitants, who are exclusively employed in agriculture. This parish, which is situated at the south-western extremity of the county, and on the shore of Cardigan bay, derives its name from a lofty hill of conical form near the church. At the base of this hill is a large sand bank, covering a great number of human bones, which are occasionally visible when the sand is scattered by the wind, and are supposed to be the remains of a body of Flemings, who, having effected a landing on this part of the coast, were encountered by the natives, and repulsed with great slaughter. The surrounding scenery is destitute of beauty, and the only views possessing any interest are those up the Vale of Teivy, and those extending over the bay, which is occasionally enlivened by the passing of vessels. The coast is here very bold and precipitous, and the sounding within a short distance of the land is from four to seventeen fathoms. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Impropiator of the tithes. The church, dedicated to the Holy Cross, and situated near the sea, is an ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, but is not distinguished by any architectural details. The

average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £32. 3.

MOUNTON, or MONKTON, a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (W. S. W.) from Narberth, containing 41 inhabitants. This place, which is situated in the south-eastern part of the county, and near the source of a small rivulet which flows into the eastern Cleddy, is but of small extent. The parish comprises a large portion of woodland, called Canaston wood, together with some good arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and cultivated. The living is consolidated with the rectory of Narberth, to which the church is now considered a chapel of ease, and is in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £8. 9.

MOYLGROVE, a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (W. by S.) from Cardigan, containing 419 inhabitants. This parish, which by the Welsh is called "Trêv Gwyddel," is situated on the coast in the north-eastern part of the county, and comprises a moderate extent of arable and pasture land, which is all enclosed and cultivated. The surrounding scenery is not characterized by any peculiar features, and the views over the adjacent country are barren of interest: in general the shore is abrupt and rugged, with a good depth of water. The living is a discharged vicarage, annexed to that of Bayvill, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is about half a mile from the village, being situated on the left bank of a stream which falls into St. George's channel at no great distance: it is not remarkable for any architectural details. There is a place of worship for Independents. Within the limits of the parish is a well, the water of which is considered efficacious in several diseases. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £122. 17.

MYDDVAY (MYDDVAI), a joint hamlet with Trê-Clâs, in the parish of LLANARTHNEY, hundred of ISCENEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish.

MYDRIM (MEIDRUM), a parish partly in the hundred of ELVET, but chiefly in the higher division of the hundred of DERLLÛs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (W.) from Carmarthen, containing 983 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated in the western part of the county, and is intersected by two small rivers, called the Avon Gynin and Dewi Vawr, which, uniting to the south of it, fall into the river Tâf at St. Clear's: it comprises but a moderate portion of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, being enlivened by the course of the rivers which flow through the parish, in a direction from north to south; and the views over the adjacent country are interesting and extensive. About a mile from the church is Penrheol the residence of Mrs. Howel, a handsome mansion agreeably situated in grounds tastefully laid out; and other pleasing and ornamental residences are scattered over the parish. Coal has been supposed to exist here, and an attempt to procure it has been made with



good prospect of success. A fair is held on March 12th. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of Llanvihangel Abercowin annexed, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 10., endowed with £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. David, is an ancient edifice, not distinguished by any architectural details. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. The annual sum of £8 is paid out of the tithes towards the support of a school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children; but the name of the benefactor is not known. Here are the remains of an ancient earthwork, called Castell Brynule: it extends over an area of two acres, and is defended by a single rampart. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £347. 18.

MYHATHAM, a joint hamlet with Trêvreyan, in the parish of LLANARTHNEY, hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish.

MYNACHDU (MYNACHDY), a hamlet in that part of the parish of LLANYCRWYS which is in the higher division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (W.) from Lampeter, containing 148 inhabitants. From the name, which signifies a monastery, it is probable that a cell to some ancient abbey was formerly situated here. Slight traces of a Roman road, which passed from Llanio to Llanvair ar y brÿn, are still discernible in the vicinity.

MYNACHLOGDŪ (MONACHLOG-DŪ), a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 10 miles (N. by E.) from Narberth, containing 447 inhabitants, which is the exact number returned ten years previously, in the census of 1821. This parish is situated near the eastern extremity of the county, bordering upon Carmarthenshire, and comprises a large extent of land, of which a great portion is occupied by the Precelly mountain, but the remainder is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation: the river called the Eastern Cleddy has its source within its limits. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Sir R. B. P. Philipps, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Dogmael, is not remarkable for any architectural details. The average annual expenditure for the relief of the poor is £92. 6.

MYNWERE (MINWEAR), a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. by S.) from Narberth, containing 161 inhabitants. This parish, from a mistaken etymology of its name, which was read Mwyn Aur, signifying "a gold mine," was supposed to have contained gold-ore, and some fruitless attempts were in consequence made to discover it. The name is, however, with greater probability, supposed to be derived from a weir on the Eastern Cleddy, on the banks of which river the parish is situated, which was noted for the abundance of fish taken there during the season. The parish comprises a moderate portion of arable and pasture land, which is all enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified with wood and water, there being an extensive plantation on the north-eastern boundary of the parish; and the views over the adjacent country are

not destitute of interest. Picton Castle, with its rich and well-wooded grounds, appears to much advantage on the other side of the Cleddy, together with Slebech Hall and its demesne. The living is a vicarage not in charge, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £400 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Hon. Baron de Rutzen, of Slebech Hall. The church is dedicated to St. Wonan. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £45. 13.

## N.

NANGLE, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES.—See ANGLE.

NANNERCH, a parish partly in the Caerwys division of the hundred of RHUDDLAN, county of FLINT, and partly in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (S. by W.) from Holywell, containing 384 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated in the central part of the county, bordering upon Denbighshire, near the source of the river Whieler, and on the turnpike road leading from Denbigh to Mold. The surface is strikingly undulated, rising into bold and abrupt eminences in various parts; and the lands, which are principally arable, with a proportion of meadow and pasture land, are in a good state of cultivation: the soil is principally gravelly, and well adapted to the growth of corn. Some very extensive veins of rich iron-ore are found in the township of Penbedw, where are also lead mines, which have been worked for many years with considerable success. The surrounding country is boldly varied, affording pleasing views, and displaying some fine specimens of mountain scenery. Within the parish are some fine springs, of which one, called "Fynnon Sarah," near the new turnpike road, is considered to be the source of the river Whieler, which, after pursuing a westerly course, falls into the river Clwyd near Pontrufydd. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £9. 8.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a neat plain structure: it contains a very handsome monument to the memory of the family of Mostyn of Penbedw, and a mural monument to that of Watkin Williams, Esq., of the same place, who represented the Flintshire boroughs in forty successive parliaments, and died November 30th, 1808, aged sixty-six. At Cwm, near the village, there is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, erected in 1830. A parochial school, in which twenty boys and twenty girls receive gratuitous instruction, is supported by subscription. John Edwards, in 1734, bequeathed a rent-charge of £1. 6. to be annually distributed in bread among the poor. Near the boundary of the parish is Moel Arthur, a very extensive British encampment, occupying the summit of a lofty eminence; and near it are the remains of Pen y Cloddiau, the most extensive British fortification in this part of the principality: they are both situated on the range of the Clwydian mountains, within the limits of the parish. Many rare and valuable fossils are found in the lead mines here. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £218. 2.



**NANT**, a joint township with Prestatyn, in the parish of MELIDEN, hundred of PRESTATYN, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (N. N. E.) from St. Asaph. The population is included in the return for the parish. It is situated on the coast of the Irish sea, where the beach is formed of firm sand, and there are about two fathoms of water half a mile from the shore.

**NANTCWNLLE** (**NANT-GYNLLO**), a parish, partly in the upper division of the hundred of MOYTHEN, and partly in the lower division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (N.) from Lampeter, containing 686 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from a small brook which flows into the river Aëron, by which it is intersected, and from the dedication of its church to St. Cynllo, an eminent British saint, who flourished about the middle of the fifth century. The river Aëron here forms a boundary between the hundreds of Moythen and Penarth: the vale through which it flows abounds with pleasingly varied scenery, and the views over the surrounding country combine many objects of interest. The parish constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Brecknock, valued in the king's books at £7. 6. 8., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 13. 4., endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The tithes are divided between the prebendary and the vicar, the former of whom has two-thirds, and the latter one-third. The church, dedicated to St. Cynllo, is a small plain edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, and is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. There are some remains of an ancient intrenchment, called "Pen y Gaer." The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £110. 10.

**NANTDŪ** (**NANT-DŪ**), a chapelry in the upper division of the parish of CANTREF, hundred of PENCELLE, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 10 miles (S. S. W.) from Brecknock, containing, with the hamlet of Hepstè, 102 inhabitants. It is situated on the eastern bank of the Tâf Mawr, or Greater Tâf, at the southern extremity of the parish, through which passes the turnpike road from Brecknock to Merthyr-Tydvil, and between which and the northern part of the parish, where stands the mother church, extends part of a long chain of lofty barren mountains, including the Brecknockshire Beacons, one of which is the highest in South Wales. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Rector of Cantref. An overseer is appointed for this division of the parish, though the inhabitants of both unite in the maintenance of the poor.

**NANTGLYN** (**NANT-GLYN**), a parish in the hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S. W.) from Denbigh, containing 345 inhabitants. This parish, which is pleasantly situated on a branch of the river Clwyd, nearly in the centre of the county, extends almost seven miles in length, and four miles and a half in breadth, and comprises a large tract of land, of which comparatively but a small portion is enclosed and cultivated. The surrounding scenery is agreeably diversified, though not distinguished by any striking

peculiarity of feature; and the views, though confined towards the south and the west by lofty hills, are not destitute of interest. Fairs are held on May 6th and October 27th. The living is a discharged vicarage, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £4. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. James, is not marked by any architectural details of importance. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. A parochial school, in which children of both sexes are gratuitously instructed, is supported by subscription. Some small benefactions in land and money, amounting together to only an inconsiderable sum, are annually distributed among the poor. Mr. David Samuel, who sailed with Captain Cook, as surgeon in the ship "Discovery," and was an eye witness of his death, of which he wrote an interesting narrative, printed in the *Biographia Britannica*, was a native of this place; and the late Mrs. Jordan, the celebrated actress, was born at Plâs, a township in this parish. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £117. 5.

**NANTMEL** (**NANT-MAEL**), a parish in the hundred of RHAIDR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 3½ miles (E. S. E.) from Rhaiadr, containing 1294 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated on the small river Dulas, and the turnpike road from Rhaiadr to New Radnor passes through it. It extends for nearly eight miles in length and five in breadth, and comprises a large tract of good arable and pasture land, of which by far the greater portion is enclosed and cultivated. The surrounding scenery is agreeably diversified, and that part of the parish through which the road from New Radnor to Rhaiadr passes is pleasingly picturesque, the vale being on one side finely wooded. The banks of the small river Dulas are in some parts ornamented with features of pleasing character; and a fine sheet of water, called Llyn Gwyn, one mile in circumference, and abounding with carp and eels, adds greatly to the beauty of the scenery. Llwynbarried, the property of — Evans, Esq., and another seat, belonging to — Chapman, Esq., are in this parish. The living is a vicarage, with Llanyre annexed, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £11. 17. 6., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Cynllo, and situated under a steep bank above the turnpike road, was rebuilt in the year 1792: it is a neat edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, with an embattled tower, which forms an interesting object from several points of view. There are places of worship for Baptists at Dolau, and for Independents at Cwrtgwyn. A farm in this parish, called Penfynnon, is charged with the annual payment of £5 to the poor, under the will of Hugh Philips; and a small donation of land for the same purpose was bequeathed by John Davis, in 1718. Two of the largest *carneddau* in the county are situated in this parish, one occupying the summit of Gwastedyn, and the other that of Camlo hill. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £626. 9.

**NANTMOR**, a hamlet in that part of the parish of Bethgelart which is in the hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. E.) from Bethgelart, containing 294 inhabitants. It forms



one of those glens among the mountains at the foot of Snowdon which extend into Merionethshire.

NANT Y BAI, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES.—See RHANDIR ABBOT.

NARBERTH, a newly created borough, market town, and parish, comprising the North and South divisions, each of which separately maintains its own poor, in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. E.) from Pembroke, and 254 (W.) from London, containing 2589 inhabitants, of which number, 1852 are in the North, and 737 in the South, division. This place, in ancient records called "Arberth," appears to have been distinguished at a very early period as the residence of some of the chieftains of the country; and mention occurs, in the earlier periods of its history, of Pwyll Pendevig, of the royal house of Dyved, setting out from his palace of Narberth to hunt in the vale of "Cych." On the conquest of Pembrokeshire by Arnulph de Montgomery, in the reign of William Rufus, this place became the head of a considerable lordship, which was allotted by Arnulph to Stephen Perrott, who had accompanied him in his expedition into this part of the principality, and who is said to have erected, for the security of his territories, a fortress on the summit of a hill (still called Camp hill) between the village of Templeton, in this parish, and the present town. This spot was well adapted to the purposes of observation and defence, and was at that time covered with a thick forest; and the remains of military works, which, according to the Welsh Chronicles, were destroyed by Gruffydd ab Rhys, may yet be traced. Sir Andrew Perrott, grandson of the first knight, subsequently erected the castle, of which the remains form so prominent and picturesque a feature in the foreground of the town. For this purpose he selected a very eligible site, commanding the pass of the valley through which the high road through the county passes; and having completed the building, he garrisoned it with a party of Flemings, whom Henry I. had settled in this part of the principality, and for whom and his dependents, under the immediate protection of the castle, Sir Andrew built habitations, which formed the origin of the present town. Little is recorded of the history of the castle, which in 1256 was taken, and the fortifications destroyed, by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales; but it appears to have recovered from the injury it received upon that occasion. The lordship and castle were generally the property of the crown, or of some distinguished member of the English peerage, till the reign of Henry VIII., who gave them to Sir Rhys ab Thomas, at which time the castle was in a good state of repair, according to the testimony of Leland, who describes it as "a praty pile of old Sir Rees." The castle suffered material injury during the usurpation of Cromwell; but it appears, notwithstanding, to have remained in a habitable state till the year 1657, when it formed part of the immense possessions of the Barlows of Slebech, who, in the 4th of James II., obtained permission to hold here a market and fair, and to receive the tolls and customs arising from them.

The town is pleasantly situated on an eminence above a narrow valley, a little to the eastward of the Eastern Cleddy river, and in the northern division of the parish: it consists principally of three narrow streets

diverging obliquely from the market-place, which is in the centre. The houses are irregularly built and of mean appearance; and the town, which is neither paved nor lighted, and is indifferently supplied with water, fails in realizing the expectations which the distant view of it excites. As seen from the adjacent heights, with its church, and the picturesque remains of its ancient castle, mantled with ivy, it forms a prominent and highly interesting object; but on a nearer approach, its want of regularity in the order, and of beauty in the form, of its buildings, destroys the effect of its distant appearance. The surrounding scenery is richly varied and beautifully picturesque. The southern portion of the parish produces abundance of excellent limestone, of which great quantities are burnt for the supply of the surrounding neighbourhood, and a considerable portion is quarried for building, some of which, from its being susceptible of a fine polish, is manufactured into mantel-pieces of great beauty. The town has derived a considerable degree of importance, and a large increase in its population, from its public situation on the great western road from London to Milford. A lock-up house, having over it a room in which magisterial and parochial meetings are held, has recently been built by a grant from the county rates and by subscription; and a new market-house, considered to be one of the most commodious in South Wales, has just been completed, at the sole expense of the Baron de Rutzen, of Slebech Hall, the proprietor of the castle and lord of the manor, which he obtained by marriage with the heiress of the late Nathaniel Philipps, Esq. Hats are manufactured here to a limited extent. The market is on Thursday, and is abundantly supplied with provisions of every kind, at an extremely moderate price. Fairs are annually held by charter on March 21st, June 4th, July 5th, August 10th, September 26th, and December 11th; and to these have been added two others, recently established, of which one is held on the 13th of May, and the other, which is called the Jubilee Fair, on the 25th of October: this last was held for the first time in 1810, in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the accession of George III.: they are all noted cattle fairs, and are much resorted to by graziers and drovers from England. By the late act for amending the representation of the people, Narberth has been created a borough, contributory with Fishguard to that of Haverfordwest in the return of a member to parliament: the right of election is vested in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the present number of tenements of this value within the limits of the borough, which are minutely described in the Appendix to this work, is one hundred. It has also been made a polling-place in the election of a knight for the shire. The petty sessions for the hundred are held here.

The living is a rectory, with Robeston-Wathen annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £25. 10. 10., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, and supposed to have been originally founded by Sir Andrew Perrott, the founder of the castle, has been recently rebuilt, partly by subscription, aided by a grant of £150 from the



Incorporated Society for promoting the building and enlargement of churches and chapels, and partly by a rate upon the inhabitants, amounting to one-third of the whole expense. It is a very neat edifice, in the later style of English architecture, and, in consideration of the grant from the society, contains one hundred and fifty free sittings, in addition to fifty which were previously unappropriated. Prior to the incumbency of the present rector, the Rev. W. Lloyd, both the church and parsonage-house were in a very dilapidated condition; but a new rectory-house and commodious out-buildings have been just completed, at an expense of £1050, raised by a mortgage on the living, under Gilbert's Act. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Wesleyan Methodists. George Devonald, Esq., of Sodston, has lately by deed charged the farm of Rushacre with the payment of £30 per annum for the support of a school in this parish, in which poor children are to be taught reading and writing; and it is in contemplation to erect a school-room, in order to carry into effect the intentions of the beneficent donor. The remains of the ancient castle, which appears to have been a structure of considerable extent, consist principally of the grand gateway between two circular towers partly clothed with ivy, and some small portions of the walls; though inconsiderable in their extent, they possess a very pleasing and interesting character, and from their situation have a highly picturesque appearance. On the eastern verge of Canaston wood, but within this parish, are the remains of a fine old British intrenchment, nearly triangular in form, and comprising an area of two acres and a half in extent, with the longest side towards the river Cleddy: it is defended on all sides, except on the east, where it is protected by a natural ravine, by a lofty rampart of great breadth, and has only one entrance at the south-eastern angle. About a mile to the south of the town is the ancient village of Templeton, so called from its having been anciently the resort of the Knights Templar of Slebech, who were accustomed to pursue the diversion of hunting at this place: the cottages in this village have an appearance of great antiquity, and the remains of numerous ruined buildings, together with the tradition that there was anciently a church or chapel of ease here, on the site of which is a building, subsequently used by a congregation of Unitarian dissenters, and now as a school-room, in connection with the established church, afford evidence of its having been at one time a place of greater importance. Grove, in this parish, the property of Charles Poyer Callen, Esq., is chiefly remarkable as having been the patrimonial inheritance of the celebrated Colonel Poyer, who so gallantly defended Pembroke castle during the parliamentary war, and who, together with Colonels Laugharne and Powell, was tried by Cromwell for high treason, and sentenced to suffer death. Cromwell, being prevailed upon to spare the lives of two, three papers were folded up, on two of which was written "Life given by God," and the third, which was blank, having fallen by lot to Colonel Poyer, he was shot in Covent Garden, on the 25th of April, 1649. From this circumstance the family motto, — "*Sors est contra me*," has been taken. From a field upon this estate is obtained a most extensive prospect over the counties

of Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, and Pembroke in Wales, and over those of Cornwall, Devon, and Somerset in England. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the entire parish, from March 1824 to March 1829, amounted to £492. 1., of which sum, £359. 18. was raised on the North, and £132. 3. on the South, division; but since that period the aggregate expenditure may be estimated at £660 per annum, of which the proportions are £480 for the North, and £180 for the South, division.

NASH, an extra-parochial district, adjoining the parish of LLYSWORNEY, in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (S. W. by W.) from Cowbridge, containing 9 inhabitants. This place, which is pleasantly situated in the south-eastern part of the county, and within a short distance of the Bristol channel, comprises about three hundred acres of rich arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The ancient seat of the family of Carne, and now the patrimonial residence of Mrs. Markham, a descendant of that family, is a spacious mansion, chiefly erected in the reign of Elizabeth: the grounds, which are tastefully disposed, comprehend some pleasingly diversified scenery, and the distant views are not destitute of interest. A chapel for the family was formerly regularly served; but divine service has not been performed in it within the memory of the oldest inhabitant.

NASH, a parish partly in the hundred of CASTLE-MARTIN, and partly in that of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (N. E.) from Pembroke, containing 133 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the southern part of the county, and near a small inlet from Milford Haven, comprises but a moderate portion of land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery, though not distinguished by any striking peculiarity of feature, is generally pleasing; and the adjacent country affords some interesting objects, and some views which are not destitute of beauty. The great turnpike road leading from Narberth to Pembroke passes through the southern part of the parish. The living is a rectory, with Upton annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 12. 8½., and in the patronage of the Rev. William Evans. The church is a very ancient structure, remarkable for the rude simplicity of its architecture, and is said to have been erected by one of the earliest Norman proprietors of Upton castle. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £20. 2.

NEATH (CASTELL NEDD), a borough, market town, and parish, in the hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 35 miles (W. N. W.) from Cardiff, and 197 (W.) from London, on the road from Cardiff to Swansea, containing 4043 inhabitants. This place, which is by all antiquaries allowed to have been the "*Nidum*" of the Romans, derives its name from the river on which it is situated, and of which the Welsh name, "*Nidd*," or



Corporate Seal.



"Nedd," is pronounced nearly as the English word Neath. In the twelfth Iter of Antoninus it is mentioned, under the above name, as being situated on the Roman road between *Leucarum* (Loughor) and *Bovium*, at or near the present village of Boverton, to the south of Cowbridge. Though repeated and minute researches have been made at various times, no military works have yet been discovered which mark out, with any degree of precision, the exact site of the station. The churchyard, which is of considerable extent and in the form of a parallelogram, with a small elevation at the western side, has with some degree of probability been considered the site of the original camp; and, within the last few years, two Roman coins and a cameo are said to have been found in the garden adjoining the rectory-house, which is within twenty yards of the spot. After the conquest of Glamorganshire by Fitz-Hamon, Richard de Granville, one of his knights, obtained a grant of the honour and lordship of Neath, with the privilege of exercising *jura regalia*, and all the other rights of a lordship marcher. The castle, of which only a small portion is at present remaining, is said to have formed part of the possessions of Iestyn ab Gwrgan, by whom it is supposed to have been originally built; but it is certain that Richard de Granville, if not the founder, materially improved it: the church, which is in its immediate vicinity, is supposed to have been originally a chapel for the accommodation of the garrison, and to have been subsequently enlarged and appropriated to the use of the parishioners. The same Richard, in the reign of Henry I., with the concurrence of his wife Constance, gave their chapel belonging to the castle, with all its endowments, a considerable tract of waste land in the neighbourhood, and other possessions, to the abbot of the convent of Grey friars at Savigny, near Lyons in France, for the erection and endowment of a similar monastery near the town of Neath. A magnificent abbey was consequently erected in the neighbourhood, from designs by a celebrated architect from Palestine, named Lalys, who also erected several churches and other public buildings in South Wales. The abbey, which was at first dedicated to the Holy Trinity, was subsequently occupied by brethren of the Cistercian order; but it does not appear to have been dependent upon any foreign religious establishment, or to have been regarded as an Alien priory, as it continued to flourish till the time of the general dissolution, when its revenue was £150. 4. 9. per annum. During the protracted warfare between the lords marcher and the native chieftains, however, one of the latter, named Morgan ab Owain, burned this monastery, killing four of the servants and one of the monks, and committed great ravages on its lands. The ruins of this venerable pile, which once afforded an asylum to the unfortunate Edward of Carnarvon, are among the most interesting specimens of ancient ecclesiastical architecture in the principality, and are noticed under the article on CADOXTON, in which parish they are situated. Soon after the accession of Stephen, Gruffydd ab Rhŷs, having laid waste the Norman possessions in Cardiganshire, advanced into the territory of Glamorgan; and the Norman lords, rallying their forces in the neighbourhood of this town, were here attacked by the Welsh army, led on by the sons of Caradoc ab

Iestyn, who were lords of the district between the rivers Tawe and Avon, and a sanguinary conflict ensued, in which three thousand men are said to have fallen by the sword: the Normans were completely routed, and the few that survived the battle were compelled to seek an asylum in the castles of Gower. About a century after this event, the town, which had been burnt to the ground in 1185, was again taken, and the inhabitants were nearly exterminated by Morgan Gam and Llewelyn, in 1231.

The town is pleasantly situated on the eastern bank of the navigable river Neath, over which is a bridge, and in the beautiful Vale of Neath, which abounds with rich and finely varied scenery. The vale, which expands to a considerable breadth at this place, and is open on both sides to the adjacent country, is remarkable for the salubrity of its air, and is finely sheltered from the colder winds by the lofty hills with which it is surrounded, without being at all confined. The town has recently undergone extensive improvement; preparations have been made for lighting it with gas, and several of the streets have been considerably widened and well paved: the houses, which have been modernized, are in general respectable, and there are some of handsome appearance. A reading-room, supported by public subscription, has been established; and occasional concerts and balls take place at the Castle hotel, which affords excellent accommodation to the numerous visitors who are attracted to this place by the interesting scenery in the neighbourhood, and the beautiful cascades with which the Vale of Neath abounds, of which an account will be found in the articles on the parishes of Cadoxton, Ystradvelltey, Penderin, &c. From its situation in a populous district surrounded by extensive copper, iron, tin, and chemical works, this town has been for some years increasing in importance as a place of commerce: the almost inexhaustible mines of coal being more than sufficient for the supply of the town and neighbourhood, and of the various works in the environs, great quantities are annually shipped off to the lower parts of Somersetshire, Devonshire, and Cornwall, and to Ireland. It is computed that one hundred thousand tons are brought down the vale by the Neath canal alone, for exportation. At Neath abbey, about one mile from the town, are some iron-works, established in 1792, and conducted on a very extensive scale: they consist of two blast furnaces for the making of iron from the ore, an iron foundry for casting the various parts of engine and mill work, and an engine-manufactory. From this establishment most of the iron-works in the principality have been furnished with their powerful engines for blowing the furnaces used in the manufacture of iron, and for the rolling of that metal; and the copper-works also have been supplied with rolling engines and with the requisite machinery for the manufacture of copper. Many of the large pumping engines now in operation in the mining districts of Cornwall were made in this establishment, which has also supplied the Anglo-Mexican and Real del Monte mining companies with steam-engines for draining their mines: engines for maritime uses, and locomotive engines on rail and tram roads, have likewise been made to a very considerable extent. The number of persons employed in these works and in the collieries and mines connected with



them averages about four hundred. The copper-works are situated to the south of Neath Abbey, on the western bank of the river, and form two establishments, called the Crown and the Mines Royal works, belonging respectively to the Crown and the Mines Royal copper companies. The tin-works are on the banks of the river and of the canal, about one mile and a half above the town; and on the eastern side of the river, a little below the town, are some extensive chemical works. This port is a creek to that of Swansea: the exports are coal, culm, copper, iron, iron castings, spelter, fire-bricks, oak timber, bark, and wool; the imports are copper and iron ores, corn, flour, foreign timber, black jack, and groceries and other articles of general consumption. The trade is of considerable extent, although it sustained, in comparison with the two preceding years, a diminution in 1830. The amount of tonnage for the year 1828 was one hundred and eight thousand three hundred and ninety; that for 1829 was one hundred and twenty-one thousand two hundred and sixty-five; and that for 1830 was ninety-eight thousand three hundred and seventeen. The number of vessels which cleared outwards, during the year 1830, including different departures of the same, was one thousand one hundred and forty-six; and the number that entered inwards, reckoning as above, and exclusively of such as came in with ballast only, was four hundred and thirty-four: this year (1832) the trade has considerably increased. The port is at Briton-Ferry, about two miles and a quarter below the bridge at Neath, by the course of the river: vessels of upwards of three hundred tons' burden can sail up to the town, but the trade of the port is generally carried on by means of barges communicating with Briton-Ferry. The construction of a floating harbour within the borough, on the left bank of the river, was once in contemplation, but the design has been abandoned. The harbour has been greatly improved at an expense of £3000, which was defrayed conjointly by the Neath Canal Company and the proprietors of the works in the neighbourhood; and the alterations that have been made have been productive of considerable benefit. The Neath canal extends from Briton-Ferry to Abernant, near the head of the vale, a distance of thirteen miles: at Aberdulas, about one mile and a half above the town, it is united by a stone aqueduct of eleven arches with the Swansea and Neath junction canal, by means of which the mineral riches on either side of the vale may be conveyed to the port of Swansea: the latter canal is remarkable for being carried through a distance of nine miles without a lock. The market, which is well supplied with corn and with provisions of every kind, is on Wednesday; and the fairs are on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday, July 31st, and September 12th.

Neath, having become united to the great lordship of Glamorgan, was one of the places which obtained from Edward II. a new charter, conferring upon it valuable immunities, and granted through the influence of that monarch's favourite, the younger Hugh Spencer, among whose possessions this lordship was included. It is nevertheless regarded as a borough by prescription, though it has a charter granted in the reign of James II., which is addressed to the "Recorder, Aldermen, and Burgesses:" the government is at

present vested in a portreeve, twelve aldermen, and an indefinite number of burgesses. The portreeve is annually chosen by the aldermen, who nominate three of their body for that purpose, of whom the lord of the borough, or his officer, the constable of the castle, selects one: the aldermen fill up vacancies in their own body from the burgesses, who are elected by the corporation at large; but in both cases the appointment is subject to the approval of the lord. Neath is one of eight contributory boroughs which returned one member to parliament: of these, the boroughs of Swansea, Aberavon, Kenvig, Loughor, and Neath, have, by the late act for amending the representation of the people, been constituted a separate district, with the privilege of returning a representative. The right of election was formerly in the burgesses at large, about one hundred in number, of whom about twenty reside within the borough: it is now, by the late act, vested in the resident burgesses only, or those within seven miles of the town, if duly qualified according to its provisions, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of ten pounds and upwards, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the present number of tenements of this value, within the limits of the borough, which have been altered by the late Boundary Act, and are minutely described in the Appendix to this work, is about one hundred and eighty-five. The corporation claim, but do not exercise, the right of holding a court of pleas for the recovery of debts to any amount, before the constable of the castle and the portreeve: a court baron is held by the constable of the castle, for the recovery of debts under forty shillings. The Midsummer quarter sessions for the county, and the petty sessions for the hundred, are held at Neath, which has also been made a polling-place in the election of knights for the shire. The town-hall is a neat and commodious edifice, in the Grecian style of architecture, with a handsome receding portico of the Ionic order; but, being out of the line of the principal thoroughfare, it is not seen to advantage. The upper part of the building contains a spacious council-chamber, with a jury-room and apartments for the petty sessions and other business of the local magistracy; and the lower part is appropriated to the use of the corn market.

The living is a rectory, with Lantwit annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £16. 2. 3½., and in the patronage of Henry Grant, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Thomas the Apostle, is a spacious and ancient structure, of which the nave was rebuilt about a century since: the interior is handsomely and commodiously fitted up, and a fine-toned organ was presented by the late Sir R. H. Mackworth, Bart. There are two places of worship each for Independents and Wesleyan Methodists, and one each for Baptists, the Society of Friends, Calvinistic Methodists, and Unitarians. Mr. John Davies, in 1719, bequeathed £200 to be laid out in the purchase of land for the erection and endowment of a free school: with this sum two tenements, called Brÿndare and Ynyscoed, containing together about eighty-four acres, have been purchased; but the original intention of the testator has not yet been fully carried



into effect. The interest of £500, which had been received in lieu of the accumulated rent of these farms, together with the interest of £100 left by the late Mr. Gwyn, has, in the interim, been appropriated in aid of a school upon Dr. Bell's plan, which is principally supported by subscription. The rental of the two farms, together with £100 left by William Cross, in 1785, and £30, its accumulated interest, is under the management of the rector, churchwardens, and overseers. In connexion with the iron-works at Neath Abbey are two schools on the Lancasterian plan, in one of which eighty boys, and in the other fifty girls, are gratuitously instructed. On an enquiry instituted a few years since, when the proprietors of the abbey estate were solicited to make a grant of timber for the erection of new school-houses, it was found that, for the thirty-five years during which these schools had been established, only one of the poor children educated in them had become chargeable on the parish. There is also an infant school supported by subscription, in which forty-five children are taught. There are various charitable bequests for distribution among the poor, among which are £2 per annum left by Evan Leyson, in 1634; £1 per annum by William Cross, in 1785; the interest of £5 by Mary Jones, and £3. 16. per ann. paid out of the parish rates, as interest due upon a legacy bequeathed by J. Davies, which is supposed to have been appropriated to parochial uses. Within this parish is Gnoll Castle, formerly the seat of Sir Herbert Mackworth, Bart., whose widow conveyed it by marriage to Capel Hanbury Leigh, Esq., of Pontypool Park, in the county of Monmouth, from whom it was purchased by Henry Grant, Esq., to whom, as proprietor of the estate, belongs also the custody of the castle and the lordship of the borough. The mansion, which possesses all the magnificence of a baronial residence, is a conspicuous object from all parts of the circumjacent country, and has been recently modernized: the principal front consists of a centre, with wings and two semicircular towers; and the grounds, which are extensive, are laid out with great taste. Of the ancient castle of Neath only some small portions in the lower part of the town, near the river, are at present remaining; and of the walls which anciently encompassed the town there are no vestiges. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor of the town and parish, from March 1824 to March 1829, amounted to £726. 4., but may now be estimated at upwards of £1000.

NEATH-GENOL, or MIDDLE (NEDD-GENOL, or GANOL), a hamlet separately maintaining its own poor, in the parish of CADOXTON, hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 10 miles (N. E.) from Neath, containing 271 inhabitants. This hamlet is finely situated in the richly fertile and highly picturesque Vale of Neath: the surrounding scenery is beautifully diversified, and from the higher grounds are some pleasing and interesting views. The Neath canal terminates within its limits, and a short railroad proceeds thence to the coal-pits in the neighbourhood: the roads from Brecknock and Merthyr-Tydvil to Neath unite here, the line then proceeding along the vale between the canal and the right bank of the river. Aberpergwm, the ancient seat of the family of Williams, and now the residence of William Williams, Esq., is a

fine old mansion, pleasantly situated in grounds tastefully disposed, and comprehending much interesting and pleasing scenery. Oliver Cromwell, who was in some degree related to the ancestor of the present proprietor, is said to have halted at this place on his way to Milford Haven (where he was going to embark for Ireland), and to have despatched messengers to acquaint the family with his arrival, and to demand their good offices in forwarding his expedition, informing them at the same time of the degree of affinity which subsisted between them. Receiving no encouragement from the family, who were zealously attached to the royal cause, he fired a few shots over the mansion by way of intimidation, and departed without offering any further violence. This account, which has hitherto been supported by tradition only, derives corroborative testimony from the discovery of some cannon balls, in turning up the ground near the house, in the year 1831. In the grounds of this mansion stands a chapel of ease to the parish church. On a hill above the house are traces of the *Via Julia Montana*, or Roman road leading from Brecknock to *Nidum* (Neath). Near the side of this road was a stone with a Roman inscription, which Mr. Llwyd, in his communications for Bishop Gibson's edition of Camden, reads *Marci Caritini filii Berici*: it has been removed, and is now placed in a grotto within the grounds of Gnoll Castle. On the same eminence, and near the site of the above stone, are two barrows surrounded by circular intrenchments. In this hamlet is also the seat of John Edwards Vaughan, Esq., a splendid mansion, situated in a beautifully picturesque portion of the vale, of which it commands an interesting view, and surrounded with thriving and luxuriant plantations. Among the various features of natural beauty by which the scenery of the vale is distinguished are the frequent cascades formed by the collected waters after excessive rains upon the mountains, which are precipitated thence into the valley. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £147. 1.

NEATH (NEDD) LOWER, a hamlet in the parish of CADOXTON, hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (N. E.) from Neath, containing 185 inhabitants. This place is beautifully situated in the Vale of Neath, which abounds with strikingly picturesque and richly varied scenery: from the hills in this part of the vale descend numerous mountain streams, forming small but beautiful cascades, which enliven the scene, and add beauty and variety to the landscape. The whole of this district is exceedingly rich in mineral treasure: iron-stone and coal are found in great abundance and of excellent quality; and at Ynys y Gerwyn, in this hamlet, some works have been established, on a moderate scale, for extracting the metal from the copper slag, which afford employment to a portion of the inhabitants. The Neath canal, which commences near Briton-Ferry, and extends for thirteen miles to Abernant, crosses the vale and river of Neath near this place. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £110. 15.

NEATH (NEDD) UPPER, a hamlet in the parish of CADOXTON, hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (N. E.) from Neath, containing 617 inhabitants. This place is pleasantly situated in one of the finest portions of the Vale of



Neath, and in the midst of an extensive district abounding with mineral wealth: the surrounding scenery, like that which prevails throughout this part of the country, abounds with variety and beauty. Within the limits of the hamlet is the small but pleasant village of Glyn Neath, a convenient resting-place between Neath and Merthyr-Tydvil, where an excellent inn and posting-house has been established for the accommodation of persons travelling on that line of road. About two miles higher up the vale is the little village of Pont Neath Vaughan, so called from a bridge at this place over the Lesser Neath, which river here separates the counties of Brecknock and Glamorgan. The vicinity abounds with iron-stone and coal, which are worked upon a very extensive scale, affording employment to many of the inhabitants. In the veins of coal are frequently discovered beautiful specimens of the British diamond, which are found at a great depth in the mines. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £100. 17.

NERQUIS (NERCWYS), a chapelry in the parish and hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.) from Mold, containing 470 inhabitants. It is situated in a well-cultivated country, the population being almost exclusively agricultural. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Mold. The chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, is a neat edifice with a handsome steeple, and contains a richly decorated niche in the interior, in which was anciently a figure of the Virgin. Here is an old mansion, erected in 1638, by a branch of the Wynne family. Some plantations have been made here, within the last twenty years, by W. M. Thackeray, Esq., M. D., which are now in a flourishing condition. Divers benefactions, amounting in the whole to £15 per annum, have been made for the instruction of poor children. This hamlet is separately assessed for the support of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £240. 14.

NEVERN, a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (E. N. E.) from Newport, and 8 (S. W. by W.) from Cardigan, which is the post town, containing 1558 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the river Nevern, so called from the Welsh Niver, "a number," on account of its being formed by the union of numerous rivulets which intersect the parish, and flow together in one considerable stream into St. George's channel. Martin de Tours, a Norman knight, who, having attended William the Conqueror, was rewarded for his services by a grant of territory on the coast of Devonshire, embarked an expedition for the invasion of such parts of the principality as he might find most easily assailable, landed his troops at Fishguard, and made himself master of the lordship of Kemmes. For the protection of his newly acquired territory, which became one of the lordships marcher, he either erected a fortress at this place, or strengthened one previously built, which he made his residence, and which descended to his son William, who, having strengthened his interest by marrying the daughter of Rhys ab Gruffydd, abandoned this seat of his father, called Llanhyvor castle, of which there are some remains on a hill above the church, for one which he had built on a more magni-

ficent scale at Newport. This parish, which is very large, extending from the sea to the foot of the Precelly mountains, is situated on the shore of Cardigan bay, in a beautifully diversified and fertile district, and comprehends some of the most picturesque and romantic scenery in the county of Pembroke, being intersected by a deep wooded dingle, through which flows the Nevern, the banks of which are occasionally formed into rocks of fantastic character, while in the lower part, near Newport bay, stands the village: the prospects from the higher grounds are also pleasing and extensive. The high road from Newport to Cardigan passes near it, and by far the greater portion of the parish is enclosed and cultivated. The coast is generally bold and in some parts precipitous, with a good depth of water close to the shore. Here were formerly several ancient mansions, inhabited by some of the most opulent families in the county; but, with very few exceptions, they have been abandoned by their proprietors, and are at present in the occupation of tenants. Llwyngwair, the seat of George Bowen, Esq., is an elegant mansion, pleasantly situated on the margin of the river Nevern, and nearly within a mile of its mouth. Near it is Burry, the residence of the female branches of the same family. Cwmgloyn is the property of Maurice Williams, Esq.; and Hênllŷs, once the residence of the ancient lords of Kemmes, and still the property of their representative, Thomas Lloyd, Esq., of Bronwydd, is now occupied by a tenant: it was the residence of that distinguished antiquary and scholar George Owen, lord of Kemmes, in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The advowson, which was once appendant to the lordship of Kemmes, was alienated by deed, bearing date 1347, to Bishop Hoton, who appropriated it to his new college of St. Mary at St. David's, from which, on the suppression of religious houses, it reverted to the crown. The church is said to have been originally founded in the sixth century, by St. Brynach, or Byrnach, to whom it is dedicated, and rebuilt by some of the Norman lords of Kemmes: the present is an ancient and venerable structure, in the Norman style of architecture. In the churchyard, to the south of the porch, there is the shaft of an ancient British cross, elaborately wrought, and bearing an inscription near the centre, which is almost obliterated: it consists of a single stone, thirteen feet high, two feet broad, and eight feet thick, with a circular top charged with a cross, and carved on all sides with other crosses, and knots of various shapes. On the north side of the churchyard was another stone, six feet high, with the inscription "VITATIANI EMERITI," but this has been for some time removed. In the hamlet of Kilgwin, in this parish, there is a chapel of ease, dedicated to St. Mary. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic Methodists. Mr. Rogers bequeathed £800 in the three per cents, to the poor, the dividends arising from which are annually distributed in barley and beef on the 21st of December. Near Pentre Evan, in this parish, are the remains of one of the largest cromlechs in the principality: the table stone is eighteen feet in length and nine feet wide, and



is supported on three coarse upright stones, from seven to eight feet high: it is considered not to be surpassed in size and height by any other Druidical monument in Wales or England, except Stonehenge and Abury. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £573. 6.

NEVIN, or NEVYN, a borough, market town, and parish, in the hundred of DINLLAEN, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 20 miles (S. W. by S.) from Carnarvon, and 270 (W. N. W.) from London, by Carnarvon, containing 1726 inhabitants. The origin of this place is not accurately known; but from some remains of strong intrenchments, evidently of Roman construction, near the harbour called "Porth yn llyn," or "Porth Dinllaen," about a mile from the present town, on a narrow headland jutting out into the sea, and which protects it from the violence of westerly winds, it is supposed to have been a port frequented by the Romans. Of its early history little is recorded previously to the final subjugation of Wales by Edward I., at which time it appears to have been a place of some importance, and to have been selected by that monarch, in the year 1284, for the celebration of a triumphant festival in honour of his entire conquest of the principality. Probably with a view to conciliate the affections of the Welsh, or to amuse or flatter their military spirit, Edward, upon this occasion, resolved to hold a round table, in compliment to their renowned hero Arthur, the supposed founder of that custom, and a grand tournament, which was attended not only by all the English nobility, but also by some of the most distinguished knights from foreign countries, who took part in the proceedings, in which Edward himself acquired great distinction. The concourse of persons assembled upon this occasion is by all writers represented as very great; and traces of the circular earthwork within which the military feats took place may still be seen on the road to Edern. In the reign of Edward III., Edward the Black Prince, in the twelfth year of his investiture with the principality of Wales, granted this place to Nigel de Lohareyn, in reward for his faithful services and gallant conduct on the field of Poitiers; and by charter, dated at Carnarvon, made the town a free borough, granted to the burgesses a guild mercatry, and two annual fairs and a market, and endowed it with all the privileges enjoyed by royal boroughs, together with the liberties and customs heretofore granted to Newborough, in the county of Anglesey. Early in the present century, a scheme was projected for the improvement of this place and neighbourhood, by bringing a new line of road across the Traeth Mawr from Merionethshire to Porth-Dinllaen, close to the town, by building a pier and constructing a harbour here, and by making this port a station for the packets to Ireland, in lieu of Holyhead. For this purpose an act of parliament was obtained in 1806, under the provisions of which a company was incorporated for carrying the plan into effect; but on a second application to parliament for further aid, after some progress had been made in the work, the undertaking was abandoned.

The town is situated on the shore of St. George's channel, at the base of the Eivl mountains, and near the bay of Nevin, which is separated only by a small headland from the broad, sandy, and secure bay of

Porth-Dinllaen: the houses are irregularly built and of mean appearance, the streets are neither paved nor lighted, and the inhabitants are but indifferently supplied with water. The surrounding scenery is boldly varied, but is chiefly of mountainous character: the coast in the neighbourhood of the town is abrupt and rocky, being occasionally broken by several small creeks affording secure anchorage for boats and small craft during the fishing season. Among these may be noticed Porth Towyn, Porth Colman, Porth Gwylan, and Porth Ysgadan. Though good roads from Carnarvon and Tremadoc have been made to the town, affording a facility of intercourse with those places, there is neither any manufacture carried on, nor any trade except what arises from the situation of the town upon the seashore, and which consists only in shipping eggs, poultry, and pigs, in exchange for coal, to Liverpool, with which place a regular communication is kept up. The market is held weekly on Saturday, but is very ill attended; and fairs are held annually on April 11th, August 18th, and October 20th. The government of the borough, by charter of Edward the Black Prince, is vested in a mayor, two bailiffs, and a recorder: the mayor, who holds his office for life, and the bailiffs, who are chosen annually, are elected by the freemen at large; and the recorder is appointed by the mayor. Nevin is one of the ancient contributory boroughs within the county, which, with Bangor, recently added, return one member to parliament: the right of voting was formerly in the burgesses at large, in number about forty-five, but is now, by the late act for amending the representation of the people, vested in the resident burgesses only, if duly qualified according to its provisions, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of ten pounds and upwards, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the present number of tenements of this value, within the limits of the borough, which comprise about nine hundred acres within the parish, and have not been altered by the late Boundary Act, is seventeen. The freedom is obtained only by gift of the corporation at large. The borough has no separate jurisdiction, nor is any court held except for the election of the bailiffs, which takes place on the 29th of September.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of C. G. Wynne, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a neat plain edifice, and was rebuilt in 1825, at the expense of the landholders of the parish. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A sequestered vale in the vicinity of the town is supposed to have been the retreat of Vortigern, after his expulsion from the throne of England, who is said to have occupied a castle here, which, according to monkish writers, was destroyed by lightning, himself having been killed on the occasion. Tradition still points out a small verdant mound as the site of this residence; and near it is a tumulus, now covered with turf, called Bedd Gwrtheyrn, or "Vortigern's grave," in which, on being opened some years since, was found a stone coffin containing the bones of a tall man, supposed to have



been the remains of that unfortunate king. This vale, which from that circumstance is called Nant Gwrtheyrn, is embosomed in lofty mountains, by the rugged declivities of which it is enclosed on every side, except towards the sea; and across the bwlch or hollow by which it is approached from the interior of the mountains extends a large rampart of loose stones. Near Cevn Anwllch, an ancient seat to the south of the town, are the remains of a large cromlech, called by the common people Coeten Arthur. Between the coast at this place and the English border there appears to have been a chain of military posts, originating near the town, and passing near Trêmadoc into the county of Merioneth, continued thence by Bala, entering the county of Denbigh above Pistyll Rhaiadr, and proceeding to Old Port near Oswestry. Brÿnodol, a good mansion, four miles from the town, pleasantly situated on a gentle eminence, as seen from the sea, commands an extensive view of a large tract of level country, bounded on one side by a chain of mountains, in the foreground of which Bodvean and Carn Madryn are conspicuous, and beyond them the whole range of the lofty mountains of Snowdon. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £269. 4.

NEWBOROUGH, a parish, formerly a borough, in the hundred of MENAI, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N.W. by W.) from Carnarvon, containing 804 inhabitants. This place, which derives its present name from its having been constituted a free borough by Edward I., was anciently called *Rhôs Vair*, from a small church, dedicated to St. Mary, which stood at the head of the manor; or, according to Mr. Rowlands, more properly *Rhôs Hîr*, from its situation in an extensive marshy plain on the eastern side of the Malldraeth sands, and near a long dorsal ridge covered with heath, which extends from this parish to Mynydd Llwydiarth. Though at present a very inconsiderable place, it was originally of great importance, and was for many years the residence of the princes of North Wales, who had a palace here, where, or at Aberfraw, on the opposite side of the Malldraeth sands, they occasionally fixed their seat of government, as the exigencies of that turbulent period might require. At the time of the final conquest of Wales by Edward I., this place appears to have been the chief town in the island, as well as the seat of justice for the whole comot of Menai, and was annexed to the royalties of the Prince of Wales by that monarch, who incorporated the burgesses and granted them a guild mercatory and other privileges, which were afterwards confirmed by a charter of the 17th of Edward II., and by a parliament held in the 1st of Edward III. In the reign of Henry VII., upon a misrepresentation made to that sovereign, the assizes and other county business were removed from Beaumaris, where they had previously been held for more than two hundred and fifty years, to Newborough, which thus became the county town. In the 15th of the reign of Henry VIII., the burgesses obtained a new charter, in which all the privileges conferred by former charters were recited and confirmed, but which was surrendered in the following year; and in the 27th of this reign, Newborough, as the county town, in conjunction with its contributory boroughs, returned one member to parliament, and continued to exercise that privilege till the 2nd of Edward VI., when, having

greatly declined from its former importance, it was exempted on its own petition from contributing to the expense of supporting a member, and the elective franchise was confined exclusively to Beaumaris. In the 2nd and 3rd of this reign, the assizes, sessions, and general county business, were removed from this town, which had been found inconvenient for the purpose, and restored to Beaumaris, after having been held at Newborough for forty-five years. Notwithstanding these enactments, the burgesses of Newborough still claimed the privilege of sharing in the election of a member for Beaumaris; but the claim was strenuously resisted by the burgesses of the latter place, and the case was brought to issue in the House of Commons, in 1709, when the right of election was declared to be in the mayor, bailiffs, and capital burgesses of Beaumaris alone: similar efforts to recover the franchise were made in 1722 and 1724, but with the same result.

The town, which has now dwindled into an insignificant and obscure village, is situated near the southern extremity of the island, bordering on the extensive sea marshes of Malldraeth, and near the mouth of the small river Braint, which falls into the Menai strait near Abermenai ferry. The inhabitants are partly employed in the manufacture of matting, nets, ropes, and cordage, which are here made of the rushes that grow in profusion upon the marsh: a few are likewise engaged in fishing. The market, which was formerly held weekly, has been discontinued for many years: fairs are held annually on May 11th, June 29th, August 16th, September 25th, and November 11th. By virtue of its ancient charter, a mayor, recorder, and bailiffs are still annually elected by the inhabitants; but they exercise no jurisdiction, hold no courts, nor transact any public business. The parish includes the small remains of that of Llanddwyn, formerly a very extensive parish, situated to the west of Newborough, on the shore of St. George's channel, of which the whole has been destroyed by the encroachment of the sea, or buried under the sands which, during the prevalence of strong westerly gales, are drifted over considerable portions of the parish of Newborough, into which it has merged. Of the ancient church of Llanddwyn only the eastern gable, with some portion of the east window, can be seen: it was situated on a flat near the sea-shore, and was a fine structure, originally founded by St. Dwynwen, the tutelary saint of lovers, to whom it was dedicated, about the year 465. The fund arising from the offerings to the shrine of St. Dwynwen, by her numerous votaries, was very great; and in process of time the church became an abbey for monks of the Benedictine order, who derived a large revenue from the resort of strangers who came to enquire into their future destiny, which was predicted by the leaping of fish and the appearance of the water of a well, still called Fynnon Vair, or "St. Mary's well." In the time of Henry IV., its revenue was greater than that of any other religious house in North Wales, and in the survey of Henry VIII. it was the richest prebend in all the principality: at present not a vestige exists of this noble abbey, and even the place where it stood is scarcely with certainty known. The last rector of the parish of Llanddwyn was Richard Kyffyn, afterwards Dean of Bangor, who, according to Mr. Pennant, concerted, in conjunction with Sir Rhÿs ab Thomas and other



Welsh chieftains, a plan for placing the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., on the throne, and with whom, at that time in Brittany, they carried on a correspondence by means of fishing vessels from this place. Numbers of vessels were formerly lost on the rocks on this part of the coast; but this evil has been materially removed by the erection of two beacons on the most prominent rocks, and the construction of a break-water at no great distance, which have been found highly beneficial to vessels navigating St. George's channel: these important improvements have been made by the trustees of the harbour of Carnarvon. Near Llanddwyn was the ferry of Abermenai, now deserted. The living of Newborough is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £9.10., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a small edifice, possessing no claims to architectural description; it stands on an eminence in a bleak and exposed situation. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. In this parish is an upright stone with a mutilated Latin inscription, supposed to have been erected in commemoration of some ancient warrior. John Morgan, a blind musician, and the most celebrated of the latest performers on the ancient instrument called the crwth, was a native of this place. Newborough gives the title of baron in the peerage of Ireland to the family of Wynn. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £182.19.

NEWBRIDGE, an extensive and populous village in the parishes of LLANWONNO, EGLWYSILAN, and LANTWIT-VAIRDRE, partly in the hundred of CAERPHILLY, but principally in the hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, on the turnpike road from Cardiff to Merthyr-Tydvil, 12 miles (S. by E.) from Merthyr-Tydvil. The population is returned with the respective parishes. It is situated on both banks of the river Tâf, which here receives the Rhondda, and derives its name from the celebrated bridge called Pont y Prydd, over the Tâf: there are also three other bridges connecting the different parishes. Its sudden rise and progressive increase and importance are entirely owing to the mineral treasures of the neighbourhood, and to its favourable situation on the line of the Glamorgan-shire canal, midway between Merthyr-Tydvil and the sea at Cardiff. It has for some time been distinguished for a chain cable manufactory, belonging to the firm of Messrs. Brown, Lenox, and Co., of London, where, among many other large works, the suspension bridges across the Thames at Hammersmith, and across the Usk and the Tweed, together with the Brighton chain pier, were made: the works usually afford employment to about one hundred persons. In that part of the village which is within the parish of Lantwit-Vairdre works have recently been completed, by Messrs. Biddulph and Co., for the manufacture of patent wrought iron railway plates; and, a little lower down the river, Mr. Crawshay of Merthyr is now erecting numerous cottages for the workmen, prior to the establishment of tin-mills. The entire length of the village is not less than a mile; and it is in contemplation to have a market at the southern extremity, as well as the northern, for the convenience of the work-

men. Pont y Prydd, otherwise called the New bridge, over the river Tâf, forms a beautiful and picturesque object from the various points at which it is visible; but, owing to the steepness of its ascent, it is somewhat inconvenient to travellers on horseback, and is almost impassable for vehicles heavily laden, which ford the stream, when practicable. It consists of one arch, one hundred and forty feet in the chord, and thirty-five feet in height above the level of the river at low water, forming the section of a circle of one hundred and seventy-five feet in diameter, which, at the time of its erection, was considered the largest stone arch in the world. At each extremity are three cylindrical holes, gradually diminishing in size as they approach the summit, introduced to relieve the arch from the extreme pressure arising from its abutments; the diameter of the lowest is nine feet, that of the middle six, and that of the uppermost four. The architect was Mr. William Edwards, a native of the parish of Eglwysilan, and a self-taught genius, whose talents procured for him great distinction as a bridge-builder: he first began the work, in 1746, by constructing a light and elegant bridge of three arches, which, in the course of about two years and a half after the period of its completion, was swept away by a flood of extraordinary magnitude, the mountain torrents having torn up by the roots several large trees, which, forming a dam as they floated along by the middle piers of the new bridge, caused a vast accumulation of the waters; and these, ultimately bursting through their barrier with irresistible force, carried away the entire structure. Bound by the terms of the contract to maintain the stability of the bridge for seven years, Edwards conceived the design of surmounting the difficulty by a structure of one arch, of the then unexampled width of one hundred and forty feet, from pier to pier, which he completed in 1751, having only to add the parapets; but, owing to the keystone of the arch being unable to resist the pressure of the abutments, the whole gave way and fell into the river. The luckless architect was thus driven a second time to the resources of his own fertile genius, to prevent the recurrence of so unpropitious an event: adhering to his latter plan of a single arch, he contrived an ingenious method for diminishing the enormous weight which had previously forced the key stone out of its place, by constructing the cylindrical holes in the present bridge, already described, which enabled him to complete this curious and much admired edifice. There are several places of worship for Dissenters, noticed in the parishes in which they are respectively situated. A branch of Mrs. Aldworth's school for female children, natives of the parish of Eglwysilan, has been established at Newbridge. Here was a curious rocking-stone, which, however, has been much injured of late; it stands near the turnpike road.

NEWCASTLE, a parish comprising the Higher and Lower hamlets, each of which separately maintains its own poor, in the hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, adjoining the market town of Bridgend, and containing 890 inhabitants, of which number, 305 are in the Higher, and 585 in the Lower, hamlet. This parish, which is situated on the western bank of the river Ogmere, near its confluence with the river Ewenny, derives its name from a fortress of later date than that of Oldcastle, on the opposite



bank of the Ogmore. By whom these castles were originally built has not been clearly ascertained; but their origin has been attributed to some of the Norman invaders of this part of the principality, who probably erected them for the protection of the territories of which they had obtained possession. The Lower hamlet forms part of the market town of Bridgend: the lands in the Higher hamlet are, with the exception of only a small portion, enclosed and cultivated. The scenery is generally pleasing, and from the eminence on which the church is situated is a fine view, including the influx of the Ogmore into the Bristol channel, the castles of Coyty and Ogmore, and the mansion of Coytrehene, higher up the river Ogmore, with its luxuriant groves, forming an assemblage of picturesque objects. The living is a discharged vicarage, with Bettws, Laleston, and Tythegston annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £7.7.3½, endowed with the rectorial tithes of the parish of Bettws, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Illtyd, is an ancient structure with a tower, and is situated on the declivity of an eminence. The interest of £20, bequeathed by several individuals, and of which £10 is vested in trust with the overseers, is annually distributed among the poor of the parish. The only remains of the ancient castle are, a gateway remarkable for the elegance of its pointed arch, and the ruins of the wall which enclosed the site; the area has been converted into a garden: they are the property of the Earl of Dunraven. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the whole parish amounts to £288. 4., of which sum, £55. 16. is raised on the Higher, and £232. 8. on the Lower, hamlet.

**NEWCASTLE**, a joint township with Evenjobb, in the parish of OLD RADNOR, liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 3¼ miles (E. N. E.) from New Radnor. The population is returned with Bareland.

**NEWCASTLE-EMLYN**, a market-town and chapelry, in the parish of KENARTH, higher division of the hundred of ELVET, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 19 miles (N. W. by N.) from Carmarthen, and 222 (W. by N.) from London. The population is included in the return for the parish. The ancient name of this place, Dinas Emlin, or "the city of Emlin," is thought by Mr. Llwyd to have been derived from Emilianus, a Roman settler in this part of the principality, who probably made it his residence; but no traces of Roman occupation have been discovered in corroboration of that opinion, nor have any vestiges of Roman antiquity been found in the immediate vicinity. Its modern name appears to have originated in the erection of a new castle, in the reign of Henry VII., by Sir Rhys ab Thomas, on the site of an ancient fortress probably built by the Normans, though neither the name of the founder, nor the precise time of the erection, of the original structure, is known. The ancient castle was besieged and taken, in 1215, by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, who resigned it in the following year, when he divided the principality of South Wales between its rival princes, on which occasion this castle fell to the portion of Maelgwyn. In 1258, Llewelyn appointed a meeting of commissioners at this place, to deliberate upon the terms of a treaty of peace with the English;

but the negotiations were frustrated by the treachery of Patrick de Canton, the lieutenant of Henry III., who, perceiving that the party by which he was attended was stronger than that of Llewelyn, attacked the Welsh by surprise, and put many of them to the sword: the rest, who with difficulty effected their retreat, raised the country in the rear of the enemy, and the English forces were soon overtaken, and Patrick, with a large number of his adherents, was slain. In the reign of Edward I. the castle was besieged by Rhys ab Meredydd; but a large reinforcement being brought by Robert de Tibetot to the relief of the garrison, Rhys thought it prudent to raise the siege, and to retire in haste into Ireland. The castle, which had been rebuilt in the reign of Henry VII., by Sir Rhys ab Thomas, descended to his grandson, Rhys ab Gruffydd, on whose attainder, in the reign of Henry VIII., it became forfeited to the crown, and was granted to the Vaughans of Golden Grove, of whom Richard Vaughan was by Charles I., in the 19th of his reign, created Earl of Carberry, in Ireland, and Baron Emlyn. During the parliamentary war in the reign of that monarch, the castle was garrisoned for the king: it was besieged by the parliamentary forces in 1645, but was relieved by a body of royalists under the command of Colonel Gerard, who, attacking the besiegers, totally defeated them, killed two hundred, and took five hundred prisoners, with all their arms, ordnance, and baggage, and with the loss on his own part of only twenty-six men killed, besides others wounded: the castle continued in the family of the Vaughans, by the last of whom it was devised to the late Lord Cawdor, the father of Earl Cawdor, the present proprietor.

The town is beautifully situated on the southern bank of the Teivy, which here rushes with great impetuosity through its rocky channel, and over which is a handsome stone bridge of three arches, forming a communication between the counties of Cardigan and Carmarthen, and connecting the ancient borough of Atpar, in the former county, with this town, which consists principally of one irregular street, extending nearly a mile in length. The houses, of which several are handsome, are in general well built, and the cottages have an appearance of comfort and neatness not usually found in this part of the country: the town, though neither paved nor lighted, is well supplied with water, and the surrounding country, which is pleasingly varied, abounds with interesting objects and with romantic and picturesque scenery. The views are extensive and highly pleasing, and from several points the appearance of the town, with the capricious windings of the river and the beautiful remains of the ancient castle rising from its banks, is strikingly beautiful. The Teivy is celebrated for its salmon and sewin fishery, which is prosecuted with great success in small boats called coracles, which are peculiar to the principality. The market, which is amply supplied with provisions, and is remarkable for the great number of pigs exposed in it for sale, is on Friday, and is well attended. Fairs are held annually on March 23rd, May 10th, June 22nd, July 20th, August 20th, September 10th, October 19th, and November 22nd. This town has recently been made a polling-place in the election of knights for the shire. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in



the patronage of the Vicar of Kenarth. The chapel, which was erected by public subscription about fifty years since, is a neat small edifice: a subscription is at present in progress for the erection of a church capable of accommodating a greater number of the inhabitants. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic Methodists. The remains of the ancient castle occupy an elevated ridge to the east of the town, on a peninsula formed by a bend in the river Teivy, which flows in a direct course till it nearly reaches the walls of that structure, but, suddenly reverting in a direction nearly parallel with its former course, for a considerable distance, winds majestically in front, leaving before the castle a long and beautiful meadow, and returns on the opposite side, with features of a new character, forcing its way over a rocky bed, and thus surrounding that ancient structure with a magnificent natural moat, which is double on that side where it first reaches the castle. The ruins consist chiefly of the principal gateway entrance, about fourteen feet in height, flanked by two octagonal towers, and possessing, from its situation immediately above the river, and its lightness and elegance, a peculiarly picturesque appearance in whatever direction it is viewed. This place gives the inferior title of Baron Emlyn to Earl Cawdor.

NEWCASTLE (LITTLE), a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. by E.) from Haverfordwest, containing 330 inhabitants. This place derives its name from an ancient mound near the church, called "the castle," and its distinguishing epithet from the inferiority of this fortification to a much older and more extensive work of the same kind, at a short distance from the village. The parish comprises a moderate tract of land, of which by far the greater part is enclosed and cultivated, the remainder being stony, barren, and unfit for tillage, especially the northern portion of it, which is hilly. Fairs are annually held in the village on May 6th and July 10th. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Thomas Williams, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Peter. In this parish was "Martel," the ancient seat of the family of Symmons before their removal to Llanstinan, of which nothing now remains but the site. Near the village is a spring, called Golden Well, which ebbs and flows regularly with the tide in St. George's channel, from which it is nine miles distant: the water is said to be efficacious in coughs, and in diseases of the eye. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £93. 15.

NEWCHAPEL, a chapelry in the parish of LLANDRINIO, upper division of the hundred of DEYTHUR, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (N.) from Welshpool. The population is returned with the parish. The name of this place is of obvious derivation. The chapel is conveniently situated on the confines of the parishes of Guilsfield, Llansantfraid, and Meivod, affording accommodation to the inhabitants of those several parishes who reside at a distance from the parish church: it is dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and is an ancient building in the early style of English architecture, in a very dilapidated state. The living is

a perpetual curacy, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese of St. Asaph, endowed by the lord of the manor, the proprietor of the Penrhôs estate, and with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Major Gore, as lord of the manor. A free school has been established in this place for more than two hundred years: it was originally supported by the produce arising from lands which were given for that purpose by the neighbouring gentry, but, when the enclosure of waste lands took place, about sixty acres were allotted for the support of this establishment, and the lands previously given were returned to their original proprietors. The school, in which about forty children are gratuitously instructed, is open to all the inhabitants of the hundred of Deythur: there is a good house for the master. In the chapelry is one of Dr. Bray's parochial circulating libraries.

NEWCHURCH, or LLAN-NEWYDD, a parish in the lower division of the hundred of ELVET, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. W. by N.) from Carmarthen, containing 659 inhabitants. This place is stated to have been the scene of a pitched battle which was fought, about the year 72, between the Britons and the Romans under the command of Severinus, son of Severus, the Roman governor of Britain, who at that time resided at York. Severinus is supposed to have fallen in this battle; and a stone, formerly on the road side, but now removed and set up in the front court of Traws-Mawr, a farm belonging to David Davies, Esq., is said to have marked the spot where the battle took place. This stone, which is noticed by Camden, bore the inscription "*Severini Fili Severi*," the word *sepulchrum* or *memoria* being understood: it is described as "a rude pillar, erected near the highway, flattish, five or six feet high, and about three feet broad," by the last editors of Camden's *Britannia*, who, from the form of the letters and the rudeness of the stone, suspect it to be the epitaph of some person of Roman descent, but of a later period: the inscription has since that time been mutilated, and the word "*fili*" is no longer legible, that part of the stone having been chipped off. The parish is situated on the banks of the river Gwili, and on the turnpike road from Carmarthen to Newcastle-Emlyn, and comprises a large extent of arable and pasture land, which is fertile and in a good state of cultivation. The court leet for the hundred is held under Earl Cawdor, at Bwlch Newydd, in this parish. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £1400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of John Davies, Esq. The church, which was entirely rebuilt in 1829, is a remarkably neat edifice. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. In this parish are several barrows, probably covering the remains of those who fell in the battle noticed above; and to the east of the church, and near the remains of an ancient chapel, which has been converted into a barn, are a Roman encampment and the remains of a Roman road which passed through this parish to Fishguard. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £449. 6.

NEWCHURCH, a parish in the hundred of PAINSCASTLE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. W. by W.) from Kington, containing 164 inhabitants.



This parish is situated on the small river Arrow, nearly on the confines of Herefordshire, and is intersected by a road leading from Hay to New Radnor. The surface is hilly and the soil various: the lower lands, which are fertile and productive, are in a state of good cultivation; but the hills are but very partially cultivated, and almost destitute of timber. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 6. 8., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's: a small estate called Catriggin belongs to the rectory. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, without tower or spire, and possessing no architectural details of importance: it is situated on the right bank of the Arrow, in the midst of hills which are of forbidding rather than of pleasing aspect. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £86. 7.

NEWCHURCH in TÎR ABBOT, otherwise LLANDULAS, a parish in the hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (N.E.) from Llandovery, containing 159 inhabitants. The whole of this parish was granted by Rhys ab Gruffydd, Prince of South Wales, to the monastery of Ystrad Flur, or Strata Florida, in the county of Cardigan, which he founded in the year 1164. In consequence of this grant the parish was distinguished by the appellation of Tîr yr Abad, or "the abbot's land;" and its present name, to which that appellation forms an adjunct, appears to have been derived from the erection of a church here in the year 1716. The name Llandulas, by which it is also known, and which, according to some authorities, is a corruption of Glân Dulas, under which it occurs in several public documents, appears to have originated in its situation on the bank of the little river Dulas, from which circumstance it was not unfrequently called Aber Dulas. The parish lies in a mountainous district, having the Epynt hills on the east; at the western extremity of the county, on the confines of Carmarthenshire, and comprises a considerable tract of hilly country, of which the soil is chiefly a turbary, interspersed with small enclosures producing thin crops of barley and oats, and some small pastures of indifferent herbage. The views from the higher grounds, embracing the counties of Brecknock and Carmarthen, are remarkable for their extent, if not for their picturesque beauty. The turnpike road from Builth to Llandovery passes through the parish, within a short distance of the village. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and with £200 in money and £20 per annum by Sackville Gwynne, Esq., who charged his estates with the annual payment of that sum to the officiating minister; and in the patronage of Colonel Gwynne, of Glânbrân, who is proprietor of the tithes. The minister and parishioners claim a right of exemption from episcopal jurisdiction and visitation, but have not strenuously maintained that privilege, as they prove wills and take out letters of administration at the Register Office at Brecknock. The church, a neat small edifice, was erected in 1716, at the sole charge of Sackville Gwynne, Esq., of Glânbrân. A Roman road, which was a branch of the *Via*

*Helena*, called by the Welsh Sarn Helen, passed through the parish, over the common called Llwydlo Vâch, and part of it may still be traced in some places. At a place called Pyllau-Da-Probert, forming part of the tenement of Trelath, in this parish, is a well, the water of which is strongly impregnated with sulphur, and similar in its properties to that of Llanwrtyd. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £55. 2.

NEWMARKET, a parish in the Media division of the hundred of PRESTATYN, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, on the old line of road between Chester and Holyhead, 6 miles (W. N. W.) from Holywell, containing 631 inhabitants. In Pope Nicholas' Taxation this place is called Rywlyvnwyd, by which name it is also mentioned in a record so late as the middle of the sixteenth century, having been formerly a chapelry in the parish of Dyserth. According to Mr. Pennant, its ancient name was Trelawnyd, "for which," says that distinguished antiquary, "I can find no satisfactory reason." He also hazards the conjecture, from the numerous tumuli and other sepulchral memorials visible in the neighbourhood, that it might be the scene of the slaughter of the Ordovices, the aboriginal inhabitants of this district, by the Romans under Agricola. In the early part of the last century the village was considerably enlarged through the care and exertions of John Wynne, Esq., of Gop, to whom the estate then belonged: it attained the distinction of a market-town, the market, now in disuse, having been held on Saturday. Newmarket has greatly declined from its former consequence, and presents now only the appearance of a village, though of considerable size. Lead-ore abounds in the parish, but the works have been discontinued. Fairs are held on the last Saturday in April, the third Saturday in July, the fourth Saturday in October, and the second Saturday in December. The petty sessions for the hundred take place here. The living is a perpetual curacy, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph, who, as archdeacon, holds the rectory *in commendam*, and receives all tithes. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a small structure of modern date, standing within a spacious cemetery, finely shaded by lofty trees. About twenty yards from the principal entrance, on the south side, stands a tall and very beautiful cross, the upper part elegantly sculptured in high relief. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. A bequest of £40 per annum, for clothing, teaching, and apprenticing twenty poor children, was made by John Wynne, Esq., of Gop, in 1713, which, having become the subject of a suit in Chancery, has not yet been appropriated to the purpose contemplated by the worthy donor. Dr. Daniel Williams, a dissenting minister, founded a charity school in every county in North Wales, of which that for Flintshire was fixed here; these he endowed with £8 per annum each, except that of Wrexham, his native place, to which he gave £15 per annum, and provided a fund for apprenticing the children, with a premium of £5 for each. Among the tumuli and other relics of antiquity which lie thickly scattered throughout this interesting district, that called *Copa'r'leni*, or Gop Paulini, crowning the summit of a mountain about



half a mile above the village, is the chief: it is composed of loose stones, covering an acre and a half of ground, and is about twelve yards in height; and although different conjectures have been raised regarding the purpose of its formation, there can be little doubt that it was erected over the remains of some renowned warrior, or chieftain, slain in battle, and may have served, in later times, as a beacon, since it commands a view of the whole range of encampments on the south and west, the Irish sea on the north, and the æstuaries of the Dee and Mersey on the east. Part of the brow of the hill is called *Brÿn y Saethau*, or "the Hill of Arrows," intimating that it was the station of the archers in some of those engagements which, in the early period of British history, deluged this neighbourhood with blood, but the direful calamities of which have not been recorded by the historian, and are now involved in the obscurity of ages. A greater number of these tumuli, of the ordinary size, may be seen in the tract intervening between this place and *Caerwys* than in any other in North Wales; several of them, having been opened, were found to contain urns, in which were burnt ashes, charcoal, &c., and many hundreds have been levelled in agricultural operations. *Clawdd Offa*, or *Offa's Dyke*, passes very near the village, and forms the boundary line between this parish and that of *Llanasaph*. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £182. 13.

**NEW MOTE, or NEW MOAT**, a parish in the hundred of *DUNGLEDDY*, county of *PEMBROKE*, *SOUTH WALES*, 10 miles (N. E.) from *Haverfordwest*, containing 331 inhabitants. This place derives its name from an artificial mount, which is within a short distance of the church, and is entirely surrounded by a deep moat, which may be easily filled with water. It is supposed to have been originally constructed by the *Flemings* who settled in this part of the principality, in the reign of *Henry II.*, and obtained by force the hundreds of *Castlemartin* and *Rhôs*, together with a considerable portion of that of *Dungledy*. The parish is pleasantly situated on a branch of the river *Cleddy*, and comprises a considerable portion of meadow, arable, and pasture land, which is all enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding country is pleasingly diversified, and displays some interesting features of mountain scenery. The ancient mansion of the *Scourfields*, who resided in this parish from the reign of *Edward I.* till within the last sixty years, when they removed to *Robeston Hall*, near *Milford*, has been taken down, and the proprietor is now erecting a spacious and elegant mansion on the same site, to which the family will remove when it is completed: the house, which is surrounded with thriving plantations and with groves of ancient timber, is delightfully situated at the foot of the southern declivity of the *Precelly* range of mountains, and commands a fine view over the whole of the lower part of the county. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of *St. David's*, rated in the king's books at £2. 4. 7., and in the patronage of *W. H. Scourfield, Esq.* The church, dedicated to *St. Nicholas*, is an ancient and venerable structure, consisting of a nave, chancel, and one aisle, with a square embattled tower at the west end: the chancel appears to have been very richly embellished at no

very distant period, but has of late been very much neglected; it contains several handsome monuments to the *Scourfield* family, of which some are of great antiquity. Near the mount above noticed are the remains of a very extensive Roman camp, enclosing a quadrilateral area three hundred yards in diameter, and situated on a gentle declivity towards the south: a considerable portion of the northern rampart has been dug up, but the remains are sufficient to mark out the four sides of the camp with tolerable accuracy: the road from *Narberth* to *Fishguard* passes through its centre. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £146. 2.

**NEWPORT**, a sea-port, market town, and parish, in the hundred of *KEMMES*, county of *PEMBROKE*, *SOUTH WALES*, 19½ miles (N. E. by N.) from *Haverfordwest*, and 242 (W. by N.) from *London*, containing 1798 inhabitants. The ancient British name of this place, *Trêddraeth*, signifying literally "the town on the sands," appears to have been derived from its situation on a sandy beach of considerable extent, which intervenes between it and the bay of *Newport*. The town is indebted for its origin and early importance to the descendants of *Martin de Tours*, the first lord of *Kemmes*, which territory he had wrested from the Welsh by conquest, and erected into a lordship marcher, and whose son *William* erected a castle at this place, which he made the head of his barony, and invested with many privileges. This same nobleman granted the inhabitants a charter of incorporation, vesting the government of the town in a mayor and burgesses, to whom he gave an extensive grant of lands, the privilege of holding a weekly market, and several valuable immunities, all which were confirmed by a charter granted by his son *Nicholas*. The lordship was entirely independent of the palatinate of *Pembroke*; the lord held his courts in the castle of this place; all writs were issued in his own name exclusively, and not either in that of the *Earl of Pembroke*, or even of the king of *England*. In 1215, the castle was taken by *Llewelyn ab Iorwerth*, but it soon afterwards reverted to its original proprietors, whose descendants continued to hold it, together with the lordship in which they exercised *jura regalia*, till the time of *Henry VIII.*, when all such jurisdictions were abolished. Under the protection of its ancient lords the town continued to increase in extent and importance, and enjoyed many additional privileges, of which some were granted to the barony in the reign of *Elizabeth*. It had become extremely populous, and carried on an extensive woollen manufacture, about the commencement of the sixteenth century, when a pestilential disease occasioned such mortality among its inhabitants, that its market was discontinued, or rather transferred to the neighbouring town of *Fishguard*, the trade of the port ceased, and the town fell into decay. The market has been re-established, and some little addition to its trade has gradually taken place since that period; but the town has never recovered its former importance. It stands on the high road from *Cardigan* to *Fishguard*, and is pleasantly situated at the mouth of the river *Nevers*, which falls into *St. George's* channel at *Newport* bay, and on rising ground ascending gradually to the *Carn Ingle* mountain, which shelters it from the south-easterly and south-westerly winds, and rises to a



considerable height beyond the town: it consists of numerous small streets irregularly formed, neither lighted nor paved, but naturally well supplied with excellent water. The houses, with some few exceptions, are indifferently built, but, from intermixture of numerous trees with the buildings, the town has, at a small distance, a pleasingly rural appearance; and the surrounding scenery, in which its venerable church and the picturesque remains of its ancient castle form prominent and interesting features, renders the distant view of it strikingly beautiful. The trade principally carried on is the working of some extensive quarries of slate, with which the neighbouring coast abounds, and of which great quantities are shipped to various places, the vessels being enabled to approach close to the quarries, and to receive the slates from the overhanging cliffs; and in the burning of lime for the supply of the neighbouring districts, in which a considerable portion of the population is employed. A vein of alum shale is said to lie within a short distance of the town, but it has never been worked. There is a good salmon fishery on the river Nevers, which in favourable seasons is very productive, and is carried on with advantage; a herring fishery also exists here, but the demand is so inconsiderable that it is not productive of much benefit to the persons engaged in it. This port is subject to the custom-house of Cardigan: the principal exports are corn and butter, and the produce of the quarries; the chief imports are coal, culm, and limestone. The harbour, which is small, has its entrance partially obstructed by a sand bank; but it affords good shelter to the coasting vessels employed in the trade, and to the boats engaged in the fisheries. A compact and well protected bay, on the south and east, stretches out before the town, from which it derives its name. The market is on Friday; and fairs are held annually on June 27th and October 16th. The town retains the ancient form of government which it held under the charter of incorporation granted by William, son of Martin de Tours, and afterwards confirmed by his son Nicholas; and a mayor is still nominated by the lord of the manor, from three persons elected for that purpose by a majority of the burgesses. Courts leet and baron are held twice in the year; and the petty sessions for the hundred take place here on the first Friday in every month. Newport has recently been made a polling-place in the election of a knight for the shire.

The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £16, endowed with £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Thomas Lloyd, Esq., of Bronwydd, lord of the manor. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is an ancient and venerable cruciform structure, partly in the early style of English architecture, with a square tower at the west end; the roofs of the nave, chancel, and transepts are of carved oak, and are supported on ranges of plain pointed arches; and in the chancel are two stone canopies plainly wrought: over the nave is a richly wrought open spire for a bell, and the windows exhibit tracery of considerable elegance. The church has recently received an addition of four hundred and eighteen sittings, towards defraying the expense of which the Incorporated Society for the enlargement of churches and chapels have contributed

£200, in consideration of which grant two hundred and eighteen sittings are free. On the west side of the porch are the ruins of a detached building, said to have been the record-office of the town. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic Methodists. A school conducted on the National system is supported here on the foundation of the late Mrs. Bevan, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children: it is a permanent establishment, and the central school, in which are prepared the teachers who superintend the several circulating branch schools connected with the foundation. This plan of circulating instruction was originally projected by the Rev. Griffith Jones, of Llandowror, in the county of Carmarthen, in the article on which parish a more detailed account of it is given. On an elevated knoll, rising abruptly at the extremity of the principal street of the town, are the remains of the ancient castle, consisting principally of one of the circular bastions which defended the grand entrance, the other having fallen down some years since, and some portions of the dungeons, between which and the town was a subterraneous communication, discovered within the last few years; the bottom of it was flagged, and the sides and the roof were secured by smooth stones. The castle was surrounded by a moat, and though the ruins bespeak it to have been originally occupied as a seat of baronial magnificence rather than a fortress, it was no doubt well adapted to both purposes, and in its general construction appears to have combined strength with elegance. The bay of Newport, bounded by the headlands of Dinas and Ceibwr, opens beautifully in front, rendering the situation peculiarly delightful. Beyond the site of the castle rises the lofty rocky eminence called Carn Ingle, where St. Brynach, to whom many churches in Wales are dedicated, is said to have passed his life in religious seclusion, and to have conversed with angels, from which fabulous tradition this place has been called also "*Mons Angelorum*." There are numerous Druidical remains in the vicinity; and near the mansion of Llwynygwaer, but within the limits of this parish, is one of the most perfect cromlechs in the principality, though on a small scale. On a hill connected with Carn Ingle there is a large stone, called Morris' Grave. According to Speed, there was anciently a house of Augustine friars at this place, but no particulars of its foundation or history have been preserved. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £296. 15.

NEW-QUAY, a small port in the parish of LLAN-LLWCHAIRN, hundred of MOYTHEN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 15 miles (N. W. by W.) from Lampeter. The population is included in the return for the parish. This place is advantageously situated on the shore of Cardigan bay, and affords good anchorage to vessels of small tonnage. The haven is securely sheltered from the westerly winds, and, if improved to the extent of which it is susceptible, might easily be made a safe retreat for ships of considerable burden. The pier might be enlarged, for which purpose a subscription has been opened with success; but the attempt has been hitherto frustrated by the want of a sufficient title to the land, which would be requisite to carry that object into effect. There are at present from sixty to seventy vessels belonging to this port, aver-



aging from forty to fifty tons' burden each, and employing from one hundred and fifty to two hundred men. Fish of very superior quality is found in abundance on this part of the coast, soles, turbot, and oysters, being taken in great numbers during the season; a good herring fishery may also be established with advantage. The village is of considerable size, and is inhabited chiefly by persons connected with the business of the port. A fair is annually held on November 12th.

NEWTON, a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. by S.) from Narberth, containing 42 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated near the road leading from Tenby, by Canaston bridge, to Haverfordwest, and on the left bank of the Eastern Cleddy, comprises but a moderate area, of which the greater part is enclosed and cultivated, and of the remainder one-half is uncultivated, and the other woodland: the surface is agreeably diversified, and the scenery enriched with thriving woods. In some parts the parish abounds with iron-stone; and there were formerly some extensive iron-works carried on with great success at Black Pool, in this parish, on the banks of the Eastern Cleddy, where is still the shipping-place for the town of Narberth, which afforded employment to a considerable portion of the inhabitants, but they have been discontinued for several years. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Charles Deeds, Esq. The church, which is situated at a small distance from the village, possesses no architectural details of interest. An average annual expenditure of £67. 7. is applied for the support of the poor.

NEWTON-NOTTAGE, a parish, comprising the hamlets of Newton and Nottage, which separately maintain their own poor, in the hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. S. W.) from Bridgend, and containing 626 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the shore of the Bristol channel, comprises a tract of land of which a considerable portion is unenclosed and uncultivated. The sea has encroached greatly on the shore, and a considerable portion of the parish, which within the recollection of persons now living formerly afforded excellent pasturage for sheep, is now covered with sand. A few persons resort to this place for the benefit of sea-bathing. Iron-stone is procured to a limited extent on Newton Down, and both lead-ore and manganese have been found in the white limestone of this parish: a facility of conveyance and of communication with the limestone and freestone quarries, and with the other mines in the vicinity, is afforded by the Dyfryn Llynvi and Porthcawl railway. This railway commences at the little harbour of Porthcawl, in this parish, which has been greatly improved by the construction of a breakwater extending several yards into the sea, and proceeds by Nottage village to North and South Cornelly, and Pyle, whence it pursues an easterly course to the iron-works at Cevn Cribwr, where it is joined by the Bridgend railway, and, taking a northerly direction in a line parallel with the western bank of the river Llynvi, passes the village of Llangonoyd, and, crossing the river at Typhylly Chwyth,

terminates at Dyfryn Llynvi, extending in its whole course a distance of seventeen miles. From Newton Down may be obtained a fine view of Penllyne castle, near Cowbridge, to the east, and to the west, over Swansea bay, the whitewashed habitations about Oystermouth and the country adjacent to Swansea. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £17. 4. 7., and in the patronage of Mrs. Knight, for two turns, and Calvert Jones, Esq., for one: the former had the last, and is entitled to the next, presentation. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is an ancient and venerable structure, displaying portions in the successive styles of English architecture, with a massive square tower: the number of sittings has been recently enlarged by the erection of a gallery, in which there are forty free: the pulpit appears to have been formed out of one solid stone, and is rudely carved with a representation of the scourging of our Saviour. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is about to be established in the parish upon Dr. Bell's system; and a Sunday school is supported by the rector in the village of Nottage. Some traces of the *Julia Strata Maritima* may be discerned on Newton Down, a little to the left of the turnpike road, in its course towards *Nidum* (Neath). Near the church is a curious well, noticed by Camden as ebbing and flowing in opposition to the tide, being full at low water and empty at high water: various conjectures have been formed to account for this phenomenon, which may be satisfactorily explained on the principle of a natural syphon. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £136. 12., of which sum, £50. 12. is raised on the hamlet of Newton.

NEWTOWN, a newly created borough, market town, and parish, in the upper division of the hundred of NEWTOWN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (S. W. by W.) from Montgomery, and 179 (W. N. W.) from London, on the road from Welshpool to Aberystwith, containing 4550 inhabitants, and with Penyglodva, nearly 6000. Very little is known either of the origin or of the early history of this place, which since the beginning of the present century has, from the celebrity of its flannel manufacture, risen into importance and obtained a distinguished rank among the manufacturing and commercial towns in this part of the principality. The name, which is synonymous with Trênewydd, that given to it by the Welsh, is evidently in allusion to a somewhat recent date, but whether with reference to its origin, or to any more ancient town which previously existed near the site, has not been ascertained. On the banks of the Severn, at the distance of about a mile, on the left of the road to Welshpool, are some remains of a British encampment, but no historical event is recorded which in any way connects it with the town; and on the right of the same road are traces of the Roman way from Caer-Sws to the Gaer near Montgomery. At the former of these places coins, bricks, and other relics of Roman antiquity, have been discovered; and there are some remains of the castle of Dôlvorwyn, near the town. During the civil war of the seventeenth century, Charles I., on his way to Chester, was hospitably entertained for two days and two nights by Sir John Pryce, at New-



town Hall, the residence of that family since the time of Henry VI., on his departure from which he narrowly escaped being made prisoner by Sir Thomas Myddelton. The town is situated in a beautiful valley on the banks of the river Severn, and consists of one principal street, intersected by several smaller streets; the old houses are in general of timber and brick, but those of modern erection are of handsome appearance. A substantial bridge of stone over the Severn was completed in 1827, in lieu of an ancient bridge of wood which stood near the site: this new structure, which is called the Long Bridge, consists of three arches of more than sixty feet span, and connects the parish of Newtown with Pen-y-gloddva, Frankwell, and the Basin, which are in the parish of Llanllwchaiarn, having been erected within the last seven years on the opposite side of the river, and now form part of the town: the arches and the parapets are of grey freestone, and the piers and spondrils of blue stone found in the neighbourhood: this bridge was erected by the county, at an expense of more than £4000. A stone bridge of one arch was built, in 1823, over the town brook, on the road to Welshpool, which, by way of distinction, is called the Short Bridge. The town, which appears to be more flourishing, and to be rising into greater importance, than any in North Wales, is indifferently paved, partially lighted with gas, and amply supplied with water. Considerable improvements have taken place within the last few years, among which is the construction of a new road leading through the heart of the county of Radnor to Builth, and forming the most direct road from Chester, and the northern parts of Wales, to the south-western part of England. A book society was established in 1830, which is liberally supported by subscription among the inhabitants of the town and the immediate vicinity. The environs abound with pleasing and romantic scenery, and a fine view of the town is obtained from the summits of the hills on the north and south sides. At the distance of about a mile and a half on the road to Builth there is a picturesque and strikingly beautiful spot, which is much resorted to by the inhabitants: from the summit of a shelving mass of rock, eighty feet high, a stream of water rushes with impetuosity, forming in its descent a fine cascade, and winds at the base through a glen which is richly planted with shrubs and trees of various kinds.

The staple trade of this place and its neighbourhood is the manufacture of flannel, which was first introduced about forty years since, and for several years conducted upon a small scale, the average number of pieces not exceeding ten per week. The superior fineness of the Welsh wool, and the peculiar softness of the water of the Severn, afforded every facility for conducting this manufacture to advantage; and the skill and care bestowed by the masters on the finishing of the goods have distinguished the flannels of Newtown for unrivalled excellence of quality. The manufacture is now carried on to a very considerable extent, affording employment to more than three thousand persons in the town and neighbourhood, in which not less than fifty factories have been established, working fifty thousand spindles, one thousand two hundred looms, and fifty carding-engines, which are propelled by water and steam. The average number of pieces, each containing one hundred and sixty yards, at present manufactured

is two hundred and fifty per week, which are of the finest quality, and obtain a ready sale in the market, which is henceforward to be held for that purpose, every alternate Thursday, in a spacious building recently erected, and opened on September 6th, 1832, the proprietors of which are shareholders of £25 each. Hitherto the market for the sale of flannels has been held at Welshpool, but the manufacturers and other inhabitants of this place have erected the above-named building, with the view of withdrawing it entirely from that town, and establishing it permanently here. Connected with these factories there are not less than twenty fulling-mills and several extensive bleaching-grounds. Machinery of every description is also made in the town, as well for general purposes as for the improvement of the manufacture, into which it has been introduced with complete success. A foundry upon an extensive scale has been erected, in which castings of every kind connected with the works, and articles of every description, are made: there are also potteries for the coarser kinds of earthenware, and several tanneries and malt-kilns, a considerable trade being carried on in malt; and it is in contemplation to erect a carpet-manufactory in the town. An act of parliament was obtained, in 1814, for extending the Montgomeryshire canal from Garthmill to this town, a distance of eight miles, which has been carried into effect with great benefit to the trade of the place: this new line of inland navigation, which is called the Western branch of the Montgomeryshire canal, was opened on the 1st of March, 1819, and, in the course of the following year, the basin, which is three hundred feet in length and one hundred feet wide, was completed. Several convenient wharfs and yards have been erected for storing coal, bricks, slates, timber, and other articles of merchandise, and numerous lime-kilns have been built along the banks of this canal, which has contributed to facilitate the conveyance of the heavier articles of manufacture, and to supply the neighbourhood with commodities of every kind. The markets, which are abundantly supplied and numerously attended, are on Tuesday, for corn and provisions, and on Saturday for provisions only. The market-hall is a plain brick building, situated in the centre of the principal street: the lower part is appropriated to the use of the corn market, and the upper to the sale of wool, of which considerable quantities are purchased every market day. It is in contemplation to take down this building, which obstructs the principal thoroughfare, leaving room only for a single waggon to pass with difficulty on each side, and to erect another in a more convenient situation. The tolls of the market belong to Viscount Clive, as lord of the manor of Cedewen, in which the town is included. The fairs are on the first Tuesday in February, the last Tuesday in March, the first Tuesday in May, June 24th, the last Tuesday in August, October 24th, and December 16th: of these the May, June, and October fairs are very large, and amply supplied with horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, and all kinds of wares; at the October fair, of which the first day is always for sheep and pigs, more than eighteen thousand sheep are generally sold. By the late act for amending the representation of the people Newtown has been constituted a contributory borough, uniting with the other boroughs in the county in the return of a



member to parliament: the right of election is vested in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the present number of such tenements within the limits of the borough, which are described in the Appendix to this work, is two hundred and sixty-two. The town is within the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, who hold a petty session for the division on the first Monday in every month; and constables and other officers are appointed at the court leet of the lord of the manor, which is held annually at Easter. It is supposed that the county gaol was formerly in this town, and near the market-place is an ancient building, now converted into a public house, which is still called the "Old Gaol," but will probably be taken down with a view to the improvement of this part of the town.

The living is a rectory, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £8. 15., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a low square tower surmounted by a belfry of wood: the interior consists of two aisles, separated by a central range of pillars and pointed arches of wood, which support the roof, and a chancel, separated from the body of the church by an elaborately carved and richly gilt and painted screen, which was removed hither from Abbey Cwm-Hir, in the county of Radnor: there are some marble monuments, chiefly to the family of Pryce of Newtown Hall; and numerous texts of scripture in frames are hung round the walls. His Majesty's commissioners proposed a grant of £4000, for the erection of an additional church, and land for a burial-ground adjoining the site, on condition that the inhabitants would raise among themselves £1500 by subscription; but from some cause the proposition has not been yet carried into effect. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Welsh Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. An academy for the education of young men for the ministry among the Independents was removed to this town from Llanvyllin, in 1821, which, together with a grammar school attached to it, is supported chiefly by the congregational fund under the superintendence of the Board in London. There are Sunday schools in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations, in which about one thousand four hundred children are instructed. A dispensary was instituted in 1825, by William Pugh, Esq., of Bryn Llywarch, who, during the first year, defrayed the whole expense of its establishment, amounting to more than £200: it is now supported by general subscription among the inhabitants, and is productive of great benefit to the numerous families employed in the manufactures of the place. In a fine park adjacent to the town, on the west, stands Newtown Hall, the seat of the Rev. G. A. Evors; and the surrounding country is enlivened by numerous other gentlemen's residences, among which may be mentioned Black Hall, the seat of Charles Jones, Esq.; Bryn Llywarch, that of W. Pugh, Esq.; Dôlerw, that of W. Lutener, Esq.; Dôlvorgan, that of John Edwards, Esq.; Dôlvorwyn Hall, that of the Rev. J. Price; Glân Havren,

that of Mrs. Herbert; and Cregynog, that of C. H. Tracey, Esq. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £1013. 13.

NICHOLAS (ST.), a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (W. by S.) from Cardiff, containing 351 inhabitants. This parish, which takes its name from the dedication of its church, is situated on the turnpike road from Cardiff to Swansea, and comprises a considerable tract of arable and pasture land, of which the whole, with the exception of only a small portion, is enclosed and cultivated. The soil is in general fertile and productive; and the surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and in some parts picturesque. Dyfryn House, formerly the seat of the ancient family of Price, and now, by marriage with the heiress of that family, the property and residence of the Hon. William Booth Grey, is agreeably situated in a retired spot, about a mile southward from the village: the grounds are tastefully laid out, and comprehend a pleasing variety of scenery. Cottrel, late the property of Miss Gwynett, and now the residence of Admiral Sir Charles Tyler, K. C. B., to whose eldest son, Capt. Tyler, R. N., it will revert on the death of the Earl of Clarendon, is pleasantly situated, and commands from the rear of the house a fine view of part of the picturesque Vale of Ely, with Hensol castle and the grounds attached to it on the western bank of the river. Fairs, chiefly for cattle and sheep, are annually held in the village on May 19th, August 21st, and December 17th; and the petty sessions for the hundred are also held at this place. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £11. 10., and in the patronage of the Hon. William Booth Grey. The church is an ancient and venerable structure, with a tower at the west end. There are places of worship for Baptists and Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children upon the National system is supported by Mrs. Grey and the rector of the parish. On the right of the road leading from the village to Dyfryn House is an ancient cromlech, said to be the largest monument of the kind in the kingdom: it consists of large flat stones nearly six feet in height, enclosing an area of seventeen feet in length and thirteen in breadth, upon which rests a table stone, twenty-four feet long, and varying in breadth from seventeen to ten feet. In a field by the road side, immediately opposite to Cottrel Lodge gate, is a single stone of the same origin, lying in an inclined position. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £190. 19.

NICHOLAS' (ST.), otherwise MONKTON, a parish in the hundred of CASTLEMARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, adjoining the town of Pembroke, and containing 1128 inhabitants. This place appears to have derived the name of Monkton from the circumstance of Arnulph de Montgomery, the founder of Pembroke castle, having, in 1089, granted its church, situated within the precincts of that fortress, together with twenty carucates of land in this parish, to the abbey of St. Martin at Seyes in Normandy; soon after the date of which grant, a priory of monks of the Benedictine order, dedicated to St. Nicholas, was founded at this place, and made a cell to that foreign abbey. William and Walter Mareschal, Earls of Pembroke,



were great benefactors to this establishment, which continued to flourish till the reign of Edward III., when that monarch seized it, with the other Alien establishments, into his own hands. It was restored by Henry IV., but, being again seized, it was granted by Henry VI. to Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, who, in the 21st of that reign, gave it as a cell to the abbey of St. Albans, which grant was confirmed by Henry, in the 27th of his reign. It continued subordinate to that abbey till the dissolution, when its revenue was estimated, according to Speed, at £113. 2. 6., and, according to Dugdale, at £57. 9. 3.: it was granted, in the 37th of Henry VIII., to John Vaughan and Catherine his wife. The parish, which is bounded on the north by a creek of Milford Haven, extending up to the town of Pembroke, is situated to the south-west of that borough, and comprises a considerable tract of land, which is wholly enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The soil is in general fertile, and the inhabitants, with the exception of those only of the village of Monkton, are wholly employed in agriculture. The surrounding scenery is finely diversified, and the views, extending over the sea and the adjacent country, abound with interest. In this parish is Orielton, an ancient mansion supposed to have been originally built by one of the followers of Arnulph de Montgomery, called Oriel, from whom it derived its name, and now the property of Sir John Owen, Bart. In the reign of Henry II. it belonged to the family of the Wyrriotts, in whose possession it continued till the reign of Elizabeth, when it passed by marriage with the heiress of that family to Sir Hugh Owen, Bart., who, dying in 1809, left his large estates to his kinsman, John Lord, Esq., who, assuming the name of Owen, was created a baronet, and is now lord-lieutenant of the county. It has been greatly improved by the present proprietor, and is a handsome mansion, occupying an elevated situation, finely sheltered by thick woods, and ornamented with thriving plantations. There were anciently several other seats and family mansions in this parish, some of which have entirely disappeared, and the rest have been converted into farm-houses. Courts leet are held by the lord of the manor, at which constables are appointed for the whole of the parish, who act under the authority of the lord, independently of the corporation of Pembroke. Fairs are held annually in the village on May 14th and November 22nd. The mayor of Pembroke exercises the jurisdiction of coroner within the village, which by the late Boundary Act has been included, for electoral purposes, within the limits of that borough, as forming a suburb to the town. The living is a discharged vicarage, consolidated with those of St. Mary and St. Michael Pembroke, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, and in the patronage of Sir John Owen, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, formerly the conventual church of the priory, and all that remains of that establishment, is an ancient and venerable structure, partly in the Norman, and partly in the early English, style of architecture, with a Lady chapel at the eastern end, now roofless, but having four handsome windows on the southern side, and one in the eastern end. The nave is vaulted with stone, and the present chancel formerly communicated with the chapel of the Virgin by an archway which has been closed for ages: the pavement of the church consists partly of curious glazed

bricks; and the modern font rests on the fragment of a beautiful clustered column of remote antiquity. On each side of the ruined Lady chapel is a canopied recess for a recumbent figure, and to the right of the altar are stalls for two officiating priests. There are numerous tumuli in various parts of the parish, evidently sepulchral, and probably raised over the remains of some of the ancient defenders of the soil against the Norman invaders: the greatest number is at a place called Dry Burrows, where is the largest group of these ancient monuments in the county. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £323. 18.

NICHOLAS' (ST.), a parish in the hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (W. by S.) from Fishguard, containing 315 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the north-western part of the county, and at no great distance from St. George's channel, comprises a moderate portion of good arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation: from the high grounds in the north and south parts of it some fine views are obtained of St. George's channel. It constitutes the only prebend, in the cathedral church of St. David's, to which a residence in that city is attached, and is usually called St. Nicholas Pen y Voecs: the prebend is valued in the king's books at £5. 4. 6½., and is in the patronage of the Bishop. The living is a discharged vicarage, annexed, with that of Granston, to the vicarage of Mathrey, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's: the great tithes of the parish are held on lease by George Rock, Esq., of Butter Hill. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is not remarkable for any architectural details. There is a place of worship for Presbyterians. In the fence of the churchyard is a stone, about a yard and a half in length, and three-quarters of a yard in breadth, with the inscription TVNCCFTACCVX SORDAAR!! HICIA CIT+. At no great distance from the church, just above the village of Trellŷs, are the remains of an ancient cromlech, the table stone of which rests only upon two supporters. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £95. 3.

NICHOLASTON, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (W. S. W.) from Swansea, containing 92 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Nicholas, is situated on the shore of Oxwich bay, by which it is bounded on the south, and comprises but a small tract of arable and pasture land, of which only a comparatively trifling portion is unenclosed and uncultivated. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and is enriched with thriving timber; and the views from the eminence called Cevn Brŷn, over Penrice Castle and grounds, and from the cliffs which impend over the bay, are interesting and diversified. The hamlet of Mansel-field, in this parish, from which place one of the churchwardens and one of the overseers of the poor are invariably chosen, derived its name from the Mansel family, one of whom, William Mansel, Esq., of Penrice Castle, was proprietor of it in the reign of Henry VI.: it is situated at a short distance from the village of Nicholaston, and comprises about seventy



acres. The living is a discharged rectory, consolidated with that of Port-Eynon, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 11. 0½., and in the patronage of C. R. M. Talbot, Esq., who is the principal proprietor of land in the parish. The church is a small plain edifice, possessing no architectural details of importance, and is situated near the summit of the cliffs which overhang the centre of Oxwich bay. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £8. 7.

NODDVA, a township in the parish of DAROWEN, hundred of MACHYNLLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (E. by N.) from Machynlleth, containing 486 inhabitants. The name of this township signifies a place of refuge, from which it is supposed that the parochial church, which is situated within its limits, and a certain tract around it, now described by three stones, once afforded sanctuary to offenders against the laws. Each of these stones stands about one mile from the church; one of them, called Carreg Noddva, or "the stone of refuge" to the east; another, rising nearly three yards above the ground, to the south; and the third, which is smaller, to the north-east. Upon the summit of Vron Gôch, a hill situated about half a mile westward from the church, are vestiges of an ancient intrenchment; and there is a tumulus on the top of another hill, called Bwlch gelli lās: near the latter, on the sheepwalk of the farm Berllan Dêg, a celt and various brazen military weapons were discovered a few years ago.

NOLTON, a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (W. by N.) from Haverfordwest, containing 208 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the eastern shore of St. Bride's bay, and comprises a moderate portion of arable and pasture land, which was enclosed under the provisions of an act of parliament in 1759. The surface is varied and in some parts hilly; the soil is in general productive, and the inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture. Stone, of a quality not inferior to that of Portland, abounds in the parish, and some quarries have been opened, which might have been worked to great advantage, had due care been taken to find out the proper stratum. The repairs and alterations of the cathedral church of St. David's were to have been wholly executed with this stone, but the contractor for the buttresses having taken that stratum of the stone which lay nearest the surface, instead of sinking lower for that which was of the best quality, the intention was abandoned. The small haven near the village of Drewson, in this parish, afforded a facility for conveying the produce of the quarries to its destination, and probably, when further trial has been made of the quality of the stone taken from the proper stratum, it may again become a shipping-place for that material. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 2. 11., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church is dedicated to St. Madoc: there was formerly a chapel of ease at the village of Drewson, but it has been for some time in ruins. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. At Drewson, properly Druidston, were some Druidical remains, from which that small hamlet originally derived its name; the stones

which composed the circle were removed in 1740, and have been used for building purposes. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £63. 18.

NORTHOP (NORTH-HOPE), a parish in the Northop division of the hundred of COLESHILL, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N. by E.) from Mold, and 3 (S. by E.) from Flint, containing 3026 inhabitants. This place, which has obtained its present appellation in contradistinction to East, or Queen's Hope, was by the Welsh called "Llan-Eurgain," from the dedication of its first church to St. Eurgain, niece of St. Asaph, the second bishop of the see which from him derived its name. The parish, which is of very considerable extent, is situated on the æstuary of the Dee, by which it is bounded on the north-east, and is traversed by the roads from Chester to Holyhead, and from Mold to Holywell, which cross each other near the church. It comprises more than thirteen thousand acres of good arable and pasture land, which are enclosed and cultivated, exclusively of several thousand acres of sands on the æstuary of the river, which, being almost entirely dry at low water, might at a comparatively small expense be brought into cultivation. The village, which is large, is pleasantly situated in a fertile and beautiful tract of country, abounding with finely varied and highly picturesque scenery, and is surrounded on all sides by elegant villas and handsome seats, inhabited by opulent families, among which the most conspicuous is, Soughton Hall, the residence of W. I. Bankes, Esq. The parish is rich in mineral treasure: coal and lead-ore have been worked here for several centuries; an extensive colliery is still carried on in the hamlet of Soughton, and several shafts are now being sunk on the Northop Hall estate, in the hamlets of Northop and Kelsterton. In the hamlet of Caervallwch are some very extensive lead mines, which have been worked from the earliest times, but are now rapidly declining, in consequence of the low price of lead. A very large ale and porter brewery, the first of the kind established in this county, was erected in the hamlet of Kelsterton, in the year 1818, and is conducted upon a very extensive scale and with great advantage to the proprietors: from this establishment part of the city of Chester, and this and the adjoining counties are supplied. In the hamlet of Golvryn a large quay and pier have been constructed, within the last few years, by the Irish Coal Company, and vessels sail regularly from this place for Liverpool, London, and Dublin, and the ports of North Wales. The channel made by the River Dee Company passes for several miles through the parish; but the lands on the north side are still occasionally inundated.

The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph: the rectory, which is a sinecure, was annexed, by an act passed in the 6th of Queen Anne's reign, to the bishoprick of St. Asaph, in lieu of mortuaries, and is rated in the king's books at £49. 14. 9½.; and the vicarage, to which is annexed the parochial chapelry of Flint, is endowed, rated in the king's books at £14. 6. 8., and is in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The present church, erected in 1571, and dedicated to St. Peter, is a spacious and embattled structure, with a lofty and elegant tower, ninety-eight feet high, and consists of a



nave, chancel, and north aisle, with a sepulchral chapel adjoining the latter, dedicated to St. Mary, and containing several ancient monuments: of these, the most ancient is one having the effigy of Edwyn ab Gronow, Prince of Tegengl, who died in 1073: another has the effigy of a knight in complete armour, with the hands crossed upon the breast, and a lion at the feet; the shield bears a cross with five mullets: a third monument is to the memory of a female, whose effigy is well sculptured, having the head protected by an elaborately wrought canopy; from the neck depends a massive chain, and around the whole is a mutilated inscription, of which only the date MCCCCXXXII. is legible. In digging a grave near the communion table, in 1798, was found an ancient figure of an armed knight, well sculptured: the armour is of the period of the reign of Richard II. There are places of worship in the village for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists; at Rhôs Esmor, one each for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists, for which latter denomination there are also one at Soughton, and one at Golvtyn. The free grammar school was founded in 1606, by William Smith, L.L.B., who endowed it with £20 per annum for the salary of a master, and with £2 to a poor boy of each of the towns and parishes of Northop, Flint, Whitford, Cwm, and St. Asaph. Dr. D. Ellis augmented the endowment with £5 per annum, for the better support of the master; and Owen Jones, Esq., in 1658, bequeathed all his lands and tenements in Northop to the vicar and churchwardens, in trust for the maintenance of seven poor boys of this parish in the above school, who should receive £4 per annum each for five years, and at the expiration of that time be apprenticed with a fee of £8. Previously to the year 1815, the rents of the property of the school had amounted to £131 per annum, and there was at that time a surplus of £547 in the hands of the trustees. By a decree of the court of Chancery, issued in that year, five more boys were added to the establishment, the annual payment to each was increased to £6, and the apprentice fee to £12; an addition of £10 per annum was also made to the salary of the master, and the remaining surplus was ordered to be distributed in weekly or monthly portions to the poor not receiving parochial aid. A National school, in which one hundred and fifty children receive gratuitous instruction, was established in 1823, by subscription, aided by a grant of £100 from the parent society: it is principally supported by subscription, but has an endowment of £650, which sum was raised in contributions for that purpose by the late vicar. There are various charitable donations and bequests in money and land, the produce of which is duly appropriated to the relief of the poor, according to the intention of the different benefactors.

In the hamlet of Caervallwch, about two miles westward from the village, are the remains of a very extensive camp, called Moel y Gaer, or "the fortified hill," occupying an eminence surrounded by a deep circular fosse, and having an entrance on the western side: within the area, and near the northern extremity, is a small artificial mound, from the summit of which is one of the most extensive views in the principality. This camp, which is the most perfect of all the British posts in North Wales, commanded

all the lines of stations on the Clwydian mountains, to the west: the view from it embraces the Vales of Hope and Mold, as far as Wrexham on the south; the estuaries of the Dee and the Mersey, with the port of Liverpool, on the north; and Chester on the east. About three hundred paces to the north-west of it is a large artificial mound, commanding the pass of the mountain, and most probably intended as an outpost to the principal camp of Moel y Gaer. At the distance of one mile to the north of the village of Northop, and near the road leading to Holywell, are the ruins of Llŷs Edwyn, the ancient palace of Edwyn ab Gronow, the above-named Prince of Tegengl: these remains, which are very inconsiderable, occupy a commanding situation; the foundations of the palace may still be traced, and the moat by which it was surrounded is still tolerably perfect on the north-east. Edwyn, in conjunction with several of the native princes of North Wales, attempted to oppose the progress of William the Conqueror in the subjugation of the principality, but without success, and, as appears from Domesday-book, was compelled to hold his territories subject to that monarch. After Edwyn's death, in 1073, they remained in the possession of his descendants till the reign of Henry IV., when Howel Gwynedd, having embraced the cause of Owain Glyndwr, was taken prisoner and beheaded, and his estates were forfeited to the crown. Wat's Dyke, here erroneously called Offa's Dyke, enters this parish in the hamlet of Soughton, and, crossing the road to Mold, near the turnpike gate, takes a westerly course for some distance, and then forming an acute angle and taking a northern direction, crosses the Holywell road at the stone quarry, within a mile from the village of Northop, and passes near Llŷs Edwyn, where it again pursues a westerly course, and leaves the parish near Cornist. William Parry, L.L.D., who was representative in parliament for Queenborough in the reign of Elizabeth, and who was executed before the door of the parliament-house, in 1584, for designing the death of that sovereign, was a native of this parish; and Dr. John Wynne, Bishop of St. Asaph, and afterwards of Bath and Wells, who received the rudiments of his education in the grammar school of this place, was interred in the chancel of the church; he erected Soughton Hall in 1714. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £863. 11.

NORTON, a parish in the hundred and county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.N.W.) from Presteign, containing 297 inhabitants. This parish, which is pleasantly situated in the eastern part of the county, bordering upon Herefordshire, and is intersected by the great turnpike road from North Wales to Presteign, comprises a considerable tract of arable and pasture land, of which the greater portion is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery, though not distinguished by any peculiarity, is pleasing and well wooded; and the views, especially towards the east, embracing a portion of the county of Hereford, are interesting and diversified. The inhabitants of the village, which is seated on a small stream that falls into the river Lug, call this place a borough, and style themselves burgesses; but nothing satisfactory is recorded either of the time or the manner in which they obtained their privileges, which are but



few and very obscurely defined: they are empowered to hold a court every two or three years, and it is said that the interval between these courts must not exceed four years. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Hereford, rated in the king's books at £5, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Crown. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is an ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a low tower. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported by Lady Brydges: the school-room, towards the erection of which Walter Wilkins, Esq., contributed £80, is a neat and appropriate building. In the parish is the site of an ancient castle, of which no account can now be obtained. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £134. 5.

NOTTAGE, a hamlet in the parish of NEWTON-NOTTAGE, hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (W. by S.) from Bridgend. The population is included in the return for the parish. It is bounded on the west by the sea; and the Dyfryn Llynvi and Porthcawl railway passes close to the village, on the east. A Sunday school has been established, and is supported by the incumbent of the parish, for the instruction of poor children. The average annual assessment for the support of the poor is £86.

## O.

OVERTON, or OVERTON-MADOC, a borough and parish (anciently a market town), in the hundred of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N. N. W.) from Ellesmere, containing 1746 inhabitants. This place, which is divided into two portions, called the Ville and the Foreign, derives the adjunct to its name from Madoc ab Meredydd, Prince of Powys and lord of Overton, who is said to have erected a castle here, of which the only vestige is the site, still called Castle field. At the time of the Conquest, this place, called in Domesday-book "Ovretone," was in the possession of a Saxon chieftain, but was granted by the Conqueror to Robert Fitz-Hugh, one of his followers. Edward I., in the 14th year of his reign, gave the lordship to his queen Eleanor, who granted it to Robert de Crevecoeur, with the privilege of a weekly market and a fair; and in the 20th of his reign, Edward made it a free borough by charter. The same monarch, in the following year, commanded Reginald de Grey, chief justice of Chester, to go personally to Overton, and to assign to the burgesses, and to such others as might be induced to become inhabitants, competent lands within the demesne of Overton castle, and wood to build them burgages; and in the 28th of his reign, Edward granted to the burgesses an exemption from toll for seven years, and various other immunities. Edward II. gave the borough and lordship to his queen Isabel; and in the 14th of the reign of Edward III. they were granted, together with other lands in Maelor, to Eubule le Strange, baron of Knockyn, with a confirmation of the preceding charter, which was also confirmed and enlarged, with additional privileges, in the 30th of Richard II.

The village is beautifully situated on elevated ground on the banks of the Dee, over which river is a handsome

stone bridge of two lofty arches, connecting the counties of Denbigh and Flint, and on the turnpike road leading from Chester to Shrewsbury. The surrounding scenery is beautifully picturesque, being composed of a great diversity of features in pleasing combination and agreeable contrast. From a ridge near the village is seen, on one side, an extensive plain of verdant meadows, enlivened by the windings of the river Dee, skirted in front by fertile and richly wooded slopes, and bounded in the distance by the lofty summits of the surrounding mountains; on the other side the Vale Royal of Cheshire, abounding with richly diversified and highly picturesque scenery, and the fertile and open plains of Salop, in luxuriant cultivation, are seen in all their beauty. The village is pleasing and prepossessing in its appearance, and, with its venerable church, as seen from almost every point of view, forms a picturesque and highly interesting feature in the landscape. At the bridge, which is about a mile from the village, the river, after spreading through the adjacent plains, becomes contracted in its channel, and flows rapidly between its lofty and precipitous banks, which are crowned with wood. There is neither trade nor manufacture of any kind carried on; but on the banks of the Dee, between Overton and the contiguous village of Bangor-Iscoed, exists a considerable quantity of a species of ductile clay, adapted for the use of potters. The market has long been discontinued; but fairs are annually held on the Monday before Holy Thursday, June 11th, August 9th, and October 8th. Overton is one of the contributory boroughs within the county which are united in the return of one member to parliament: the right of voting is in every householders who is rated to the relief of the poor, and has paid his rates for six months previously to an election; the present number of voters is three hundred and eighteen. The limits of the borough, which are co-extensive with those of the parish, and comprise an area of nine miles in circumference, have not been altered by the Boundary Act recently passed. This has also been made one of the polling-places in the election of a knight for the shire. The borough is within the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, who hold petty sessions for the hundred at this place. A house of correction for the hundred was erected here in 1824, at the expense of the county.

The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Bangor-Iscoed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Chester. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, and originally a spacious cruciform structure, consists at present only of a nave, aisles, and chancel, with a lofty square tower surmounted with an embattled circular turret, commanding a very extensive view: the prevailing character is the early style of English architecture; the tower, which appears to be of later date, is supposed to have been built when the church was reduced in dimensions by the removal of the transepts and the original tower at the intersection, which had probably fallen into decay. In the chancel there is a pew which appears to have been granted to the Kynaston family, and on which is the inscription "*Protectoris Auctoritate*," 1649. The north aisle has been recently enlarged, and two hundred and eighty-one additional sittings have been erected, of which one hundred and sixty-six are free, in consideration of a grant of £200 by the Incorporated Society for building and enlarging



churches and chapels. The churchyard, which is spacious, is remarkable for the great number of yew trees of extraordinary growth with which it abounds. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists, erected in 1816. A National school, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, has been built and is supported by subscription. The site of the ancient castle occupies the brow of a lofty promontory overlooking the river Dee; and in the park of Gwernhailed, in this parish, are the remains of a large circular camp, surrounded by a rampart of earth, called the castle yard: it commands the whole of the country to the west of the river, and near it is a tumulus, twenty-two yards in length and twelve yards broad, raised to a considerable height: it is called the Giant's Grave, but nothing is recorded of its origin or history. In the ancient mansion of Maesgwaelod, for several centuries the residence of the Hammer family, and from which the township took its name, now the property of Major Fletcher, who commanded the rear of the British army at the battle of Corunna, on the 16th of January, 1809, are the keys of that city, which were brought away by Major Fletcher, and deposited here; they are held together by a ring, from which is suspended a steel plate, with the legend "*Portigo de Puerta de Abigo*." The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £347. 6.

OXWICH, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 14 miles by Penrice, and 13 across the sands, (W. S. W.) from Swansea, containing 241 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the Bristol channel, and on the western shore of the small but fine bay to which it gives name, and which has a considerable depth of water at all times of the tide, as well as good anchorage. It comprises but a moderate tract of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is finely varied, and enlivened with luxuriant woods, and the views over the channel and the adjacent country abound with interest. The bay on the north has some firm and smooth sands, well adapted for sea-bathing: on the east it is bounded by lofty and precipitous cliffs, affording shelter from the winds, and on the west by gently sloping hills richly covered with wood from the margin of the water to their summits. A few of the inhabitants are employed in blasting the contiguous limestone rocks, and in digging on the shore for stones of a similar quality, with which small vessels are occasionally freighted for the opposite coast of Devonshire. Lobsters and crabs, together with two or three species of edible sea plants, are procured here. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 9. 2., and in the patronage of C.R.M. Talbot, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Illtyd, is romantically situated at the base of a hill on the western side of the bay, and, as seen from the sands, has a very picturesque appearance: it contains an ancient altar-tomb, on which are the effigies of a knight and his lady, in a recumbent position. Thomas Bevan, in 1708, bequeathed £10 to the poor of the parish. On the hill above the village are the ruins of Oxwich castle, supposed to have been built about the middle of the sixteenth century, by Sir Rice Mansel, rather as a residence than as a place of strength: they consist chiefly of some dilapidated por-

tions of the walls, in one of which are the remains of a fine window. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £37. 3.

OYSTERMOUTH, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. W.) from Swansea, containing 1164 inhabitants. This place was anciently called by the Welsh *Caer Tawy*, and probably derived that name from the erection of a castle, the foundation of which is by some historians ascribed to Henry de Beaumont, who wrested from Caradoc ab Iestyn extensive territories in the province of Gower, for the security of which he built several castles; and by others to Richard de Granville, one of the Norman knights who attended Robert Fitz-Hamon, and who materially contributed to his conquest of Glamorgan. The parish is situated in the peninsula of Gower, and is bounded on the east by the bay of Swansea: it comprises a very extensive portion of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in good cultivation, and a large tract of common, which is unenclosed and open for pasture to the proprietors and tenants of land in the parish. The village is much resorted to by visitors during the summer; but, from its peculiar situation under a high limestone rock, which deprives it of the sun for several months in the winter, it is but a very dreary residence during that season. The surrounding scenery, though rather bold and striking, has little either of a picturesque or pleasing character; but the high grounds command noble views over the bays of Swansea and Carmarthen, the peninsula of Gower, which separates them, and the Bristol channel. Woodlands Castle, the seat of the late General Warde, is a handsome modern mansion, situated about a mile and a half to the north of Oystermouth Castle. There are some quarries of limestone of an excellent quality, which from its being susceptible of a fine polish, is substituted for marble in the manufacture of mantel-pieces, monumental tablets, and other articles: a considerable number of the poorer inhabitants find employment in these quarries, which are worked upon an extensive scale, and in the mills which have been erected for sawing and polishing the blocks of stone, which are here manufactured into the various articles above noticed. In working the quarries it has been stated that human bones of a large size have been frequently discovered. A tram-road, which has been constructed from this place to Swansea, along the sea-coast, affords facility of conveying the limestone from the quarries, and of bringing back coal and manure. The oyster fishery is carried on during the season to a considerable extent, chiefly for the supply of the Bristol market; and salmon are frequently procured from the weirs on the shores of Swansea bay. The Mumbles Point, an insulated rock at high water, forms the western extremity of Swansea bay; and the trustees of the harbour have erected a lighthouse upon it, which has been productive of the greatest benefit to vessels navigating this coast, and is supported by a small toll payable by each vessel passing within a certain distance of it. The Mumbles Roads afford excellent shelter, with good anchorage, for ships navigating the channel, which frequently put in here during the prevalence of westerly gales, to the number, occasionally, of two hundred sail.



The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Colonel Perrott, as impropiator of the tithes. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a neat and appropriate edifice, not remarkable for any architectural details of importance: it contains a monument to the memory of Thomas Bowdler, Esq., of Rhydings, in this county, editor of the Family Shakespeare, and of a purified edition of Gibbon's Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A neat school-room was built in the churchyard, by the late Rhys Davis, Esq., who appropriated eight guineas per annum, payable out of the tithes of the parish, towards the support of the school, which sum is annually paid by the present impropiator. Mrs. Benbow bequeathed two guineas per annum to the poor of the parish. Upon the summit of a knoll, surrounded by broken cliffs, a little to the north-westward of the church, and commanding a fine marine prospect, are the remains of the ancient castle, consisting principally of the shell, which is nearly entire: the walls are finely mantled with ivy, and in such good preservation that the plan of several of the apartments may be distinctly traced; the prevailing character of the architecture is the early English style, of which it affords a very good specimen, and the ruins retain an air of venerable and stately grandeur. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £135. 18.

## P.

**PAINSCASTLE (PAIN'S CASTLE)**, a township and small village, in the parish of LLANBEDR-PAINSCASTLE, hundred of PAINSCASTLE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (N. W. by W.) from Hay. The population is included in the return for the parish. It is situated in a vale near the northern bank of the Bächwy stream, which nearly encircles the village, and was formerly of much greater importance than it is at present, having had a castle and a market, but the former no longer exists, and the latter has been discontinued: fairs continue to be held on May 12th, September 22nd, and December 15th, for horned cattle, sheep, and horses. Under the recent act to amend the representation, this is constituted a polling-place for the election of the knight of the shire; and the petty sessions for the hundred are sometimes held here. For an historical notice of the castle, which was once so considerable as to give name both to the village and the hundred, but of which the only vestige is the moat that surrounds the site, near the north-western extremity of the village, see the article on LLANBEDR-PAINSCASTLE.

**PARCEL CANOL (PARSEL-CANOL)**, a township in that part of the parish of LLANBADARN-VAWR which is in the upper division of the hundred of GENEU'R GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (E.) from Aberystwith, containing 497 inhabitants. It is situated to the north of the river Rheidol, and contains some pleasing and respectable residences surrounded with timber. There is an endowment of £6. 2. 6. per annum for a free school, arising from a

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bequest of £150 by Richard Lewis, Esq., late of Abercudmole. A new church, or chapel, is about to be erected at Tŷn' y Llidiart, in this township, towards defraying the expense of which several hundred pounds have been already raised by public subscription. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £99. 7.

**PARK (PARC)**, a hamlet in the parish of EGLWYSILAN, hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (S. S. E.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 123 inhabitants. It is situated in the northern part of the parish, and on the eastern declivity of the lofty eminence called Cevn Eglwysilan.

**PARTRISHOW**, a parish in the hundred of CRICKHOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (N. E. by E.) from Crickhowel, containing 73 inhabitants. The present name of this parish is by some supposed to be a corruption of its original appellation, *Parthau yr Ishow*, signifying "the parcel or territory of Ishow," the patron saint to whom its church is dedicated. The late Archdeacon Payne conceived the original name to have been more correctly *Merthyr Ishow*, or "Ishow the Martyr," to whom, according to the ancient register of Llandaf, a church was consecrated here, in the eleventh century, by Bishop Herewald, under the name of "*Methur Yssui*." The parish is situated in a mountainous district, and is bounded on the south and east by the river Grwyne-Vawr, which separates it from the isolated hamlet of Fawyddog, in the county of Hereford, and from part of Monmouthshire; on the south and west by the parish of Llanbedr; and on the north by the hamlet of Grwyne-Vawr, in the parish of Talgarth. It is in a very retired situation, remote from any public road, and possessing no facility of intercourse with the places in its vicinity: the surrounding country presents some fine mountain scenery. The living is consolidated with the rectory of Llanbedr, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's. The church, which is in the later style of English architecture, and appears to have been rebuilt upon the site of the ancient structure consecrated by Bishop Herewald, consists of a nave and chancel only; the vaulted roof is of open timber frame-work; the font, which is of great antiquity, is very large, though formed out of a single block of stone; around the edge is the inscription "*In tempore Gynillyn, Meilir me fecit*." Cynhyllyn, son of Rhys Gôch, was lord of Ystradwy, now the hundred of Crickhowel, in the reign of Henry I., at the time when the ancient church was erected. The rood-loft, which is beautifully carved in Irish oak, and traditionally said to be the work of an Italian artist, is still remaining: it is evidently of the time of Henry VII., and was probably the gift of the Herbert family, who had property in the parish: at the west end of the nave is a small chapel, with the altar still remaining, and a small cinquefoiled niche, probably intended for the image of the saint. Poor girls of this parish are entitled to gratuitous instruction in the school at Llanbedr, on the foundation of Mrs. Herbert. At the bottom of the hill on which the church stands there is a stream called Nant Mair, or "Mary's brook;" and near its margin is the well of St. Ishow, open in front, but enclosed on three sides by walls, in which were recesses, most probably intended to receive the offerings presented by the votaries of the saint. The



average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £49.2.

PATER, or PATERCHURCH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES.—See PEMBROKE.



Corporate Seal.

PEMBROKE, a borough, market-town, and sea-port, having separate jurisdiction, locally in the hundred of Castlemartin, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. E. by E.) from Milford, 10 (S. by E.) from Haverfordwest, and 248 (W.) from London, containing, exclusively of the parish of Monkton, 5383 inhabitants. The name of this

place is derived from the words *Pen-Bro*, literally signifying a headland or promontory, and originally applied to a district nearly corresponding in extent with the present hundred of Castlemartin, stretching out into the sea, and separating Milford Haven, on the north, from the Bristol channel on the south. On the erection of a castle and the consequent growth of the town, the name of the district in which they were situated was transferred to them, and subsequently to the whole of the county of which that town became the capital. The early history of this place is involved in some confusion: it is stated by Giraldus Cambrensis, that Arnulph de Montgomery erected here, in the reign of Henry I., a slender fortress of stakes and turf, which, on his return into England, he placed under the custody of his constable and lieutenant, Giraldus de Windsor. In the Chronicle of Caradoc of Llancarvan, who was contemporary with Giraldus, it is expressly stated that the castle was attacked in 1092, and again in 1094, by the forces of Cadwgan ab Bleddyn, but that it was so strongly fortified as to baffle every effort of that chieftain to reduce it. The latter of these dates, which is some years prior to the accession of Henry I., contradicts the statement of Giraldus Cambrensis, with respect to the time of the original foundation; and the result of the attacks by so formidable an enemy is at variance with his description of the character of the fortress. Arnulph de Montgomery, on the accession of Henry I., having joined in a confederacy against that sovereign, the castle of Pembroke, together with his other estates, became forfeited to the crown, and Henry afterwards conferred the castle, together with the lordship of Carew and several other manors, on Giraldus de Windsor, Arnulph's lieutenant, who had married Nêst, daughter of Rhys ab Tewdwr. According to Caradoc of Llancarvan, Giraldus or Gerald de Windsor rebuilt the castle of Pembroke in the year 1105, on a more advantageous site, called "Congarth Vechan," and removed into it his family and his goods. Soon after this, according to some authorities, Owain, son of Cadwgan ab Bleddyn, having heard the beauty of Nêst extolled at a banquet given by Cadwgan, either at his castle of Aberteivy, or at that of Eare Weare, in the parish of Amroath, came, under the pretence of relationship, to pay her a visit at this place, and becoming enamoured at this interview, resolved upon carrying her away by force. For this purpose, having obtained the aid of some young men as profligate as

himself, he returned in the evening to the castle, which he entered unobserved, and, placing a guard over the chamber of Nêst, set fire to the building, and, in the confusion and alarm which ensued, forcibly conveyed her and her children to his residence in Powys. Other writers, however, are of opinion that the castle of Carew was the scene of this outrage and abduction. The alliance of Gerald with the native princes of the country, by his marriage with Nêst, who was some time after restored to him, subsequently excited the jealousy of Henry, who used every possible means to circumscribe his authority, as far as was consistent with the safety of the English interests in this province.

Gilbert de Clare, surnamed Strongbow, was created Earl of Pembroke, by Henry I., in 1109, and thus became possessed of the royal territories in this quarter, and of the castle of Pembroke; and in 1138, the earldom was erected into a county palatine, with the privilege of *jura regalia*; and, under the authority of its earl, a session and a monthly county court were held within the castle. In the latter all pleas of the crown were determined, fines levied, and recoveries passed: the writs were issued in the name of the earl, who held also at this place his courts of chancery and exchequer. Strongbow enlarged the castle, which he strengthened with additional fortifications, and made it in every respect a residence suitable to the dignity of the elevated rank which he held. He also incorporated the inhabitants of the town, which had arisen under the protection of the castle, and which he surrounded with a lofty embattled wall, defended by numerous bastions, and entered by three principal gates and a postern. Under the protection and influence of its earls Pembroke became a place of great importance; and in the year 1172, Henry II. kept the festival of Easter in the castle. Jasper Tudor, Earl of Pembroke, after the defeat of the Lancastrians at the battle of Barnet, retired into the castle, in which were then residing the young Earl of Richmond and his mother; but he was soon besieged by Morgan ab Thomas, brother of the celebrated Rhys ab Thomas, a zealous partisan of the house of York, to whom he must have surrendered the fortress, had not David, another brother, who had embraced the opposite interest, come promptly to his assistance, and conveyed him, together with the Countess of Richmond and her son, to Tenby, where they embarked for France.

The suppression of the palatine jurisdiction, in the reign of Henry VIII., deprived Pembroke of its dignity as the metropolis of a regality; but during the civil war of the seventeenth century, its strength rendered it the scene of many important transactions. The castle, at the commencement of the war, was the only fortress possessed by the parliamentarians in this part of the principality, and was placed under the command of Colonel Rowland Laugharne. In 1643, Admiral Swanley arrived with the parliamentary fleet in Milford Haven, and reinforced the garrison with two hundred mariners and several small pieces of cannon, with the aid of which the governor succeeded in reducing most of the neighbouring fortresses, which were garrisoned for the king. In 1647, Colonel Laugharne, and likewise Colonels Powell and Poyer, abandoning the interest of the parliament, and embracing that of the opposite party, made Pembroke their head-quarters,



and the rallying point for the army which they raised on behalf of the king; and after their defeat in the disastrous battle of St. Fagan's, in Glamorganshire, retired hither with the remnant of their forces, closely followed by the parliamentarian army, led by Cromwell in person, who immediately commenced the siege of the town, taking post at Welsdon, a village about two miles and a half from it. The siege was conducted with the greatest vigour, and sustained with obstinate valour by the garrison, who were resolved to hold out to the last extremity; but Cromwell having found means to destroy their mills, and their supply of water being also cut off by the destruction of a staircase leading into a cavern under one of the towers, in which was their chief reservoir, there remained only the alternative of a lingering death or immediate submission. Under these circumstances the garrison capitulated, on condition that their chief leaders should throw themselves on the mercy of the parliament; that several of the inferior officers should leave the kingdom, not to return within two years; that all arms and ammunition should be given up, and that the town should be spared from plunder. Laugharne, Powell, and Poyer were afterwards tried by a court martial, and being found guilty of treason, were condemned to be shot; but the authorities being induced to spare two of them, it was ordered that they should draw lots for this favour; and accordingly three papers were folded up, on two of which was written "Life given by God," and the third left blank: the latter was drawn by Colonel Poyer, who was shot in Covent Garden, on the 25th of April, 1649. That the surrender of the garrison was justly attributed to the failure of their supply of water, by the accident above noticed, has been confirmed by a recent discovery of the cavern, in which was found a copious spring of water, with the shattered remains of a staircase leading to it from the tower, the bones of a man, and several cannon balls.

The importance of this place subsequently to the abolition of the palatinate depending principally upon its castle, which, after these events, was never re-fortified, it now experienced a further decline, owing to its remote situation and want of commerce; and though it has to the present day nominally retained its dignity as the capital of the county, it dwindled into comparative insignificance, as all the substantial benefits arising from that distinction were transferred to Haverfordwest, which, from its more central situation, was found better adapted for the transaction of the business of the county. The removal of the government dock-yard from Milford to this place, in 1814, however, materially contributed to revive its prosperity; and since that period it has been gradually increasing in extent and population, and, from the many local advantages which it possesses for an establishment of this nature, there is every prospect of its becoming in due time one of the most considerable naval arsenals in the kingdom. The town is beautifully situated on an elevated ridge projecting into the head of the Pennar Mouth Pill, forming the largest southern creek of Milford Haven, and which it divides into two branches, by which, at high water, it is nearly insulated, and over each of which is a neat bridge of stone: it consists principally of one long street, irregularly built, and connected on

the west with the ancient village of Monkton, which forms a suburb to the town, and on the north with a new street leading to Pembroke Dock, a flourishing and populous place, about two miles to the north-west, forming a distinct town within the parish of St. Mary, which has arisen since the removal of the dock-yard thither from Milford. The houses are built on both sides of the ridge, of which the western extremity is crowned with the magnificent ruins of the ancient castle, and on both sides are gardens sloping down from the houses to the water's edge: the embattled walls with which the ancient town was surrounded are still tolerably perfect on the north side, and the entire town, rising above the waters of the broad inlet, amidst some of the richest scenery in this part of the principality, has an air of venerable grandeur and picturesque beauty. The streets are partially paved and lighted, and the inhabitants are amply supplied with excellent water from seven public conduits in different parts of the town, to which it is conveyed from a distance of half a mile, by means of pipes laid down at the expense of the corporation. There are no particular manufactures carried on, the inhabitants consisting of persons of small independent fortune, shopkeepers, publicans, and a few whose business is at the dock; but it serves in a great measure as a dépôt for the neighbouring districts. Stone coal is brought from a distance of about six miles to the east of it, and bituminous coal from Swansea, Llanelly, Newport, and other places on the southern coast. When colonial produce was not permitted to be imported into Ireland direct, it was lodged in warehouses appropriated to that purpose at Pembroke ferry, in the parish of St. Mary, but that place is at present of no commercial importance. The market, which is abundantly supplied with provisions of every kind, is on Saturday; and there are fairs on April 12th, Trinity Monday, July 10th, October 10th, and November 30th; and in the suburb of Monkton, on May 4th and September 25th. The two parishes of St. Mary and St. Michael comprise, in addition to the towns of Pembroke and Pembroke Dock, a considerable adjacent agricultural district.

PEMBROKE DOCK, sometimes likewise called PATER, or PATERCHURCH, is situated on the southern shore of Milford Haven, about two miles from the old town. It consists of several streets of neat and well-built houses, and is partially paved, but not lighted; there are numerous good shops for the supply of the population, several of which are branches from the larger establishments in the borough. A handsome enclosed market-place was erected here about five years ago; but it has hitherto been but scantily supplied, and most of the inhabitants frequent the market at Pembroke. The dock-yard forms a spacious area enclosed within a lofty wall of stone, and comprises a neat range of buildings for the public offices, houses for the principal officers of the establishment, a well-built chapel fitted up with elegant simplicity for the use of the officers and men employed in the yard, and a fort, which is just completed, for the defence of the place, mounting twenty-three long twenty-four pounders. There are twelve slips for ship-building, which is at present the only business carried on in the yard, though, from the low price of labour in this part of the country, and the facility of obtaining materials of all kinds, it is in con-



temptation to introduce other branches of labour for the naval service. There are at present on the stocks, and in different states of progress, the Royal William of one hundred and twenty guns; the Rodney, of ninety-two guns; the Forth, of forty-six guns; the Andromache, of twenty-eight; the Harrier, of eighteen; and the Cockatrice schooner: the number of men employed at present is about five hundred. Besides the government establishment there is a small private dock, and it is probable that the Irish packet establishment will be removed from Milford to this place, with a view to which alteration a very fine jetty is now being constructed at Hobb's Point, a few hundred yards to the east of the dock-yard, from which new roads have been formed, connecting it with the main road from Carmarthen, in a new line avoiding both Narberth and Haverfordwest, by which route the mail will save a distance of several miles. About a mile to the east of the dock-yard is Pembroke ferry, belonging to the crown, and held by Sir John Owen, Bart., who underlets it at an annual rent of £200: it forms the shortest and most usual line of communication between Haverfordwest and Pembroke, the distance between which places by the ferry is only ten miles, but by Narberth twenty-five: the fares are one-halfpenny for a foot passenger, one penny for a man and horse, and one shilling per wheel for carriages. The entrance from Milford Haven to the creek at the head of which the town of Pembroke is situated, at low water, is little more than a hundred yards wide, and from nine to twelve feet deep; but proceeding upwards it immediately expands into a wide oozy reach, called Crow Pool, containing an abundance of excellent oysters.

The inhabitants of Pembroke received their first charter of incorporation from Gilbert Strongbow, Earl of Pembroke, in the reign of Stephen; but the earliest of which any record is preserved they obtained in the reign of John: various others have been granted to them by succeeding sovereigns, the latest being that of King James II. The corporation consists of a mayor and an indefinite number of common-councilmen (of whom all who have passed the chair are styled aldermen), assisted by a town-clerk, two serjeants at mace, and other officers. The mayor is chosen annually from the common-councilmen, who elect the members of their own body and two bailiffs from the burgesses at large, who are likewise chosen by the common council. Pembroke, with the contributory boroughs of Tenby, Wiston, and Milford, which last was added by the act recently passed for amending the representation of the people, sends one member to parliament: the right of election has hitherto been vested in the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses, but is now, by the late act, confined to such of these as are resident, and extended to every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the number of tenements of this value, within the limits of the borough, which are minutely detailed in the Appendix, is two hundred and ninety-seven, including those in the parish of Monkton, which for electoral purposes has been included within the borough: the mayor is the returning officer. The mayor, who is also coroner

and clerk of the market, is a justice of the peace within the old borough, his jurisdiction extending over the parishes of St. Mary and St. Michael, and likewise, as regards the duties of coroner, into the village of Monkton, in the parish of St. Nicholas. A mayor's court is held *pro forma* every fortnight, but all other courts formerly held have fallen into disuse. The revenue of the corporation amounts to about £100, arising out of the tolls of the markets and fairs. Pembroke has been constituted a polling-place in the election of a knight for the shire. The town-hall is a plain modern building in the centre of the south side of the principal street, and underneath it is a commodious area for the corn market.

The livings of all the three parishes of St. Mary, St. Michael, and St. Nicholas, are consolidated into one discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9, (*viz.*, £4 for St. Michael's, and £5 for that of Monkton, or St. Nicholas, St. Mary's not being in charge,) and in the gift of Sir John Owen, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is an ancient and venerable structure, in the Norman style of architecture, situated near the centre of the town, and composed of a nave, chancel, and north aisle, with a small chapel on the southern side: in the north aisle and in the chancel are doorways, now closed up, which formerly communicated with additional buildings no longer standing. That dedicated to St. Michael has been nearly rebuilt from the ground, in the later style of English architecture, the expense having been defrayed by a parochial rate. Each of these churches had anciently chapels of ease, situated a little distance without the walls of the town; and on the summit of an eminence, about three-quarters of a mile to the south of the town, still stands an ancient ecclesiastical edifice, dedicated to St. Daniel, with a lofty spire rising from a low tower, now private property. The chapel within the dock-yard is not consecrated, and is in the patronage of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A grammar school was founded here, in 1690; but its endowment does not exceed £10 per annum. A National school for the united parishes (including therefore the village of Monkton), in which two hundred children of both sexes receive gratuitous instruction, is supported by subscription: the school is held in a house in the town, hired for the purpose, which is also appropriated to the use of a savings-bank. Dr. I. Jones, of Carmarthen, in 1698, bequeathed his estates, real and personal, to be appropriated to the apprenticing of poor children and the relief of the poor of the four parishes of Lawrenny, St. David's, Cosheston, and Lampeter-Velvrey, with a discretionary power to his brother, the Rev. William Jones, to add such other parishes as he should think proper to the four named by the testator; and Mr. W. Jones accordingly, by deed in 1703, vested in three trustees the several sums of £300, £100, and £44, to be laid out in the purchase of land, and the rents to be appropriated to the apprenticing of poor children and the relief of the poor of this place, to which purposes the income, now £143. 13., is applied. Matthew Warren bequeathed a rent-charge of £2. 12., and George Evans another of fourteen shillings, for bread to twelve poor widows; Richard Howell bequeathed £100; Mar-



garet Mears £30, of which £10 has been lost; Sir Hugh Owen, Bart., £20; and Sir Martin Beckman £5, for the poor: there are also some other charitable donations and bequests.

The majestic and venerable remains of the ancient castle occupy the western extremity of the elevated ridge on which the town is built, and are justly regarded as among the most picturesque and magnificent ruins in the country. The entire fortress was surrounded by a lofty embattled wall, defended by numerous bastions, and having only one entrance from the land, through a grand gateway defended by two circular towers of prodigious strength, and a barbican. On this side it had likewise a dry moat, and the enclosed area was divided into an inner and an outer ward, the former of which comprised the state apartments, and the latter the inferior buildings and the offices for the use of the garrison. The principal remains consist of this grand entrance, the state apartments occupying the northern side, and the keep, which latter is in the inner court, a massive and lofty round tower, seventy-five feet high, and one hundred and sixty-three feet in circumference at the base, and gradually diminishing in diameter towards the top, which is covered with a vaulted roof. This tower is divided into five stages, and the walls are seventeen feet in thickness at the base, and fourteen feet thick at the summit, from which is obtained a most extensive and delightful prospect, comprehending the greater part of Pembrokeshire, from the Pencilly mountains, on the north, to the sea, and from the Carmarthenshire hills, on the east, to St. George's channel, presenting a fine open champaign country, intersected by the numerous æstuaries which unite to form the noble haven of Milford, and richly diversified and enlivened with cheerful villages and gentlemen's seats, among which those of Cresselly, Clareston, Orieltion, and others, the grounds of which are richly wooded, form a striking and beautiful contrast to the general appearance of the surrounding country, which is elsewhere almost destitute of timber. In the inner court, besides the keep, is a suite of apartments apparently of later date than the rest of the castle, extending over the cavern called the Wogan, or Hogan, by corruption of the Welsh word Ogov, signifying "a cave:" this subterraneous chamber is seventy-five feet in length and fifty-nine feet wide, and communicates with the upper part of the castle by a staircase, and with the harbour below by a sally-port. The rock on which the castle is built is forty feet high, and is almost insulated by the two branches of the æstuary into which it projects, and which is navigable to the town: under the south-eastern bastion there is a natural opening in it, of unknown extent. The great solidity of the walls, and its commanding situation, must have rendered this fortress impregnable against any hostile attempt; and its ponderous towers, with the northern suite of state apartments rising above the embattled walls, and part of the platform and parapet, which are still remaining, give its present ruins an air of venerable grandeur; and the ivy and other parasitical plants with which they are overspread contribute to heighten the picturesque beauty of their appearance. Leland says he was shown an apartment in one of the gateway towers, in which he was informed Henry VII. was born; but other writers refer that circumstance to a room in the inner court of the castle. Pembroke

castle is now the property of the crown, and is held, under lease granted in the reign of James II., by Pryse Pryse, of Gogerthan, Esq. This place gives the title of earl to the noble family of Herbert. The different parishes of Pembroke, though ecclesiastically united, continue separate for all civil purposes; the average annual expenditure for the support of the poor in the two forming the ancient borough amounts to £1284. 11., of which sum, £854. 2. is assessed on the parish of St. Mary, and £430. 9. on that of St. Michael.

PEMBROKESHIRE, a maritime county of SOUTH WALES, bounded on the north-east by the south-western extremity of Cardiganshire, from which it is separated by the navigable river Teivy; on the east by Carmarthenshire, on the south-east by Carmarthen bay, on the south by the Bristol channel, and on the west and north-west by St. George's channel: on the latter side its coast forms part of the southern boundary of the great bay of Cardigan, while directly westward it is deeply indented by the broad expanse of St. Bride's bay. It extends from 51° 33' to 52° 4' (N. Lat.), and from 4° 45' to 5° 37' (W. Lon.); and comprises an area, according to Mr. Carey's Communications to the Board of Agriculture, of three hundred and forty-five thousand six hundred statute acres, or nearly five hundred and thirty-two square miles. The population, in 1831, was 81,424.

At the period of the conquest of Britain by the Romans, this county formed part of the territory of a tribe called by these conquerors *Dimetæ*, who also occupied the present counties of Cardigan and Carmarthen, and whose country has been called after their name *Dimetia*. The ancient British name of this province was *Dyved*, from which word Mr. Llwyd thinks it probable that the Roman *Dimetæ* was derived. The British name may be considered as an abbreviation of *Deheuvod*, or *Deduvod*, "the southern country, or the country on the right;" as *Deheubarth* is the common Welsh designation of South Wales. In process of time, however, the limits of the territory to which the name *Dyved* was especially applied seem to have been contracted until they became nearly identical with those of the present county of Pembroke, which, by Welsh writers, is still frequently called by its ancient British name. The etymology of its present name of *Pembrokeshire* does not appear ever to have been satisfactorily ascertained; but it seems that, in the time of Giraldus Cambrensis, the small peninsula of Castlemartin, lying between Milford Haven, on the north, and the Bristol channel on the south, constituted the province of *Pembrock*, a name also applied to the town and fortress built there by Arnulph de Montgomery, in the reign of Henry I., and thence afterwards given to the whole county: the British words *pen* and *bro*, from which this name has been supposed to be derived, signify the promontory, or headland region, and are correctly descriptive of the territory to which the name was originally applied. Under the Roman dominion Pembrokeshire contained the station *Ad Vigesium*, near its eastern confines; and that of *Menapia*, in the vicinity of St. David's. It was traversed from east to west by the great *Via Julia*, which entered it from the station *Maridunum*, at Carmarthen, and passed by that of *Ad Vigesium* to *Menapia*; while another road, vulgarly called in later times "the Flemings' Way," connected



the latter station with that of *Loventium*, at Llanio in Cardiganshire, passing for a great distance over the Preselè mountains into the northern parts of Carmarthenshire. Little is known concerning this territory for a long period after the withdrawal of the Roman forces from Britain, though it appears, in common with most other parts of the country, to have passed under the dominion of several lines of lords, or princes, some of whom are occasionally called, in the Welsh annals, kings of Dyved; but it seems doubtful whether the whole country was ever subject to the authority of a single chieftain, until a kind of nominal authority was claimed over it by the princes of Dynevor, and occasionally by those of North Wales. Of the pedigrees preserved by the Welsh heralds of the succession of the lords of Dyved, one only is worthy of remark, viz., that of the family of Morien Glâs, which was the most illustrious line of these princes: the exact period at which Morien Glâs flourished is not precisely ascertained, but he is supposed to have been a descendant of the great Caradoc, or Caractacus. In the year 892, during the quarrels among the three sons of Rhodri Mawr, King of all Wales, which ensued upon the death of this monarch, Anarawd, Prince of North Wales, advanced through Cardiganshire with a powerful force augmented by some English auxiliaries, and made great devastation in this county, burning the houses and destroying the corn. After the death of Hywel Dda, Ievav and Iago, Princes of North Wales, asserted their right to the dominion of all Wales, and entered the territories of the sons of Hywel, in South Wales, whom they defeated in a great battle, and then proceeded into Pembrokeshire, making dreadful ravages along the whole line of their march. This incursion was made in 949; and the year following, encouraged by their former success, the princes of North Wales marched a second time into Pembrokeshire; but on that occasion they were opposed with great spirit by Owain ab Hywel Dda, who compelled them to retreat so precipitately, that many of their forces were drowned in the river Teivy. In 987, the coasts of this county were invaded by the Danes, who made great ravages on different parts of them, burning the churches of St. David's and St. Dogmael's, the latter near Cardigan. Such was the destruction of corn and cattle made by these barbarians, that it caused a general famine, which proved fatal to many of the inhabitants. Meredydd, the reigning prince of South Wales, was compelled to purchase the retirement of these invaders by the payment of a considerable tribute. Shortly after, Edwin, son of Eineon, considering himself wrongfully dispossessed of the sovereignty of South Wales by his uncle Meredydd, raised an army and obtained considerable succours from the Saxons and Danes, with which he marched without opposition through this county, entering it from Cardiganshire, and quitting it for the southernmost parts of Carmarthenshire.

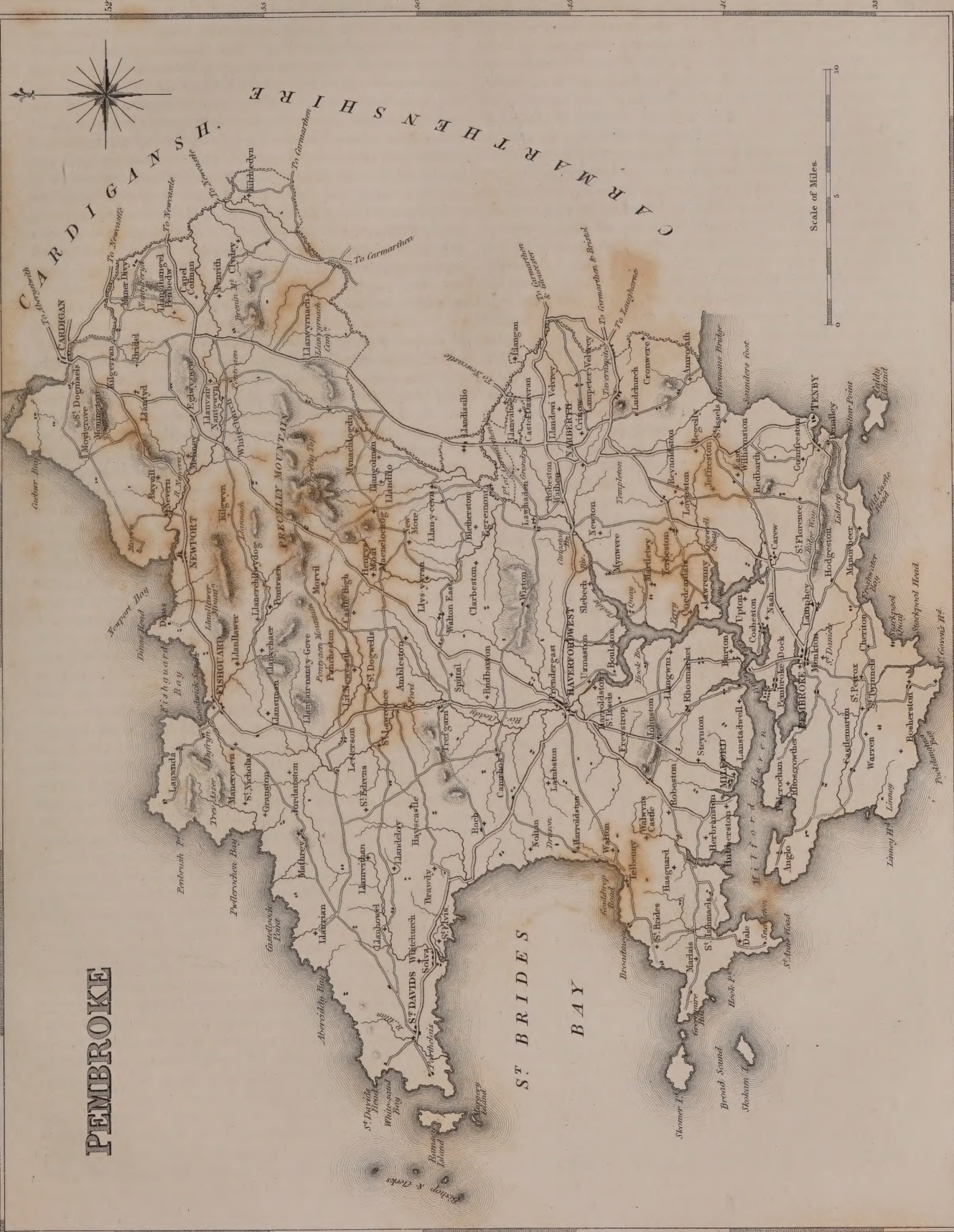
In the year 1021, Hywel and Meredydd, sons of Edwin, accompanied by Eulaff, or Aulaff, and a large army of Irish and Scots, landed in this county, with the view of obtaining for themselves the principality of South Wales from Llewelyn, who then ruled over all Wales; and, after pillaging the church of St. David's, marched eastward to Carmarthen, where they were totally defeated by Llewelyn, who, however, was slain

in the action. Gruffydd, Prince of all Wales, towards the middle of the eleventh century, ravaged the lands of some of his vassals in Dyved, to punish them for having assisted Caradoc, son of Rhydderch, a prince of Glamorgan, in his endeavours to obtain the sovereignty of South Wales. During the short reign of Caradoc, who possessed himself of the dominion of South Wales soon after the conquest of England by the Normans, a party of whom he brought to his assistance against the reigning Prince Meredydd, a hostile Norman force made a descent upon the western coasts of his dominions, and ravaged a great part of this county, as well as that of Cardigan: Caradoc marched against them with great celerity, and compelled them to abandon their plunder and retreat to their ships. Two years afterwards, in 1071, they made a like predatory visit, but with no better success, being defeated with great loss by Caradoc's son and successor Rhydderch. Rhys ab Tewdwr, having, in 1077, recovered the sovereignty of South Wales almost without opposition, was soon called upon to assist another prince, who like himself, had been unjustly deprived of his lawful inheritance: this was Gruffydd ab Cynan, who laid claim to the principality of North Wales, and landed in Pembrokeshire, in the year 1080, with a large force composed of Irish-Scots: being joined by Rhys, their combined armies marched into North Wales, where they fought the celebrated battle on the hills of Carno, in Montgomeryshire, which established Gruffydd in the sovereignty of that country. About this time also, William the Conqueror entered South Wales with a powerful army, and received the homage of the Welsh princes, from whom experiencing no resistance, he changed the character of his visit, and went with his troops on a pilgrimage to the city of St. David's, at the westernmost extremity of this county, where he offered up his devotions at the shrine of the patron saint of the Cambrians. Cadivor Vawr, or Cadivor the Great, lord of Dyved, called also, from the place of his residence, lord of Blaencych, and the twenty-first in descent from Morien Glâs, died in 1088, leaving five sons by his wife, the daughter and heiress of Llywarch Llawen Vawr, another chieftain of the country included within the limits of the present county of Pembrokeshire. Two years after this event, his eldest sons, Llewelyn and Eineon, with their uncle Eineon ab Collwyn and Gruffydd ab Meredydd, another chieftain of Dyved, joined in rebellion against Rhys ab Tewdwr, Prince of South Wales, and, having united their forces, marched towards Llandydoch, now St. Dogmael's, on the Pembrokeshire side of the river Teivy, near Cardigan, where Rhys at that time resided, expecting probably to take him by surprise. In this, however, they were disappointed: Rhys immediately gave them battle near that place, and completely defeated them. Both the above-named sons of Cadivor were slain in the conflict, and Gruffydd was taken prisoner and immediately put to death as a traitor, while Eineon ab Collwyn, the sole surviving leader, fled into Glamorgan, where he acted so prominent a part in the fatal measure of introducing the Normans into that province. Bledri, the next son, having taken no part in the insurrection, was allowed to remain in quiet possession of the lordship of Cilsant, and from him was descended its late proprietor, Lord Milford. The next attempt of the Norman conquerors on the coasts of this territory proved more successful



# PEMBROKE

## S. BRIDES BAY









than the two preceding ones, and was made by Martin de Tours, a Norman knight, whose services under the Conqueror had been rewarded by a grant of lands on the coast of Devonshire, adjacent to the Bristol channel. He fitted out an expedition to act against such parts of Wales as he should find least prepared for defence, and having rounded the western parts of Pembrokeshire, he finally resolved on landing his troops at Fishguard, which he effected with little difficulty, and made an easy conquest of the adjacent lordship of Cemmaes, or Kemmes, in which his son Sir William erected the castle of Newport, and made it his principal residence. This conquest took place during the minority of Gruffydd, son of the late prince of South Wales, to whom the district lawfully belonged; and the possession of it was subsequently secured to the family of its new master by the marriage of Martin's son William with the daughter of Rhys ab Gruffydd, usually called the Lord Rhys.

This enterprise was undoubtedly undertaken on the general understanding that the English monarch would sanction any attack on the Welsh; and the next invasion of the territory now forming the county of Pembrokeshire was under the direct sanction of William Rufus, to whom, in 1092, Arnulph, the younger son of Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, did homage by anticipation for the province of Dyved, which he was licensed to subdue whenever and by whatever means he chose, and obtained almost immediate possession of the district around the present town of Pembrokeshire, where he constructed the castle of Pembrokeshire for the defence of his newly acquired territories against the attacks of the native chieftains. That fortress proved of sufficient strength to resist the assaults of a formidable force brought against it, in the course of the same year, by Cadwgan ab Bleddyn, who again assailed it two years afterwards, but with the like ill success. Arnulph appointed Gerald de Windsor governor of this castle, but how far his actual conquests extended is uncertain; and neither he nor his immediate successors appear to have held them with such ample powers as were exercised by the lords marcher; for the king's writs issuing out of the courts at Westminster were current in the conquered territory of Pembrokeshire. On the accession of Henry I., Arnulph joined in a rebellion against that monarch, which led to his voluntary exile and the forfeiture of his estates. Henry, on this occasion, gave the government of Pembrokeshire to a Norman knight, named Saer, but soon restored it to Gerald de Windsor, who had married Henry's late concubine, Nêst, daughter of Rhys ab Tewdwr: Gerald rebuilt the castle of Pembrokeshire, in the year 1105. Cadwgan ab Bleddyn, the principal chieftain in South Wales, after the death of Rhys ab Tewdwr, contrived to continue at peace with Henry I. of England for some time after the accession of the latter, and in this interval of repose gave a splendid festival at his castle of Eare Weare, in the parish of Amroath, in this county, or, as some have asserted, but with less probability, at that of Aberteivy or Cardigan, to the principal persons of the surrounding country. At this entertainment Owain, son of Cadwgan, who had his residence in Powys, hearing the beauty of Gerald de Windsor's wife praised in the highest terms, his curiosity was greatly excited to see her, and, to gratify this wish, he took an early oppor-

tunity, on pretence of relationship, of paying her a visit. Struck with her charms at this interview, he instantly determined to make himself master of her person; and, having engaged in his service some young men upon whom he could rely, he returned the same evening either to Pembrokeshire or to Carew, it being somewhat uncertain whether this violent outrage occurred at the former or the latter place. He entered the castle unobserved, stationed a guard over the chamber in which Gerald and his wife lay, and set fire to the building. Gerald, in the confusion and alarm which ensued, would have rushed out among the incendiaries; but Nêst, suspecting some treachery, prevailed upon him to make his escape in another direction. Owain and his followers broke open the chamber door, seized Gerald's wife and his four children, and, leaving the castle in flames, and ravaging the adjacent country, carried off Nêst and the children into Powys: the latter, however, were soon restored; but this unprincipled outrage, in violation of the peace with the English, brought great evils upon the offender's family. About the year 1113, Gruffydd ab Rhys, the eldest surviving son of Rhys ab Tewdwr, who, during his minority, had resided in Ireland, came to South Wales, and was encouraged by Gerald de Windsor, who was his brother-in-law, to assert his claim to the principality; but, fearing the power of the English monarch, he retired into North Wales, whence, however, he returned soon after, and commenced a desultory warfare against the English in the south of Carmarthenshire, which he sometimes extended into this county. King Henry, regarding the conduct of his lieutenant on this occasion with extreme suspicion, circumscribed his power in every way consistent with the safety of his possessions here.

One of the most remarkable features in the whole history of Pembrokeshire is the settlement, about this period, of a numerous colony of Flemings among its native population, the memorials of which, however, are very scanty. It appears that, about the year 1106, during a tremendous storm on the coast of Flanders, the sand hills and embankments were in many places carried away, and the sea inundated a large tract of country. This calamity occasioned a great body of the inhabitants to seek an asylum in England, where they were well received by Henry I., and dispersed themselves in different counties, where, however, they soon became odious to the native population, and Henry at last removed them to the district of Roos, in this county, to the westward of the town of Haverfordwest, where at the same time a strong castle was erected, as also at Tenby. How long they remained here is not known, but it is stated by Caradoc of Llan-carvan that after a few years they disappeared; and, according to the same historian, a second inundation, in the year 1113, drove another body into England, and Henry, having urgent occasion for men to oppose the rising power of Gruffydd ab Rhys, in South Wales, sent this colony also into Pembrokeshire, assigning to them the district which had before been given to their countrymen, and ordering his commanders there to provide them with habitations and the means of subsistence, on condition that they should consider themselves as his subjects, and act under his officers in their wars against the Welsh. Henry is also said, by the Welsh historians, to have placed among them some English settlers, to



teach them the English language, and habituate them to English customs. The posterity of these settlers remain to this day in the southern parts of the county, where they are plainly distinguishable from the ancient British population by their language, manners, and customs. The death of Henry I., in the year 1135, diffused a spirit of revolt and hostility throughout the whole native population of Wales, which he had kept in strict submission. The insurrection began within the present county of Pembroke, where a considerable body of Normans was defeated and destroyed. Animated by this success, the insurgents spread themselves over and ravaged this whole territory, putting to death great numbers of the foreigners. To repress this and subsequent formidable insurrections and invasions, the united forces of the Normans, Flemings, and English, in the south-western parts of Wales, were directed by several powerful leaders, amongst whom were the two sons of Gerald de Windsor; Robert Fitz-Martin, descended from the first invader of the county; William Fitz-John; and Stephen, the governor of Cardigan. But they were defeated in the vicinity of Cardigan, with the loss of three thousand men, besides great numbers who were made prisoners, or drowned in the Teivy, the few that remained taking refuge in their castles. In the year 1137, Owain, surnamed Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, invaded this territory and compelled its inhabitants to pay him tribute. The parts of Pembrokeshire held by the Anglo-Normans at this period were regarded as the property of the crown, the commanders for the time being acting only by a delegated authority as lieutenants; but early in the reign of Stephen, in 1138, Gilbert de Clare, surnamed Strongbow, who had been created Earl of Pembroke by Henry I., in 1109, and, before the late reverses, had made himself master of the greater part of the present county of Cardigan, was invested with all the powers of a count palatine over the country from which he derived his title. This nobleman long made great but fruitless endeavours to reconquer the territories of which he had been deprived by the Welsh in Cardigan and elsewhere. In 1145, the castle of Gwys, in this county, was besieged and taken by the sons of Gruffydd ab Rhys, aided by Hywel, a natural son of Owain Gwynedd. In 1150, Cadell, brother of Rhys ab Gruffydd, Prince of South Wales, while on a hunting expedition in the territory of Pembroke, was waylaid and attacked by a party of English from Tenby: his attendants, being unarmed, were immediately dispersed, but, though left alone, he faced his assailants with great bravery, and is said to have killed several of them, at the same time receiving a severe wound, which for a long time after disabled him from active service. His brothers Rhys and Meredydd, in revenge for this outrage, marched their forces against Tenby, which place they surprised, took the castle by escalade, and slaughtered the garrison.

One of the first acts of the government of Henry II. was to banish out of England the Flemish mercenary soldiers who had followed the fortunes of Stephen; to whom, however, with great political wisdom, he granted leave to settle among their fellow-countrymen in the province of Pembroke, of which permission great numbers availed themselves, thus bringing to that colony a considerable accession of strength. Early in this reign

also, Gilbert Strongbow at length succeeded in recovering much of his territories in Cardiganshire. But Rhys ab Gruffydd, Prince of South Wales, enraged against the English by repeated injuries, became their most violent enemy, and in this county made many inroads on the estates of the Flemings, ravaged their country, and then returned to his castle of Dynevor, the ancient royal seat of his ancestors. The same chieftain repeated his incursions a few years afterwards with the like success, taking and destroying the castle of Kilgerran, a place of great strength and importance. About the year 1186, Maelgwyn, son of Rhys ab Gruffydd, with an overwhelming force, took Tenby castle, and demolished the works. Gilbert Strongbow had in the mean time been succeeded in the palatinate of Pembroke by his son Richard, who died in 1176, leaving issue only one daughter, Isabel, who was in her infancy at the time of his decease, and remained a ward of the crown for fourteen years. Richard I., on his accession, gave this lady in marriage to William de la Grace, surnamed Le Mareschal, in whose family the earldom of Pembroke thus became vested, and who obtained from Richard's successor, John, the castle of Haverfordwest, and the custody of those of Carmarthen, Cardigan, and Gower. In 1199, Gruffydd, son of Rhys, the last prince of South Wales, took the important fortress of Kilgerran from his brother and enemy Maelgwyn; but a few years afterwards it fell into the hands of the Earl of Pembroke. After the death of Gruffydd, his son Rhys having been reconciled to his uncle Maelgwyn, these leaders united their forces, and, entering Pembrokeshire, overran and subdued the greater part of it. About the year 1215, Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, led a large army into South Wales, against the territories of the English vassals, took the castles of Kemmes and Newport, in the present county of Pembroke, and closed the campaign by the reduction of those of Kilgerran and Cardigan. In settling the division of the reconquered territory, Llewelyn assigned to Maelgwyn four cantreys in Dyved, *viz.*, Gwarthav, Penllwynoc, Kemmes, and Emlyn, with the castle of Kilgerran. In 1217, continuing his march from Brecknockshire, whither he had gone to chastise the defection of his son-in-law, Reginald de Breos, Llewelyn entered the territory of Pembroke with his army, to attack the Flemish settlers. They sent him proposals for peace, which he received at a place called Cevn Cynwarchan, but which he refused to accede to; and a part of his army crossed the river Cleddy to commence hostilities. The bishop of St. David's, attended by his clergy, then repaired to the prince on the like mission; and the prelate's intercession at length prevailed, and a peace was concluded, the principal conditions of which were, that the inhabitants of the districts of Rhôs, or Roose, and Pembroke should be subject to the prince of North Wales, and hold their lands of him as their liege lord; should pay him one thousand marks towards defraying the expenses of the war; and should deliver to him twenty hostages of the first note in their country, as a pledge of their future fidelity. William Marshal, or le Mareschal, Earl of Pembroke, who, during the lifetime of King John, of England, had constantly adhered to his interests, and, on the death of that monarch, espoused the cause of the young prince Henry, in opposition to the pretensions of the Dauphin of France, died in 1219,



and was succeeded in his titles and honours by his eldest son William. In 1220, the Flemings threw off their allegiance to Llewelyn, and, marching northward, seized the castle of Cardigan, which the Welsh prince soon after recovered and razed to the ground; then, advancing into this county, he destroyed the castle and fired the town of Gwys, now Wiston, and extended his ravages to the country bordering on Milford Haven, and to the gates of the castle of Haverfordwest. During the absence of William Earl of Pembroke, in Ireland, where he had a command in the English army, Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, laid waste his territories in this county, and took and garrisoned two of his castles. The earl, hearing of these ravages, landed from Ireland with a strong body of forces near the city of St. David's, recovered the castles of Carmarthen and Cardigan, and retaliated on their garrisons the slaughter which Llewelyn had inflicted on his own: he soon after rebuilt the strong castle of Kilgerran. Earl William died in 1231, and was succeeded in the palatinate by his next brother Richard, at that time abroad, and whom the king, on pretence that he had leagued with his enemies in France, refused to admit to the honours of his family; upon which he retired into Ireland, where, having raised a powerful band of adherents, he returned to Pembrokeshire, and took forcible possession of the Welsh territories. He then became reconciled to the king, with whom, however, he quarrelled again in 1233, concerning his Poictevin favourites, and, withdrawing to South Wales, made common cause with some of the Welsh chieftains against Henry's more devoted vassals. He was soon compelled once more to seek refuge in Ireland, where he was treacherously slain in 1234. He was succeeded in the earldom by his brother Gilbert, who obtained from the crown a grant of the towns and castles of Cardigan and Carmarthen, which had been seized from his predecessor into the hands of the king. Being accidentally killed in the year 1241, and leaving no issue, the family honours and possessions devolved upon the next brother, Walter, who in his turn died without issue, in 1246, and was succeeded by his only remaining brother, Anselme, who died a few days after, also without issue. The remarkable circumstance of the decease of all these five adult sons of William le Mareschal without issue was attributed, by the monkish historians of the time, to the impiety of their father, who had seized two manors in Ireland belonging to the bishop of Ferns, and whom that prelate had consequently excommunicated.

On the death of Anselme, the family inheritance passed to his eldest sister Maud, who had married, first, Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, and afterwards John de Warren, Earl of Surrey, and who bestowed, with the king's consent, the office of marshal, forming part of this inheritance, on her son by her first husband, Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk. Maud died in 1248, when the estates of the earldom of Pembroke, by marriage with her next sister Joan, devolved on Warren de Mountchensi, who died in 1255, leaving issue by this marriage a son, William, and a daughter, Joan. William succeeded his father in the earldom of Pembroke, but was killed at the siege of Dryslwyn castle, in 1289: his sister married William de Valence, half-brother to Henry III., who was created Earl of Pembroke by that

sovereign, and succeeded to the palatinate. After the complete subjugation of Wales by Edward I., the attempt of that monarch to tax his newly-acquired subjects caused numerous insurrections; and the rebels of Cardiganshire, headed by Maelgwyn Vychan, overran and plundered this county. William de Valence was succeeded in the earldom of Pembroke by his son Aymer, who was murdered in 1323, while attending Queen Isabella to France; and, leaving no issue, his honours and estates passed to Lawrence Hastings, grandson of his sister Isabel, who had married John Hastings. Lawrence died in 1347 or 1349, leaving only an infant son, named John; and the custody of the castle of Pembroke, with its dependent territory, was granted, during his minority, to his mother Agnes, and afterwards to her jointly with her second husband, John de Hakeluyt. John Hastings was succeeded on his death by his son John, during whose minority the palatinate of Pembroke was given in charge to his relation, William de Beauchamp. John was accidentally killed in a tournament at Woodstock, in 1390, when only seventeen years of age; whereupon the family honours were claimed by Reginald, Lord Grey of Ruthin, who considered himself the next heir, as lineally descended from Elizabeth, the sister of John Hastings, the great-great-grandfather of the late earl. Richard II., however, retained the earldom in his own hands for nearly eight years, and then conferred it on his queen Isabella, when the government of it was committed to Thomas Percy, Earl of Worcester. On the deposition of this monarch, his successor, Henry IV., seized the earldom of Pembroke, and granted it to his son John, Duke of Bedford, who dying without issue, it passed to his brother, Humphrey Duke of Gloucester. During the spirited revolt of the Welsh under Owain Glyndwr, the French force of twelve thousand men, which was sent to their assistance, landed in Milford Haven, whence they marched to the capture of Carmarthen castle. After the death of the Duke of Gloucester, the earldom and palatinate of Pembroke were next given to William de la Pole, Earl and afterwards Duke of Suffolk. Reverting again to the crown, on the death of this latter nobleman, it was given by Henry VI. to his half-brother, Jasper Tudor, by whom it was held until the accession of Edward IV., who raised William Herbert, Lord of Rhaglan, to the dignity of Earl of Pembroke, in reward for the services rendered by that nobleman to his family. Herbert was beheaded by the Lancastrians at Banbury, in 1469, and was succeeded in the palatinate of Pembroke by his son William, who, however, enjoyed possession of it only for a very short time; for, during the brief reverse of fortune experienced by Edward IV., and the triumph of the opposite party on the liberation of Henry VI., Jasper Tudor was for a short time reinstated in his honours and possessions; and, after the defeats of the Lancastrians at Barnet and Tewkesbury, he retired to Pembroke castle, in which were his nephew, Henry Earl of Richmond, and the countess, his mother. This fortress was soon invested by a Welsh chieftain named Morgan ab Thomas, brother to Sir Rhys ab Thomas, in order to prevent their escape out of the country. But Morgan's brother David, who had warmly espoused the cause of the Lancastrians, hastily collected about two thousand men, armed with what-



ever weapons they could immediately procure, and, falling on the besieging army by surprise, compelled it to retire, thus giving the Earl of Pembroke, with his young charge, and the Countess of Richmond, an opportunity to escape to Tenby, whence they immediately sailed for Brittany. The last-mentioned William Herbert resigned the palatinate of Pembroke into the hands of Edward IV., on this monarch's expressing a wish to confer it on his son, the young Prince Edward. After the death of Edward V., the palatinate of Pembroke was held by his uncle Richard, the usurper.

Rhŷs ab Thomas, at this time the most powerful subject in South Wales, notwithstanding his protestations of fidelity to Richard, was a secret supporter of the claims of the young Earl of Richmond; and accordingly, when it was announced that the French fleet, conveying that nobleman, was within sight of the Welsh coast, Rhŷs, who was then at his castle of Carew, in this county, marched with a chosen band of followers, well armed and mounted, to meet Richmond, at Dale, near the mouth of Milford Haven, where it had been agreed that he should land. The Earl, who was attended only by a small French force, ill disciplined and ill provided, was highly gratified and encouraged by the number and martial appearance of the troops which Rhŷs and his other friends in this quarter had brought to his support, and at once resolved to take the field, despatching orders to his friends in other parts to join him with their forces at Shrewsbury. Every thing being arranged, the little army already collected commenced its march towards that town, in two divisions, one of which, under the command of the earl himself, passed through Cardiganshire; while the other, led by Rhŷs ab Thomas, took a different route, through Carmarthenshire; the ranks of both rapidly swelling by the accession of numerous volunteers from every side. On the successful issue of this expedition, the palatinate of Pembroke was finally restored to Jasper Tudor, the proscribed earl. After his death, Henry VII. granted the earldom to his son Henry Duke of York, afterwards Henry VIII., from whom, on the death of his elder brother Arthur, it reverted to the king, who retained it until his death. Henry VIII., after his accession, kept it in his own hands, and created Anna Boleyn Marchioness of Pembroke. The act of the 27th of Henry VIII., c. 26. (A.D. 1535), "for laws and justice to be administered in Wales in like form as it is in England," while it entirely abolished the palatine jurisdiction of this county, increased its extent, settling its boundaries and divisions as they now exist, and enabled it to send one knight of the shire and two burgesses to the English parliament, as is more particularly stated below. Since that enactment the earldom of Pembroke has been merely a title of honour. The first Earl of Pembroke created after this alteration was William Herbert, Lord Steward in the reign of Edward VI., with whose descendants the title still remains. In the reign of Elizabeth, when the Spanish invasion was threatened, the position of the noble harbour of Milford Haven, with the facilities which it offered to an invading force, became a subject of deep consideration; and an engineer was sent down by the government to survey the haven, and report concerning the best means of defending it. This person's proceedings, however, were far from being satis-

factory to the principal gentry of the county; and a spirited memorial, signed by Dr. Anthony Rudd, Bishop of St. David's, and four magistrates of the county, was severally addressed to four of the leading members of the Privy Council, viz., the Lord Keeper, the Lord Treasurer, the Earl of Essex, and the Lord Buckhurst, and a copy of it sent to the Earl of Pembroke, expressing their great dissatisfaction with the engineer's conduct. The only step actually taken by the government in this matter was to order the erection of two forts, one on each side of the mouth of the haven, which were begun but never finished, and the remains are still called, from their respective situations, the Nangle Block-house and the Dale Block-house.

In the reign of Charles I., although never the scene of any important action, Pembrokeshire experienced its share of the evils of civil war, and several of its numerous castles sustained long and arduous sieges. Pembroke castle, originally garrisoned for the king, long resisted the attacks of the parliamentary forces, as also did that of Picton, garrisoned in the same cause by Sir Richard Phillips; Roche castle, defended by Captain Francis Edwards, of Summerhill; and a castellated mansion which formerly occupied the site of Stackpool court, the splendid mansion of Earl Cawdor. On the first defection of Major-General Laugharne from the side of the parliament, he and his companions in arms, Cols. Powell and Poyer, seized on the castle of Pembroke, and made it their headquarters and the rendezvous of their partisans. It was to this fortress also that these leaders retired after their overthrow at the battle of St. Fagan's, in Glamorganshire, on the 8th of May, 1648; and Cromwell himself, who closely followed them, arrived under its walls on the 21st of the same month, and immediately commenced operations for its reduction a second time, which he effected after encountering a vigorous resistance. The whole of this county, in February 1797, was thrown into great alarm by the landing of a French force of about thirteen hundred men at Abevelen, in the parish of Llanwnda, about three miles to the west of Fishguard. These troops, however, being left by the ships that brought them thither, became disorderly, and, in about two days from their debarkation, surrendered, on Goodwick Sands, nearly a mile to the north-west of Fishguard, to such force, commanded by the late Earl Cawdor, as on the urgency of the occasion could be assembled. Indeed the smallness of the invading force, its want of discipline, and the unaccountable departure of the vessels which had landed it, gave strong reason to believe that the men who composed it were criminals of the lowest description, of whom the French government had taken this method of ridding itself.

This county is in the diocese of St. David's, and province of Canterbury, and is for the most part comprised in the archdeaconry of St. David's, though partly in that of Cardigan, while a few parishes are included in that of Carmarthen: the portion in the first-named archdeaconry is comprised in the several deaneries of Castlemartin or Narberth, Dewisland or Pebidiawg, Dungleddy, and Rhôs; that in the second, in those of Kemmes and Emlyn; and the parishes in the last, in that of Carmarthen. The total number of parishes is one hundred and thirty-eight, of which



fifty-eight are rectories, fifty-one vicarages, and the rest perpetual curacies. For purposes of civil government it is divided into the seven hundreds of Castlemartin, Kemmes, Dewisland, Dungleddy, Cîl Garon or Cîl Geraint (commonly called Kilgerran), Narberth, and Rhôs. It contains the decayed city of St. David's; the borough, market, and sea-port towns of Fishguard, Haverfordwest, Milford, Pembroke, and Tenby; the borough and market-town of Narberth; the borough of Wiston; the incorporated market and sea-port town of Newport; and the little sea-port town of Solva. One knight is returned to parliament for the shire; one representative for the borough of Haverfordwest and its newly-created contributory boroughs of Fishguard and Narberth; and one for those of Pembroke, Tenby, Wiston, and Milford conjointly, the last-named town having been constituted a borough by the act for amending the representation of the people, recently passed. The county member is elected at Haverfordwest, where also the election of a representative for that borough and its contributories takes place; the member for Pembroke and its contributory boroughs is elected at Pembroke. The polling-places in the election of a knight for the shire are Haverfordwest, Pembroke, Narberth, Fishguard, Newport, Tenby, and Mathry. This county is included in the Carmarthen or South Wales Circuit: the assizes and the quarter sessions are held at Haverfordwest, where stand the county gaol and the county house of correction, or bridewell. There are sixty-seven acting magistrates. The parochial rates raised in the county for the year ending March 25th, 1829, amounted to £27,087, and the expenditure to £27,157, of which £22,896 was applied to the relief of the poor.

This is the most western county of South Wales, forming the extremity of the central of the three great western projections of South Britain, owing to which geographical position its extent of sea-coast is double that of its land boundary. Its form, too, is rendered extremely irregular by the many deep bays and creeks which indent its shores, and by the great deviousness of the arbitrary line which separates it from Carmarthenshire. The surface of the whole county is greatly diversified with alternate hills and dales, decorated with rich meadows and corn-fields, and in most parts forms a fine champaign country, admirably adapted for hunting, which circumstance has caused the establishment of the "Pembrokeshire Hunt," noticed in the article on HAVERFORDWEST. None of the hills attain a mountainous elevation, except a chain on the northern side of the county, extending from east to west a distance of eight or ten miles, under the general name of the Precelly, or Preselê, Mountains. These are a continuation of the chain which, further eastward, separates the vales of the Towy and the Teivy, and which, in this county, terminates a few miles to the east of Fishguard. Several of its summits bear distinct appellations. One of the most remarkable is at its western extremity, and is called Moel Eryr: the next, proceeding eastward, is Cwm Cerwyn hill, which is the highest land in the county, and is visible to a great distance in every direction: the easternmost of the remarkable summits is Vrenni-Vawr, which is likewise a conspicuous object from the surrounding country. The height of Preselê Top, according to the Ordnance Survey, is

one thousand seven hundred and fifty-four feet above the level of the sea: it serves as a land-mark for mariners, and from some parts of this range of hills may in clear weather be seen the whole county of Pembrokeshire, together with portions of nine others, also vast expanses of the Irish sea and the Bristol channel, the small island of Lundy, and the Irish hills about Wexford. When the atmosphere of the surrounding country is clear, the tops of these mountains are frequently wrapped in clouds, a circumstance which is regarded by the inhabitants of the former as a certain prognostic of approaching rain. In the northern parts of the county, more particularly at a place called Trêfgarn, commonly Traugarn, in the hundred of Rhôs, approaching the western side of it, rise remarkable masses of rock, which, when viewed from a distance, present the appearance of ruined castles, or other large buildings. The most singular feature among these immense masses is a group of rocks on the right hand side of the high road from Fishguard to Haverfordwest, about three hundred yards beyond the point where the road has been cut through the rock, presenting the appearance of several lions, but of two more especially, couchant, looking each other in the face; and, what is still more remarkable, these rocks preserve the same appearance, and that as distinct, though approached within a few hundred yards, as well as when viewed from the other side. The whole of Castlemartin hundred, forming the southernmost part of the county, is distinguished for its gently undulating horizontal surface. The broad expanses of Milford Haven, and its numerous creeks and branches, form objects of the highest interest, from the picturesque and delightful scenery which in so many places decorates their shores. Some of the most remarkable heights, the elevation of which has been ascertained, besides Preselê Top, are Vrenni-Vawr, in the northern part of the county, which is one thousand two hundred and eighty-five feet above the level of the sea; Plumstone Mountain, five hundred and seventy-three feet; Newton Down, three hundred and twenty-two feet; Highgate Down, two hundred and ninety-four feet; and St. Anne's Heights, at the mouth of Milford Haven, two hundred and thirty-five feet. The shores of Pembrokeshire are in general high, and the cliffs perpendicular. The most remarkable headlands, on the north-west, are Strumble Head and St. David's Head, which latter bounds St. Bride's bay on the north. This bay, which derives its name from a neighbouring village, is succeeded, as we advance southward, by the deep inlet of Milford Haven, beyond which the coast continues rocky, and full of caverns worn by the action of the waves, quite round to Carmarthen bay, in which, on the confines of the county of Carmarthen, it gradually sinks into a marshy flat. Pembrokeshire has its coast also studded with a greater number of small islands than any other county in the principality. The first which occurs on the east is Caldey Island, lying off Tenby, about two miles from the main land, and in the parish of Penally: it is about one mile long, and half a mile broad, and contains about six hundred acres, of which one-third is cultivated; between this island and Tenby are various insulated rocks of wild and grotesque appearance, some of which may be approached from the main land at low water. The next two, proceeding westward, occur between Milford Haven and St. Bride's



bay. One of these, called Skokham, or Skokholm, which is extra-parochial, is situated at a distance of rather less than three miles from the main land, and about five miles west-by-north from St. Anne's Point, at the mouth of Milford Haven, and comprises about two hundred and fifty-one acres: it is depastured by sheep, abounds with rabbits, and contains plenty of fresh water springs. Skomar isle lies somewhat nearer the main land, and due north of Skokham, from which it is separated by a strait about a mile and a half wide, called Broad Sound: it contains about seven hundred acres, of which a considerable portion is under tillage, and is in the occupation of a resident farmer: anciently it formed part of the lordship of Haverfordwest, and now constitutes part of the parish of St. Martin, in that town: it has an abundance of fresh water, and contains so great a number of rabbits, that two thousand are said to be killed in it annually. At a considerable distance from these is the smaller island of Gresholm, and several detached rocks are seen in the vicinity. But the largest island on the coast of Pembrokeshire, and of South Wales, is Ramsey, which forms part of the parish of St. David, and occupies a prominent geographical position to the west of the great promontory on which that city stands, being the westernmost extremity of South Wales: it is about three miles long and one broad, and was formerly under tillage, but is now depastured by sheep and horses. This island, and seven rocks to the south and west of it, have received the vulgar name of "the Bishop and his Clerks," probably from their vicinity to the ancient metropolitan see of St. David's.

From the circumstance of this county lying more fully exposed to the south-western winds of the Atlantic than any other Welsh county, its climate is in consequence more humid, its winters milder, and the heat of its summers more moderate. Severe frosts are seldom experienced, and snow never lies long on the ground, generally dissolving within two or three days after its fall. The mountains towards its northern border collect around their lofty summits the watery vapours brought by the prevailing north-westerly winds, whence they descend in frequent showers of drizzling rain, and often in heavy torrents, which surprise the farmers in the more southern and less elevated districts, towards which the streams from the mountains take their course, with sudden and unexpected floods. The myrtle, arbutus, and other tender exotics, which require to be taken under cover in winter in most parts of Britain, bear the open air throughout the winter in the southern parts of Pembrokeshire, as on the coasts of the opposite English counties of Devon and Cornwall; and fruits ripen earlier and more perfectly in the warm humid air of this county than in most of the interior parts of the island. This mildness and humidity render the warm limestone soils so productive of natural grasses, that all the efforts of the farmers to prevent their arable crops from being materially injured by their rank luxuriance, are frequently unavailing. As the climate of the southern maritime districts is remarkably favourable to vegetation, so also is it distinguished for salubrity, and instances of great longevity are numerous. The north-western parts of the county, where the substrata are of argillaceous rocks, are somewhat colder than the maritime limestone tracts, and are more exposed to

western storms immediately from the sea; while the climate of the mountains, from their superior elevation and peculiar situation, is distinguished for its coldness and storms. The wheat harvest, except in a few peculiarly favoured spots, seldom commences before the third week in August.

The soils are extremely various, but are generally characterized by great natural fertility. To the north of a line drawn from St. David's, east-south-eastward by Haverfordwest, to the eastern boundary of the county, the prevailing soil is an argillaceous loam, from six to twelve inches deep, resting upon argillaceous substrata of slate or rab, and in colour of a greyish brown, inclining in some places to yellow: the natural grasses on this loam are of a sweet kind, being chiefly sheep's fescue and white clover. These soils, approaching the sea-shore, are of an excellent light texture, and have for ages been famous for the production of barley, with little, and in some places without any, alternation of crops. In most places they contain a greater or less quantity of grey porous stones, which, as imbuing the salts and moisture wafted from the sea by westerly winds, are known to be highly favourable to vegetation, affording in dry summers a perpetual moisture to the roots of the corn, while their surfaces reflect a regular warmth to its blades. The barley of this maritime district is deemed of excellent quality, and some level patches near the shore are remarkable for their early harvests, the adjoining hills acting as reflectors to forward the ripening of the grain: its produce of wheat is neither great in quantity nor of very good quality. In the valleys, the hollows, and the gentle declivities having a southerly aspect, the soils of the northern parts of the county are deepest and most fruitful, while on the uplands they are more meagre in proportion as their substrata of slate and shale are blue: the grey mountain rocks described below, and the pale grey shale, have in these situations by far the most grateful soils. A light peat generally occupies the hollows of the mountains, and the low flat places in the northern parts of the county, and in its natural state is very barren, but is rendered very productive by manuring with lime: its substratum is generally an unfertile clay, which is found near the surface in some other places, where it is always covered with the poorest kind of herbage. Southward of the line above described extends, in the same direction, a narrow tract of fertile red soils, of excellent quality either for tillage or pasture, resting on a substratum of red sandstone. Beyond a very narrow tract of limestone soils succeed the poor wet soils of the coal tract of this county, which have so frequently a clayey substratum and peaty surface; the former is of a yellowish, blueish, or light brown colour, and from one to four or more feet deep; the latter, a mixture of sand and black peaty earth, to the depth of from four to eight inches: these, however, are capable of great improvement, by being compounded with each other in judicious systems of tillage, and, from their less elevation and other natural advantages, are here much more productive than in the more eastern counties. The southern boundary extends from west-north-west to east-south-east, from St. Bride's bay, by Walwyn's castle, to Carmarthen bay, northward of Tenby: the rest of the county southward is occupied by an excellent brownish marly loam of good



tenacity, and on the declivities by light and somewhat sandy soils, the crops on which are sometimes damaged by the *larvæ* of the cockchafer. The substratum of these latter soils is every where limestone; they bear a natural sward of the sweetest grasses, and under good tillage produce abundant crops of all kinds of grain. Wherever these limestone soils are deepest, as in the valleys, their fertility is astonishing; and even on the more elevated sheep downs, where they are shallow, they produce the sweetest and finest pasturage. Enclosed in this limestone district is a singular tract of remarkably fertile red soils of a good consistence, resting on a substratum of *rab*, or friable stone of the same colour: it extends in length from Freshwater, westward through St. Petrox, to the isle of Sheppey, near the entrance of Milford Haven: its greatest breadth is from this latter spot northward to Nangle castle, a distance of about a mile and a half; and hence, proceeding eastward, its breadth gradually diminishes. While all the other islets on the southern and south-western coasts have only the ordinary limestone soils, that of Skokham has its southern part occupied by the red loams: the general depth of these is from six to fourteen inches, the average being about ten, and for meadow lands they are preferred to the limestone soils, but for corn the latter are superior. A narrow slip of a similar red *rab* soil forms a boundary between the limestone and the coal tract.

The mildness and humidity of the climate rendering the fertile soils, as noticed above, uncommonly productive of grass, many agriculturists devote their land more to grazing than to the production of corn. The distinguished superiority of the soils, and their remoteness from the mountains of the northern parts of the county, which collect the vapours, have caused tillage to be the most extensively and successfully practised in the hundred of Castlemartin, which forms the southern maritime part of it, from the town of Tenby, on the east, to Milford Haven on the west, and in the neighbouring parts of the more northern hundreds of Narberth and Rhôs. Here is produced the finest wheat in the county, and the greater part of that which is consumed within it: some of the red Lammas wheat of Castlemartin, indeed, has a degree of transparency seldom equalled. The farms are of a mixed kind: corn is cultivated on all of them, while a varying portion of each is applied to the dairy and the rearing of stock. All the ordinary kinds of grain are cultivated. The produce of wheat in the northern and western parts of the county averages from fifteen to twenty-two bushels per acre, though there are frequent instances of much greater crops: on the best parts of the coal tract, and southward from it, about thirty-seven bushels per acre is esteemed a good crop. The produce of barley varies in different situations and under different circumstances, from crops of the poorest class to those of sixty bushels per acre: it is smallest in the north-western part of the county, where this grain is frequently sown in constant succession. Oats are very extensively cultivated, chiefly in the northern and north-western parts of the county: the produce is various, but usually small on the uplands, where the natural disadvantages of soil and climate are aggravated by a constant succession of this crop only. Rye is nowhere grown extensively, except on Flimstone Downs,

in Castlemartin hundred. Peas are sometimes sown, but the climate is too humid for them to produce much seed. Beans are occasionally cultivated on the stronger soils. Vetches and buck-wheat are likewise only occasional crops. Potatoes are a common agricultural crop; and turnips are sometimes grown, but frequently suffer from being overrun by natural grasses. Cole-seed has been cultivated in a few places, more particularly on the reclaimed waste of Castlemartin Corse. The artificial grasses are of the ordinary kinds: burnet grows wild on the downs of Castlemartin, intermingled with an abundance of yarrow. Nearly one-half of the county is in meadow and pasture. The limestone and red soil tracts of the southern parts of it possess the finest meadows possible, in which the herbage is naturally of the sweetest kind, many old pastures being entirely covered with white clover in the greatest abundance; but the dry porous nature of the limestone renders those which have this rock for a substratum of but a secondary quality for grazing. The principal fattening pastures, however, are in the hundred of Castlemartin. It is a common practice in this county to *fog* the grass lands, that is, to keep them without stock from June until March, which the mildness of the winter admits of being done without detriment to the grass, and which is found greatly to increase the quantity and ameliorate the quality of the spring pasturage. Irrigation is practised by some farmers in the valleys of the limestone, sandstone, and slate tracts; but in the coal districts, in addition to the natural wetness of the soils, the water rising there carries with it mineral particles very hurtful to vegetation: the want of brooks and springs is much felt in the limestone districts of Castlemartin, &c. The manures employed, besides the ordinary ones of the farm-yard, are various. Lime is the principal, and is used in great quantities, more particularly in the southern parts of the county, where the stone is quarried and burned with the *culm* or refuse of the stone coal of the adjacent measures. Sea-weed, sea-wrack, sea-thong or tang, sea-ore, or, as it is called by the Welsh, *gwymmon*, is found in great abundance after gales in the bays and creeks, more particularly of the western coast: this is extensively used as a manure on the adjacent lands, sometimes in its natural state, at others not until it has been putrified by lying in heaps for two or three weeks, and sometimes again in composts with other manures: the fertility which it imparts, however, is wholly exhausted by the first crop. Shelly sea-sand is abundantly applied to the lands bordering on the western and north-western coasts, being deposited by the tides in inexhaustible quantities in the various creeks, bays, and mouths of rivers, on that side of the county: it is highly calcareous, and utterly destructive of weeds, but its fertilizing effects continue only for two years. Ashes of all kinds are also used. Paring and burning is practised only on some of the peaty lands: the folding of sheep has been customary from time immemorial. The ploughs in common use are of the large, awkward, old-fashioned Welsh kind: the share is blunt and almost like a large wedge, the coulter equally awkward, and the mould-board nothing more than a round stake, fastened from the right side of the heel of the share to the hind part of the plough: this last is intended to turn the furrow, which, however, it



frequently does not perform, but leaves the ground in the most rugged and unsightly state. Some smaller modern improved kinds have been introduced, especially the Rotherham swing-plough. The agricultural vehicles in common use are carts, which are commonly drawn by two oxen yoked abreast, with a long pole between them, which answers the purpose of shafts, preceded by a pair of horses also abreast; but the use of a horse in a cart having shafts is becoming daily more general.

The oxen are as active as the horses, and the expedition which the teams use in conveying coal and culm to Sander's-foot and similar places, where the vessels must always be laden during one tide, strikes a stranger with wonder, alarm, and compassion: the usual seat of the carter is, like that of the driver of a chaise, in front of the carriage, where, standing on the wings of the pole, he manages his whip and sometimes his reins with great vigour. The cattle are, with few exceptions, coal-black, of a very superior kind, and in great request for the English markets, where they find a ready sale. Their parent stock appears to have been the small broad native *runts* of the Welsh mountains, from which, owing to the effects of a milder climate, more nutritious pasturage, and greater care, has sprung the present superior breed of Pembrokehire cattle, which closely resembles that of Anglesey. They are often finch-backed, and white on the belly, legs, &c., and sometimes white-faced, but the latter are far from being preferred by the drovers: their proportions are in general handsome; their legs are shorter than those of the Glamorganshire breed, but longer than those of the Montgomeryshire; their horns are of a middle size, those of the oxen being generally strong and curving upwards; and their heads, necks, and breasts, are of a finer form than those of the Anglesey cattle, but not so fine as those of the Glamorganshire breed. Their disposition is rather intractable, but they are distinguished for their aptness to fatten: the average weight of the oxen is from nine to ten score lb. per quarter, though sometimes much more in Castlemartin hundred: the hair of these cattle has a peculiarly rich waving silkiness: the Castlemartin bull is universally admired and esteemed. The sheep are of different kinds. The Preselè range of mountains, and other walks in the northern and north-western parts of it, are depastured by the small, wild, hardy, mountain breed, which occupy the greater part of the rest of the principality, but which, in the enclosures of this county, are regarded as of little value, it being impossible to confine them by any ordinary fences: their wool is like their fare, very coarse; but the mutton they afford is delicious, being but little inferior to the finest venison. In the lower parts of the county the sheep are of mixed breeds, between the mountaineers and the Cotswold, Dorset, South Down, and other English races, generally without horns, and weighing from fourteen to eighteen lb. per quarter: the fleece weighs from three to four lb. The Ryeland and South Down breeds are also found here in their native purity, and in thriving condition. An endless variety of mixtures is seen, too, in the grounds of different gentlemen and farmers fond of making experiments. Ewes are milked for the dairy in several parts of the county; and cheese made with a proportion of their milk, which gives it a peculiar tartness, is preferred by the peasantry to the milder

sort. Great numbers of hogs are reared, chiefly for exportation to Bristol: in a store condition they are called, by the Flemish race of inhabitants of this county, *liggies*: the rearing of these animals is a chief object of the farmer's attention; they are fed chiefly upon refuse potatoes and whey, and are sold to drovers. The native horses are from fourteen to fourteen hands and a half high, short-jointed, strong, and active: the handsomest of these are broken in for the saddle, being in much demand at the fairs among the dealers who resort thither from the interior of England. They are frequently crossed with blood horses, thus producing a handsome and serviceable horse for the chase, the road, or the carriage. The Suffolk *punches*, and cart-horses from Herefordshire, have also been introduced; and the greatest attention is paid to the improvement of the breed of horses for every purpose.

The southern parts of this county are particularly adapted for horticulture, and flowers, vegetables, and fruits are here produced as early and in as great perfection as in any other part of Britain. Orchards, however, are not numerous, being most commonly attached only to the mansions of the gentry, though there are a few about Pembroke, and many at the pretty village of St. Dogmael's, near Cardigan. It is, however, much to be regretted that no attempt is made towards improving the species of apples and pears at present met with in the common orchards, which are of a very inferior quality, by introducing new trees and grafts of the best sorts of both. The woods are few and of small extent. Considerable quantities of timber trees on the Picton Castle and Lawrenny estates, with a few surviving groves about Slebech, on the shores of the upper part of Milford Haven, form the bulk of the present stock of timber in that part of the county termed "below the mountains," that is, southward of the Preselè range: northward of it are various considerable tracts of woodland, among which may be specified the numerous groves of Dyfryn Gwain, of the Orlandon and other estates, Preselè woods, and those of Fynonè, or Fynnonau. The most extensive woods remain on the coal tract; yet the high price which is given for poles for the collieries has been one chief cause of the present comparative destitution of wood observable in this county: the prevailing kind of timber is oak, besides which are also seen ash, alder, sometimes beech on the drier soils of the coal tract, and a great number of the less common varieties. In the parks of the greater proprietors in the southern limestone district are seen groves of remarkably fine timber trees, and some of its ravines and slopes are also beautifully tufted with trees. The vast woods which formerly covered Narberth Forest have disappeared, except Canaston wood, which is very extensive and thriving, and a few small coppices, and are succeeded by cultivated enclosures. Some of the principal proprietors of land have of late years made plantations of various extent and of different kinds of trees, which in some of the more exposed situations suffer severely from sea gales. The waste lands of this county are estimated, in the original view of its agriculture by Mr. Hassall, published in 1794, at twenty-two thousand two hundred and twenty acres, of which fourteen thousand two hundred and twenty were capable of being enclosed and cultivated at a reasonable expense, while in the lordships of Llanvyrnach, My-



nachlogdû, Maenclochog, and Kemmes, were eight thousand acres on the mountains in the northern parts of the county, which were too elevated, too much encumbered with rocks and stones, and too frequently precipitous, to be susceptible of profitable cultivation. Of the waste lands capable of improvement a large proportion has since been enclosed, the principal of those yet lying in their original state being in Kemmes, containing about five thousand acres; Maenclochog, about two thousand five hundred; and Monachlogdû, about one thousand five hundred; all in the northern part of the county, and exclusively of the more mountainous parts of the same lordships, and of Llanvyrnach above mentioned. All these wastes are at present depastured without stint by the occupiers at large in the several manors to which they belong, and are consequently so overstocked as to be rendered of little value to any one, except to the lesser sheep farmers upon the skirts of them: besides sheep, the chief stock by which they are depastured is young cattle. The most common fuel of Pembrokeshire is the stone coal of its own mines, or rather the decomposition of the stone coal, commonly called *culm*, which is prepared for the fire by being made into a compost with clay, and formed by the hand into oblong balls; though peat is occasionally used in the northern mountainous parts of it, where it is abundant, while coal can only be procured from a very considerable distance. The Farmers' Club, or Sheep-Shearing, the meetings of which were annually held for many years at Narberth, was at length superseded by the present "Society for the Encouragement of Agriculture and Internal Improvement in the county of Pembroke."

The geological features of this county are peculiarly interesting, as in it are found all the various classes of strata contained in South Wales: its mineral productions, too, are of considerable importance and great variety, but consist for the most part of coal, limestone, slates, and various kinds of building stones. All the northern part, as far south as St. David's, Haverfordwest, and beyond Narberth, is included in the great slate and shale tract of South Wales, which forms the basis of all its more southern strata, and in this part of it exhibits several striking anomalies. The prevailing strata are argillaceous slates, adapted for roofing, of different shades, from grey to blue, with which is sometimes interstratified shale, *rab*, or *roch*, as it is variously called, being argillaceous strata of a more fragile texture, which soon decompose under the action of the atmosphere. A great part of the Preselè mountains consist, however, of hard grey mountain rock of a primitive kind, which in many places affords excellent building stones; and primitive trap rocks occur near St. David's Head, the vicinity of which is chiefly composed of masses of this description. In the northernmost part of the county the strata nearest the surface are of argillaceous marl, the southern boundary of which extends from the sea-coast, near Dinas, eastward towards Penboyr in Carmarthenshire: from this line, which runs along the northern side of the Preselè mountains, the stratum of marl stretches northward across the Teivy into Cardiganshire, its thickness varying from six to twenty feet and upwards: beneath it are found the ordinary strata of argillaceous schistus. Southward of the slate district, and resting upon it in geological

position, is an extremely narrow tract of inferior limestone, upon which rests a somewhat broader line of red sandstone, a continuation of that which extends over so great a tract of country in the eastern parts of Carmarthenshire, and in Brecknockshire, but which here exhibits much less regularity in the three successive classes of strata of which it is composed: its last appearance, proceeding westward, is in some quarries near St. David's. This again is succeeded by the mountain limestone which forms the northern edge of the great mineral basin of South Wales, but which is reduced in this western part of it to a tract of extremely small breadth, frequently not more than a stone's throw, a circumstance which is perhaps owing to its more sudden dip under the coal measures. Entering from Pendine, in the southern part of Carmarthenshire, it passes by Ludchurch, Mounton, across the Eastern Cleddy to Slebech, Picton, and Boulston, and across the Western Cleddy to Harroldston Cliff, south of Haverfordwest, and to the cliffs of Galtop, in St. Bride's bay. On this limestone rest the coal measures which traverse this county throughout, from the inner part of Carmarthen bay, northward of Tenby, across the higher parts of Milford Haven, to the central shores of St. Bride's bay; their total breadth is only from three to five miles; their northern boundary, commencing from about the centre of the shores of St. Bride's bay, passes east-south-eastward to the north-western extremity of Carmarthen bay; while their southern limit runs in a nearly parallel direction by Ivy Tower. The strata dip southward, and generally form a much greater angle with the horizon than those of the more extensive coal fields of the more eastern counties of South Wales, being in some places nearly vertical, and frequently at an angle of seventy, sixty, fifty, or forty-five degrees. Several *faults*, or dislocations of the strata, occur in this county: the beds of coal are accompanied by strata of iron-ore. The measures are a continuation of those in the counties of Glamorgan, Brecknock, and Carmarthen, which lie nearest to, and run parallel with, the northern edge of the mineral basin, as all the mineral strata rising southward in the first and last of those counties, and the more central of those rising northward, are lost between the place where they pass under water, on the eastern side of Carmarthen bay, and the commencement of the Pembrokeshire coal tract on the west of it: this is owing to a contraction of the sides of the basin, and to its becoming shallower, for in Pembrokeshire none of the strata of coal or iron-ore lie at a depth of more than eighty or one hundred fathoms from the surface, so that it is only the lowest strata of the formation that extend so far westward as this county, where the basin is too shallow to contain the higher strata also, and too narrow to contain any of the strata rising southward. The coal is of the kind called stone coal, or, by the Welsh, *glo caled*, "hard coal," which neither soils the fingers nor flames when ignited, consisting for the most part of pure carbon, having neither asphalt to cause smoke, nor maltha to kindle into flame: the great excellence of this coal is for culinary and other purposes requiring a strong expansive heat without smoke. The decomposition of this coal, or, as it is called, *culm*, is mixed with clay, as above mentioned, and a fire made of this fuel in the morning will often last for a whole



day without being renewed or stirred: at night these fires are covered over with a *stunning* of the same material, on which they feed, and in the morning require only to be stirred for instant service. In Pembroke-shire, the surface of the coal tract not being sufficiently elevated and furrowed with deep valleys for its mineral stores to be obtained by levels or horizontal shafts, as in the northern parts of it further eastward, it is necessary to sink pits, which are numerous. The bed of siliceous sandstone, which, resting upon the limestone range above mentioned, forms the immediate basis of the coal measures on the north, and is called in Monmouthshire and Brecknockshire the "Farewell Rock," continues in the same direction through this county, where it is called the "Doon Rock," and is seen cropping out in stupendous masses in conjunction with the adjacent calcareous strata. The substances which accompany the coal strata, besides freestone and iron-ore, are *cleft*, or *clunch*, and fire clay: the beds of ironstone and clunch that lie in the closest contact with the coal are generally marked with vegetable impressions: the clunch also contains vitriol of iron, and in some mines the water is so much vitriolated that it excoriates the hands and faces of the workmen. The quantity of sulphur contained in the coal of this western part of the mineral basin of South Wales is extremely small. Southward of the southern boundary of the coal tract nearly the whole county, for about twenty-four miles in length and nine in breadth, is composed of numberless beds of *white* limestone, so called, not from its natural colour, which is various, but from the superior whiteness of the lime. The strata generally undulate with the surface, like those of the shale in the northern part of the county, and are distinguished from those of older formation, to the north of the coal tract, by their bearing numerous impressions of marine exuviae, petrified shell-fish, vertebræ, &c., which bespeak their alluvial origin. This stone yields lime of the best quality for manure, whitewashing buildings, and some other purposes; but as a cement for building it is far inferior to that of the lias limestone of Glamorganshire, which rests in nearly the same geological position. Some of the rising grounds of this limestone district have an anomalous deposition of huge beds of fine white sandstone; but the most striking anomaly observable in the white limestone of this county is the intrusion of the tract of red soils on the southern side of the lower reaches of Milford Haven, as above described, the substratum of which, instead of limestone, is a red stone, provincially called *rab*, more argillaceous than the red sandstone substratum of the red soils adjoining the slate tract, and having some of its strata of a greyish colour. This substratum, when brought to the surface and exposed to the action of the atmosphere, becomes friable, and crumbles into a saponaceous substance, not unlike the slate marl found about Sutton in Warwickshire, though inferior to it in fertilizing qualities. A narrow slip of similar red *rab*-stone forms the boundary between the coal measures and this great southern limestone district. All the islets and insulated rocks on the southern and south-western coasts are composed of limestone, except that of Skokham, the substrata of the southern part of which are of red *rab*-stone: this island has also a turbary of five or six acres, affording excellent peat for fuel. In the southern part of

Ramsey are indications of coal, while the rest of the island consists of the strata above described as supporting the coal measures on the north. This variety of mineral strata is turned to great advantage in numerous instances; but the metalline productions of this county are but of small importance. A fanciful etymology applied to the name of a place called *Minwear*, on the eastern shore of Milford Haven, nearly opposite to Slebech, led some adventurers to search for gold at that place, but without success. Silver has been sought for on a small promontory in St. Bride's bay, but the attempt to procure it there, which has been several times repeated since the reign of Elizabeth, has been as often abandoned with loss. A rich vein of lead in a matrix of argillaceous schistus was worked for some years on the banks of the Tâf, in the parish of Llanvynach; but the works are now abandoned, having been flooded with water, which can only be drawn off by means of an expensive level; the ore is said to be of superior quality. Coal and limestone are the chief mineral products, and are raised in vast quantities in the respective districts above described, more especially in the vicinity of Milford Haven and St. Bride's bay, whence they are exported to a considerable extent. This county contains no furnaces or other works for the manufacture of the iron-ore, of which abundant layers are found interstratified with the coal and its other accompanying substances. From the mouth of the Gwain at Fishguard, proceeding northward, several quarries of blue argillaceous roofing slates are worked in the cliffs on the sea-coast, a material of which the interior of the county also possesses abundance, but which is not there extensively worked except at the Glôg quarries near Llanvynach, situated between the Preselè mountains and the border of Carmarthenshire, which are very valuable; and at Pantè Philip, about two miles from Fishguard. There are also several quarries of slate of the best quality at Sealyham, the seat of William Edwardes Tucker, Esq. Much slate is also quarried at Kilgerran, and shipped down the Teivy; but the quality of all that is obtained in this county is inferior to that of Carnarvonshire. Stones for building are procured at quarries in the hard grey mountain rock of the northern parts of the county, at Newport, and other places on the sea-coast, and at Coed-Cadw, in the parish of Nevern; also from the argillaceous freestone strata of the coal measure; from the siliceous rocks of the red sandstone tract that separates the coal from the slate tract, which are quarried to the greatest extent at Nolton, on the shore of St. Bride's bay, the stone there obtained being of a dark grey colour, and reputed to resist the action of fire and of a maritime atmosphere in a very superior degree; from the various limestone strata, the fracture of which is, however, very irregular and splintery, so that uniform courses of masonry can hardly be worked with them; and from the quarries of blue slate. A range of hills, entering this county from Cardiganshire, and terminating in it in the Plumstone mountain, besides grey mountain rocks or whinstone, affords also indurated schistus, porphyroids, &c. Firestones for ovens, &c., are obtained on the boundary between the limestone and red *rab* in Castlemartin hundred, in some parts of the red sandstone tract, and in the whinstone ranges of the slate tract. Black marble, variegated with white, is obtained



near Tenby. A soft black stone, or black chalk, is found in a rill descending from the Preselè mountains, in the parish of Meliney: the peasantry call it *nôd glâs*, or "blue raddle," from the colour of the strokes which it makes, and mark their sheep with it: this, without any oily mixture, preserves its strong azure colour on the wool through the whole winter: by some it is considered equal, for the purposes of drawing, to that imported from Switzerland. A vein of excellent potters' clay is found in the limestone near Flimston, in Castlemartin hundred.

Pembrokeshire has no important manufacture. In different parts of it, however, are carried on domestic manufactures of various coarse woollen articles of clothing, which in some instances are facilitated by scattered carding-machines. Considerable quantities of hides and skins are dressed for the Bristol and other English markets. There is a manufactory of brown paper near Haverfordwest; and ship-building is carried on in several of the harbours, particularly at Pembroke, where extensive dock-yards have lately been established for the royal navy. Iron-works at Black Pool, near Narberth, were carried on for many years, and at last abandoned only on account of the great difficulty of obtaining charcoal, the fuel which had been always employed, while the stone coal of this county has not hitherto been found suitable for the purpose. The fisheries on the coast are very valuable; but for want of a regular demand, the fishermen pay little attention to any but those of herrings, salmon, and shell-fish. One of the principal stations for the herring fishery is St. Dogmael's, on the river Teivy, where the boats engaged in it are commonly of from eight to twenty tons' burden, with masts and sails, but mostly open, without decks, and manned by six or eight men: the herrings generally make their first appearance on the neighbouring coasts between the middle and the end of September, which is considered the best period of the season, as they will then bear carriage to distant markets, and, the harvest being commonly over, the fishermen can be better spared from agricultural labours. The fish usually taken on the northern coasts of this county, besides herrings, are cod, haddock, whittings, skate, rays, turbot, bret, plaice, flounders, soles, mullets, gurnards, mackerel, dories, sewin, and a few other kinds. The fishing banks of Fishguard bay are more particularly distinguished for their abundance of turbot, dories, &c., of the most excellent quality: here are also large beds of oysters, which, however, for want of enterprise, are left untouched. There are about seventeen boats engaged in the herring fishery, which continues until Christmas, and the produce of which is wholly devoted to home consumption, forming, with potatoes, a principal article of food among the poorer class. The chief salmon fisheries are in the lower navigable part of the river Teivy, where some of this fish are said always to be in season; at the mouth of the Gwain at Fishguard, and that of the Nevern at Newport; and in both the rivers Cleddy: on the Eastern Cleddy, at Blackpool, there is one more particularly extensive, where also are caught great quantities of the peculiar fish called *sewin*: below the weir at Llêchrhŷd, on the Teivy, this fishery is carried on by means of the curious little boats called *coracles*, a hundred of which may sometimes be seen within the space of two miles. Salmon and

sewin also frequently ascend many of the more narrow and shallow streams in the spawning season. Extensive fisheries are also carried on, off the coast of this county, in the Bristol channel, where the main bed of fish extends from the vicinity of Tenby (called in Welsh *Dynbych y Pyscoed*, or "the fishy Denbigh," to distinguish it from the town of that name in North Wales) eastward to Worms Head in Gower, and southward several leagues around Lundy Island: the kinds caught are for the most part flat-fish, such as turbot, bret, soles, maiden rays, and flukes, with a smaller quantity of cod, basse, mullets, and whittings. In the beautiful bay of St. Bride's, too, abounding with turbot, soles, and dories, different gentlemen have their own private yachts, by which are procured an ample supply for their own tables, and a surplus for public sale. Shell-fish are most abundant on the southern and south-western coasts of the limestone tract. In various parts of Milford Haven are inexhaustible beds of oysters of superior excellence, and in such abundance as to render them a cheap article of luxury. The village of Llangwm is more particularly famous for its oyster fishery, which is almost the only means of support possessed by its inhabitants, who are thus employed at a season of the year when their labour is least wanted in the fields: they are, however, small, and the least estimable of the different sorts produced in this magnificent inlet: many are taken fresh to the market of Haverfordwest, besides which vast quantities are pickled in barrels and jars for Bristol and the interior. The "Crow oysters," being those which are found in inexhaustible quantities in that branch of Milford Haven which extends up to the town of Pembroke, and is called Crow Pool, are of very superior quality. The oysters of Tenby, Caldey Island, Stackpool, &c., are remarkably large, but are deemed of inferior quality to those of Milford Haven. Samphire, called in Welsh *corn carw'r môr*, "sea buck horn," grows on the sea-shore, on the rocks and cliffs not overflowed by the tide: it is gathered, and preserved as a pickle. Laver, or sea liverwort, is found growing on the rocks and stones in creeks overflowed by the tide, and is frequently gathered, well boiled, and put into jars with a little salt, in which state it is occasionally exported: in this county it is called *llawran*, and by the English "black butter:" its flavour is agreeably spicy.

Notwithstanding the extent of its coasts, the excellence and number of its harbours, and its favourable geographical situation, the commerce of Pembrokeshire is comparatively inconsiderable, being confined to the coasting trade. The exports, however, are various: the principal are coal, chiefly from Sander's-foot, Milford Haven, and St. Bride's bay, for the supply of steam-engines, limekilns, malthouses, and hop-kilns, and as fuel for domestic uses, to the West of England, the western coasts of Wales, Ireland, &c.; lime and limestone in great quantities, and chiefly to the same places; cattle, sheep, hogs, and horses, to England; wool, for the manufactures of the North of England; leather, to Bristol, &c.; and argillaceous roofing slates, which are lowered from the cliffs in which they are quarried, in the vicinity of Newport, into the vessels below. Not only does Pembrokeshire produce sufficient corn for the supply of its own inhabitants, but also a considerable surplus of wheat in the southern,



and of oats in the northern parts of it, which is exported to Liverpool, Bristol, and the counties of Dorset and Sussex. From its coasts, as is described above, are also sent samphire, laver, and oysters, turbot, salmon, and various other kinds of fish, to Bristol and the interior of South Britain. Sander's-foot, in the inner part of Carmarthen bay, is a noted place for the export, during summer, of stone coal and culm, which are shipped on board vessels lying on the open beach. Proceeding westward along the coast, the next port is Tenby, celebrated as a place of great and fashionable resort for the purpose of sea-bathing, and which, with that of Haverfordwest, is subject, according to the regulations of the custom-house, to the port of Pembroke. Haverfordwest, being situated the most favourably of the three, near the centre of the county, engrosses most of its commerce. Both the latter are situated on branches of the magnificent harbour of Milford, the finest in Great Britain, the mouth of which opens south-westward into the wide expanse of the lower part of the Bristol channel, while inland it stretches for many miles directly eastward, and afterwards, in its highest reaches, northward, through the coal tract. The navigable length of this haven, from its mouth, up the Western Cleddy, to Haverfordwest, is about twenty-one miles; and from its mouth, up the Eastern Cleddy, to Canaston bridge, about twenty miles: its breadth, at the mouth, between the Dale and Nangle blockhouses, is two thousand five hundred and eighty yards; and from Bicton Point to Thorn Island, two thousand three hundred yards. Exclusively of the various roads, bays, and creeks, it has the following main *pills*, or branches, all on the southern side of it; *viz.*, Pennar Mouth Pill, Cosheston Pill, Carew Pill, and Creswell Pill. Pennar Mouth Pill is that which extends up to the town of Pembroke: its mouth from rock to rock is only two hundred yards wide at high water, and one hundred and twelve at low water, with from nine to twelve feet depth of water; but within it expands into a fine spacious basin, called Crow Pool. Various reports have been made concerning the capaciousness of Milford Haven: one states that it would contain with ease more than all the navies of Europe; and another, by a naval officer, computes that it would contain one thousand ships of the line, one thousand fifty-gun ships, one thousand frigates, one thousand sloops of war, and one thousand transports to supply them, without in the least degree incommoding each other; while one hundred sail of the line might be brought to act simultaneously on any ship or number of ships that might attempt the haven. Several plans have at various times been proposed for increasing its natural conveniences for trade, and the execution of some of them has much augmented its commerce, and given rise to the town of Milford, the custom-house at which place extends its jurisdiction round the coast of St. Bride's bay to St. David's. In the spacious bay of St. Bride's are several little creeks, which afford shelter to numerous small vessels employed in the coal, culm, and limestone trades; and in the western curve of this bay, to the north of the coal tract, is situated the thriving little sea-port of Solva, which carries on a coasting trade with the neighbouring ports, particularly Milford, and with Bristol. Beyond the promontory of the eight rocks called "the Bishop and his Clerks," and situated on a small bay to the east of

Strumble Head, is the port of Fishguard, the harbour of which is the only one free from obstructions and bars between Milford Haven and St. Tudwal's Roads, on the coast of Carnarvonshire: this harbour is of an irregular form, about two thousand four hundred feet long, by one thousand one hundred and sixty feet wide, and often affords shelter to the Irish packets driven hither by stress of weather. Newport, a few miles further north-eastward, has a small *bar* harbour for a few coasting vessels and fishing boats.

The principal rivers are, the Western Cleddy, the Eastern Cleddy, the Gwaun or Gwain, the Nevern, and the Teivy. The Western Cleddy, called Cleddy Gwyn, or "the Fair," rises at Llygad Cleddy, or "the Eye of Cleddy," in the parish of Llanvair-Nantgwyn, near Fishguard, and flows at first south-eastward by the church and bridge of Llanstinan, then westward towards Llangwaren, and afterwards southward, receiving numerous smaller brooks, until, at the distance of about thirteen miles from its source, it reaches the town of Haverfordwest, where it becomes navigable for ships of small burden: continuing its southerly course for a few miles, until its waters become perfectly salt, this river, at last inclining a little south-eastward between Hookwood and Boulston, is joined by the broad stream of the Eastern Cleddy at Picton Point, about five miles below Haverfordwest. The Eastern Cleddy, or Cleddy Dû, "the Black, or Swarthy," rises among the Precelly mountains, at a place called Blaen y gors, in the parish of Mynachlog-ddû, and, receiving numerous smaller streams from the same elevated region, takes a course nearly southward, forming the boundary between the counties of Pembroke and Carmarthen, until near Llandissilio: below Egremont it is joined by the powerful stream of the Syvynney, which flows into it by Longbridge from Walton: above Slebech it becomes navigable for small vessels, and having gradually assumed a westerly direction, a little below that place, between Picton and Mynwere, it joins the Western Cleddy, as above described. The united waters of these rivers immediately form a salt-water æstuary of about a mile in breadth, which constitutes the upper extremity of the magnificent harbour of Milford Haven, called by the Welsh *Aber Dau Gledly*, "the Mouth or Æstuary of the two Cleddys," the length of which, from the junction of the two rivers to the open sea, is about sixteen miles, while its breadth, owing to the great irregularity of its rocky shores, varies from one to two miles. The Gwaun, or Gwain, has its source in the Preselè mountains, whence it pursues a romantic course of about twenty miles westward to the Irish channel at Fishguard, where it forms the best harbour in the county, next to that of Milford. The Nevern, which has a similar origin, near the mountain of Vrenni Wawr, enters the same sea at Newport, after a course of about fifteen miles, forming at its mouth a harbour for vessels of about one hundred tons' burden. The Newgall, the first stream that occurs to the northward of Milford Haven, flows westward along the boundary between the slate and coal tracts, and discharges its waters into St. Bride's bay, at the Newgall Sands, after forming, in the latter part of its course, the boundary between the hundreds of Rhôs and Dewisland. A little further northward is the Solva, or Solvach, which, at the little town of that name, forms a harbour for coast-



ing vessels of from a hundred to a hundred and fifty tons' burden, and immediately below falls into St. Bride's bay. On the north-eastern side of the county, the little river Cych, which has its source in the Preselè range, flowing northward, forms the boundary between this county and that of Carmarthen, until it falls into the Teivy a little below Kenarth. It is at this point that the latter river first touches Pembrokeshire, of which it henceforward forms the northern boundary, becoming navigable for barges at Llèchrhŷd bridge, and for vessels of two hundred tons at Cardigan bridge. Pembrokeshire is wholly indebted to nature for its valuable inland navigation, having no canal whatever. It has a greater abundance of excellent materials for the making and repairing of roads than any other county of South Wales, even its slate district abounding in many places with siliceous rocks, equal in durability to the imported granite paving-stones of London; yet, notwithstanding this advantage, its roads are on the whole among the worst in the principality. The best line is the direct route to Milford (which was improved through the intervention of the directors of the General Post-Office), with its branch from Narberth to Tenby. The cross roads, notwithstanding the exertions of some of the most influential persons in the county, are for the most part greatly neglected. The road from London to St. David's, by Oxford and Gloucester, joined by that from London to Haverfordwest through Cardiff, enters this county from St. Clear's, in Carmarthenshire, at Tavern Spite, and proceeds through the town of Haverfordwest to St. David's. The road to Milford branches from this at Haverfordwest; those to Narberth, Pembroke, and Tenby, at Cold-blow, two miles from Narberth; and that to Wiston, from the vicinity of Canaston bridge. The road from London to Cardigan, continued to St. David's, branches from the first-mentioned road at Llandovery, in Carmarthenshire, and, crossing the Teivy into Pembrokeshire from the town of Cardigan, passes through Newport and Fishguard to St. David's: from Troedysaur, in Cardiganshire, a branch diverges either by Newcastle or Llèchrhŷd bridge, to Kilgerran. The mail for Ireland arrives daily at Milford, by the route through Bristol, Swansea, and Carmarthen, from which last-named place it travels the road first above-mentioned. Preparations, which will be completed in the course of the year 1833, are now actively in progress for the embarkation of the Irish mail at Pembroke, where the erection of a new pier is already in a state of great forwardness: a new line of road has also been marked out, and partly formed, by which the route of this mail to the new place of embarkation will be rendered much shorter than that to Milford.

The remains of antiquity are various; but the most striking and numerous are those of fortresses erected by the Norman invaders of Pembrokeshire and their immediate descendants, and of castellated mansions of a later period. The peninsula of Castlemartin contains a few scattered relics of a kind usually considered Druidical, among which are those of a cromlech. Similar remains, but very rude and on a small scale, consisting for the most part of single upright stones, are also very numerous in the vicinity of St. David's: at Long-house, near the village of Trevine, is a cromlech, the table stone of which is about eighteen feet long;

nearer Fishguard, at Treslanog, there is another monument of the same kind, fourteen feet long, and about eight broad; and several others are visible near Trêhowel, at a place called Trêv Cilhwch. In the vicinity of Newport are also many Druidical remains, the principal of which is a very remarkable cromlech, which stands near Pentre Evan, the covering stone of which is eighteen feet long and nine broad, and rests on supporters a considerable height above the surface of the ground. Another large and perfect monument of the same kind stands between the town of Newport and the sea, and is called Llêch y drybedd. The remains of the Roman station *Ad Vigesimum* are situated a few miles within the eastern boundary of the county, and north-east of the church of Ambleston. A little westward from this station, near the village of Ford, are remains of a small camp of Roman construction; and in the same vicinity, in the year 1806, were discovered some relics of a Roman bath. The exact position of the city or station of *Menapia* has never been satisfactorily ascertained: it is considered to have been situated on the coast, and that the encroachments of the sea, or the accumulation of sand, have obliterated all traces of it. Mr. Fenton, the intelligent tourist, was inclined to consider Porthmawr, to the north-west of St. David's, or the sandy burrows in its vicinity, as most likely to be the site of the ancient *Menapia*, in which opinion his friend, Sir R. C. Hoare, concurs. Near Llanrian there is a military intrenchment called Castell Hâvod, considered by Mr. Fenton to have been a *castrum æstivum*, or summer camp, of the Romans, and situated near the course of the Roman road leading from *Loventium* to *Menapia*. Near the shores of St. Bride's bay, in the vicinity of Solva, is Poyntz Castle, an artificial mound, supposed to have been the site of a Roman watch-tower. The great Roman road, the *Via Julia Maritima*, entering from Carmarthenshire, is supposed to have passed in the line of the present mountain road through the centre of the station *Ad Vigesimum*; and, a little further, evidence of its course is yet found in the name of a farm called *Streetland*: from the latter place this road may be traced by occasional fragments, in a line nearly north-west, towards *Menapia*, the last station in this direction. The Roman road connecting the station *Loventium*, situated at Llanio, in the Vale of Teivy, above Lampeter in Cardiganshire, with that of *Menapia* enters Pembrokeshire from the northern part of Carmarthenshire, in the upper part of the parish of Llanvynach, and its course may be clearly traced in several places, more particularly on Cwm Cerwyn mountain, a distinguished summit of the Preselè chain, where it is marked by a range of tumuli. Much of it has, however, been covered by accumulations of peat; but the portions of it yet remaining in this county, which are considerable, have received the name of *Via Flandrica*, or "Flemish Way," from an erroneous supposition of its having been formed by the Flemish settlers. Some traces of a paved way have also been discovered near the Newgall Sands, in St. Bride's bay, which have been supposed to be fragments of a Roman road leading along the coast from *Menapia* to Dale, near the entrance of Milford Haven. Near the village of Rudbaxton, about four miles north of Haverfordwest, there is a circular



British encampment, on the summit of a steep conical hill, having a single ditch of great depth: this is sometimes called "the Rath," and in old maps is designated as "St. Leonard's Castle." A little further northward is Castell Henry, or Hêndrev, a large mound, probably the site of a small fortress. In the neighbourhood of the village of Ford, besides the Roman remains above mentioned, there are also various other ancient military earthworks, the most remarkable of which are, a spacious circular encampment on a farm called Smerton, or Summerton, near the village of Little Newcastle; and a circular intrenchment called Castell Coning, near the village of St. Dogwell's. Near Llanrian, on an elevated rock called *Garn vawr*, is a large British encampment, having lofty ramparts of loose stones; and in the grounds of Picton Castle, near Slebech, are some remains of an ancient intrenched fortification called Castle Lake. On the shore of the peninsula of Castlemartin are numerous military earthworks, some of considerable strength, considered to have been raised by the Danish and other maritime marauders, who so frequently infested this coast, and which were probably designed only to secure their plunder, and cover their retreat to their ships. Near Oriulton, in the same peninsula, on a common called Dry Burrows, are a great many tumuli; and numerous similar mounds, supposed to be sepulchral, are scattered near the sea-coast between St. David's and Fishguard: of the latter, one of the most remarkable is that at Trêv Ednyved, near Llanrian, which, on being opened, was found to contain a kistvaen. In the more immediate vicinity of Fishguard are some other very curious remains of remote antiquity, consisting of sepulchral tumuli and foundations of buildings, in the former of which have been discovered urns and other articles of great antiquarian curiosity.

The religious houses appear to have been more numerous than in any other Welsh county. At the period of the Reformation there was at St. David's, besides the episcopal establishment, a college of Secular priests; at St. Dogmael's there was a Benedictine monastery, which had a cell in Caldey Island; at Haverfordwest, a priory of Augustine canons; at Lawhaden, a small priory and a hospital; at Newport, a house of Augustine friars; at Pembroke, a Benedictine cell; at Pill, commonly called Hubberston Pill, in the parish of Steynton, a Benedictine priory; at Slebech, a preceptory of Knights Hospitallers; and at Tenby, two hospitals. There are interesting remains of the abbey of St. Dogmael's, near Cardigan, and extensive ruins of the subordinate priory in Caldey Island, including the tower of the conventual church, surmounted by a stone spire; of Pill priory, at the upper extremity of Hubberston Creek, a branch of Milford Haven; and of that of Haverfordwest, situated on the banks of the Western Cleddy, a little below that town. There are also some remains of an ancient monastic edifice near Marlan's or Mawdlen's bridge, a little westward from Haverfordwest. The most remarkable specimens of ecclesiastical architecture are seen in the cathedral church of St. David's, for the most part in the Anglo-Saxon, or early Norman style, and in the parish churches of Carew, St. Mary at Haverfordwest, Milford, Nevern (one of the largest in the county), Slebech, anciently belonging to a Commandery of the

Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and Tenby. The following are also well worthy of notice, *viz.*, the chapel of St. Mary's College, at St. David's; the ruins of the chapels of St. Justinian and St. Non, on the sea-coast in the vicinity of that city; and the chapel or hermitage of St. Govan, romantically situated among the precipices on the sea-coast of Castlemartin. The ancient mural fortresses of this county, owing to its peculiar political situation during the encroachments upon Wales by the Norman conquerors of England, are particularly numerous; but the only one which retains its pristine magnificence, and is at present inhabited, is Picton Castle, the noble mansion of Sir Richard Bulkeley Philipps, Bart., situated on the western side of the Eastern Cleddy, a little below the village of Slebech. The ruins of the castle of Benton, on the western shore of Milford Haven, are particularly picturesque; those of Carew Castle, at the head of a southern branch of the haven, extensive and magnificent; those of the castle of Kilgerran, on the banks of the Teivy, peculiarly striking, the circular arch which so frequently occurs in them bespeaking the early Norman origin of this fortress; those of Manorbeer Castle, near Tenby, extensive and magnificent; those of Narberth Castle, interesting and picturesque; those of Newport Castle, remarkable; those of Pembroke Castle, strikingly grand; those of Roche Castle, near St. Bride's bay, between Haverfordwest and St. David's, distinguished for the singularity of their situation on the summit of a high, abrupt, and isolated rock; those of Tenby Castle, extensive and grand; and those of Wiston Castle, also worthy of remark. On the hill above the church of Nevern are some remains of an ancient fortress, once of great strength, now called Llanhyver Castle. An artificial mound, some distance westward of Milford, indicates the site of the ancient fortress of Walwyn's Castle, or Castell Gwalchmai. The strong and lofty walls of the ancient town of Tenby are still, in some places, nearly entire; and a large portion of the north wall of Pembroke, with some of the bastions, is still in good preservation; as is also the east gate of the ancient city of St. David's. Some remains are yet visible of the block-houses erected at the entrance of Milford Haven in the reign of Elizabeth.

The number of ancient mansions formerly to be seen was as remarkable as the number of castles. Very few of these, however, are now standing; but the ruins of several yet remain, at Trêvlyne, Scotsborough, &c. The ruins of Lawhaden or Llewaden Castle, near Narberth, once a principal and magnificent residence of the bishops of St. David's, are very striking, and include a grand entrance gateway and an octagon tower of great height; and those of Llan-Vydd, now Lamphey Court, another ancient princely residence of the same prelates, situated between Pembroke and Tenby, are remarkably picturesque and curious; as are also those of another of their episcopal mansions, at St. David's. At the village of Dale is a remarkable castellated mansion, which has been modernized, and now forms a handsome edifice with wings. Formerly there were also mansions of ancient erection at St. Bride's; at Blaenybylan, or Lybylan, near Kilgerran; near Slebech; at Landshipping, on the Eastern Cleddy; and at a place lower down on this river; at



Prendergast, a suburb of Haverfordwest; at Boulston, in the same vicinity; and at Trêvgarn, nearer to Fishguard: but only very few vestiges of these are now discernible. Among the numerous modern seats of the nobility and gentry which adorn this county may more particularly be noticed, Amroath, the residence of the Rev. Mr. Biddulph; St. Botolph's, that of A. J. Stokes, Esq.; Boulston, that of R. J. Ackland, Esq.; Brownslade, that of John Mirehouse, Esq.; Cilwendêg, that of Morgan Jones, Esq.; Clareston, that of G. C. Roch, Esq., Creselly, that of J. H. Allen, Esq.; Fynonê, that of Mrs. Colby; Glynamel, that of John Fenton, Esq.; Lamphey Court, that of Charles Matthias, Esq.; Llanstinan, that of Colonel Owen; Llwyn-gwair, that of George Bowen, Esq.; Orielson, that of Sir John Owen, Bart.; Priskilly Forest, that of J. Hill Harries, Esq.; Rhôs-ygilwen, that of John Humphries, Esq.; Ridgeway, that of Mrs. Foley; Sealyham, that of W. Edwardes Tucker, Esq.; Slebech Hall, the elegant residence of the Baron de Rutzen; and Stackpole Court, the splendid mansion of Earl Cawdor.

It is a peculiarity observable in this county that the cottages, and even the farm-houses in the greater part of it, are frequently built of mud, notwithstanding the abundance of much superior materials; a circumstance which is considered to be owing to a practise perpetuated among the descendants of the Flemish emigrants. Besides their predilection for mud walls, and round wattle and dab chimneys, there are other peculiarities in the mode of building practised by this race of people, which were formerly much more striking and general than at present: the chimney commonly rises from the front wall close to the door; and the farm-houses have frequently a transverse roof crossing the main one at right angles, while the chimney rises from the junction of the eaves of both. The cottages are altogether of a very mean description; and the farm-buildings commonly of a very inferior kind, excepting some of those of modern erection. In the limestone tracts of the southern parts of the county, where the fissures of the dry limestone substrata absorb all the rain water in a very short time, it is found necessary to construct water-ponds with stone and lime, to preserve water for the cattle. Portable, or moveable, threshing-floors are common; as are also, in some parts of it, stiles formed of solid stone and mortar. Some of the western maritime parts of the county are yet unenclosed; but the extent of these open districts has been gradually lessening for many years. Fences of uncemented stones are common in most parts of the county. Stone fences in exposed situations on the western coast have their copings surmounted by single upright stones placed at regular intervals, which are supposed to break the violence of westerly winds against buildings, plantations, &c. Naked sod fences, and fences of sods and stones in alternate layers, as in Cardiganshire, are also frequently seen along the western coast from Milford northward: the faces of these fences are sometimes wholly of stones laid in peculiar courses. Of the more remarkable natural plants, the privet and wild service-tree are most common on the limestone of the southern parts, and the holly among the hills in the north of it. The bread consumed by the whole of the lower orders, and many

of the middle classes, is entirely composed of barley, unleavened, and baked in thin cakes on cast-iron plates: oaten bread is occasionally eaten in the uplands. Servants are hired at the spring and autumn fairs, but chiefly at the latter. Various chalybeate and some sulphureous springs rise, in different parts of the county, as at St. Dogmael's, Llanllawer, Fishguard, St. Dogwell's, &c.; but the only mineral spring of much repute is that called Alum Well, at Treryfydd, or Griffithston, near the sea-coast, a few miles northward of Newport. Golden Well, near the village of Little New-castle, eight miles north of Haverfordwest, is said to ebb and flow regularly with the tide in St. George's channel, nine miles distant. A conflux of springs, called the Nine Wells, at Llandrudion, near St. David's, yields such a copious supply of water as suffices immediately to work a corn-mill. The coast of Castlemartin hundred, from Stackpool Head westward towards Nangle Point, at the mouth of Milford Haven, is highly romantic, presenting some rocky scenery of great sublimity, interspersed with natural caverns of unusual extent and curiosity. Of these, one of the most remarkable is Bosherton Mere, which, on the surface of the ground, presents only a small aperture, but underneath gradually widens into an extensive vault. In stormy weather, when the sea beats with violence against the rocks, the noise emitted from this aperture is tremendous, and sometimes vast columns of spray are forced through it to an immense height: the ebbing of this strong current of air is found to be very dangerous, drawing with it into the gulph whatever animals may be standing near the margin. The village of Trêfgarn, in the western part of the county, derives its name, signifying literally "the town of the rocks," from the extraordinary masses of rock scattered over the adjoining common, appearing, at a distance, like extensive ruins of buildings.

PENALLEY (PENALEY), a parish in the hundred of CASTLEMARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (S.W. by W.) from Tenby, containing 333 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the south-eastern extremity of the county, and on the shore of the Bristol channel, comprises a moderate portion of arable and pasture land, of which, with the exception only of a very small tract of common, the whole is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. It formerly belonged to the family of De Barri, of Manorbier castle, and, in the 1st of Henry IV., was granted to John de Windsor; but soon after reverting to the crown, it was granted by letters patent to Thomas ab Owain, of Trellwyn, in this parish, from whose family, on the death of his descendant, Thomas Bowen, Esq., it passed by marriage to the family of Philipps, of Picton. Trellwyn, the ancient family seat of the ab Owens, or Bowens, was garrisoned for the king, during the parliamentary war, by Lord Carberry; but being besieged by the parliamentary forces, after an obstinate resistance, it was finally surrendered on honourable terms. The parish abounds with limestone, which is quarried upon an extensive scale: part of it is exported to the coast of Devonshire, and part is burnt into lime for manure, for the supply of the neighbourhood. Some fine specimens of Madripore are found here. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 17. 11., endowed with



£200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church is an ancient cruciform structure, and has been recently repaired and enlarged by the erection of a gallery containing sixty additional sittings: on an altar-tomb are two heads in relief, with the imperfect inscription "*Wm. de Raynoor et Isemay sa femme, virgo beata Maria Ayt Merci, Amen.*" In the churchyard is an ancient circular cross of small dimensions, without any legible inscription, the shaft of which is elaborately ornamented with rich tracery. The vicarage-house is an elegant building, surrounded with beautiful gardens, and commanding some fine marine views: it was erected by the present incumbent, in 1822, under the provisions of Gilbert's Act. A neat and commodious school-house has been built also at the expense of the incumbent, in which about sixty children of both sexes are gratuitously instructed: it is supported by subscription, aided by an endowment of £3 per annum, charged on the estates of the late Lord Milford. Caldey Island is within the limits of this parish, for all ecclesiastical purposes. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £52. 14.

**PENALLT (PEN-ALLT)**, a joint parcel with Hêndrevorvdyd, in the parish of LLANGATTOCK, hundred of CRICKHOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  miles (W. by N.) from Crickhowel. The population is included in the return for the parish. It occupies, as the name implies, the summit of an elevated hill, at the eastern base of which passes the Brecknock canal. The lower part, on the right bank of the river Usk, is well wooded, especially Glanusk Park, where the proprietor, Joseph Bailey, Esq., is now erecting a handsome seat. Glanusk Villa, another pleasing mansion on the banks of the Usk, was erected under the direction of Mr. Nash, for the late Admiral Gell, and is now the residence of John Hotchkis, Esq.

**PENARTH (PEN-ARTH)**, a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, on the shore of the Bristol channel, 6 miles (S.) from Cardiff, containing 68 inhabitants. It is situated on the western side of the harbour or roadstead of Cardiff, formed by the junction of the rivers Ely and Tâf, near their influx into the sea. A neat inn has been lately erected on the shore, by the Earl of Plymouth, for the convenience of mariners, or persons desirous of the sea air: the shore is pebbly, and the cliffs contain various strata of alabaster. Penarth Roads form an excellent haven during the prevalence of westerly winds, and five hundred sail may ride here in safety. The living is a discharged vicarage, with the rectory of Lavernock annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with a rent-charge of £50 by Thomas Lewis, in 1716, and in the patronage of the Earl of Plymouth, as lessee of the great tithes under the Dean and Chapter of Bristol. The church, dedicated to St. Augustine, stands upon a rocky promontory at the mouth of the harbour, and serves as a landmark to vessels sailing up and down the channel. In this parish is a ruin, now converted into a barn, which was formerly a chantry chapel, probably connected with, or served by the monks of, the monastery of Llandough super Ely. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £28. 14.

**PENBEDW**, a hamlet in that part of the parish of NANNERCH which is in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (S. S. W.) from Holywell. The population is included in the return for the parish. This hamlet is situated in the south-western and more mountainous part of the parish, on the turnpike road from Denbigh to Mold, and is separated from the parish of KILKEN by a small water-course, which also forms a boundary between the counties of Denbigh and Flint. The manor, which was granted by Henry VIII. to Peter Mostyn, Esq., in 1544, is now the property of Major Molyneux Williams. Penbedw Hall, the residence of that gentleman, is a handsome mansion, erected in 1775, and occupies a fine eminence, commanding an extensive and interesting prospect over the picturesque and fertile vale of Nannerch: it is surrounded by a fine park. This portion of the parish is rich in mineral treasure: near the mansion of Penbedw is a very valuable mine of iron-ore, of so rich a quality and of such purity as to yield fifteen cwt. of iron from every ton of ore: this mine produced one thousand eight hundred tons of ore in the year 1826, since which time the working of it has been discontinued. Lead-ore is found in abundance throughout the eastern portion of the hamlet, and, though the mines have been worked for centuries, they are still very productive. The park of Penbedw, though not very extensive, contains some interesting relics of antiquity: in front of the house are the remains of a Druidical circle, one hundred yards in circumference, which appears to have originally consisted of eleven stones, of which only five are at present remaining: the sites of the others, which have been removed, are occupied by thriving oak trees, planted with a view to preserve the original form of this ancient monument. About two hundred yards to the west of the circle is a large upright stone, near which are two tumuli, in a perfect state. On one of the Clwydian mountains, above Penbedw Hall, are the remains of a strong British camp, called Moel Arthur, defended by fosses and ramparts, and having on one side of it a smooth terrace of considerable extent: this fortification, which formed one of a numerous chain of British posts on this range of mountains, communicated with Moel y Gaer, in the parish of Northop.

**PENBOYR (PEN-BOYR)**, a parish in the higher division of the hundred of ELVET, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S. E.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, containing 1444 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the north-western part of the county, is bounded on the north by the river Teivy, and is intersected by the turnpike road from Carmarthen to Newcastle-Emlyn. It contains a large tract of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and cultivated, and a very considerable unenclosed district of waste land. The surface is hilly and in some parts mountainous; the soil in the lower grounds is fertile and productive, and the inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture: the surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 9.  $4\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of Earl Cawdor. The church, dedicated to St. Llawddog, a very ancient building in a dilapidated state, was taken down and rebuilt from the ground, in 1809, at the sole expense of the incumbent, the Rev. Thomas Beynon, archdeacon



of Cardigan, who also enclosed the churchyard with a wall seven feet high: the present edifice is neat and appropriately fitted up. There is a chapel of ease in the parish, called Trinity Chapel, in which service is performed for the accommodation of such of the parishioners as reside in that part of it, so distant from the mother church. A school has been for many years supported at the expense of the rector, in which poor children of the parish are gratuitously instructed. The churchyard is supposed to occupy part of the site of a Roman camp: a pot of Roman coins was found in the neighbourhood, not many years ago, and part of a Roman road and other traces of Roman occupation have been discovered in the parish. There are several tumuli in various parts of it; and one of larger dimensions is situated near the turnpike road leading over the mountain, from Carmarthen to Newcastle-Emlyn. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £251. 11.

PEN-BREY, otherwise PEMBREY (PEN-BRE), a parish in the hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. S. E.) from Kidwelly, containing 2645 inhabitants, the number having increased more than one-third since the census of 1821. The name of this place, signifying literally the head of a hill or promontory, is derived from its situation at the extremity of a mountainous ridge, beyond which a low promontory extends into the bay of Carmarthen. The parish, which is intersected by the Dwvry stream, and separated from the parish of Kidwelly by the Gwendraeth Vawr, comprises a large tract of land, of which a considerable portion is sandy and uncultivated, and a great quantity unenclosed, though in a tolerable state of cultivation: a very extensive sandy common is overflowed occasionally by the tide, but affords good pasturage to numerous flocks of sheep, which the tenants of several farms in this and the adjoining parishes have the right of depasturing on it for eight months in the year. The soil is very diversified, but, in those parts of the parish which are under cultivation, by no means unproductive. The substrata abound with mineral wealth, this district being thought to be the richest in South Wales in both bituminous and hard coal, both being worked to a very great extent. The quality of the soft coal is peculiarly adapted to the production of gas, the working of iron, and other manufacturing purposes; and vast quantities of both sorts are exported to various parts of the kingdom. To facilitate the conveyance of the mineral produce of this district, a capacious harbour was constructed, in 1819, by the Pen-brey Harbour Company, formed for the purpose: it is capable of receiving from sixty to seventy coasting vessels of the first class, which can ride here during the roughest weather in perfect security: the pier extends to a distance of four hundred yards from the shore, and the average depth of water is never less than from eleven to thirteen feet, even at low water of spring tides. This harbour being private property, another is now being constructed to the north-east of it, under the provisions of an act of parliament obtained for that purpose, in 1825, by the Pen-brey New Harbour Company, which, when completed, will be open to the public. A canal has been formed, connecting this port with the Kidwelly and Llanelly canal, and pursuing hence a northerly course. A canal from

Cwm Gwendraeth, the centre of the coal district, will also be constructed to communicate with both these harbours, affording additional facility for the conveyance of the coal to the shipping-place. This part of the coast is of difficult navigation, and to mariners unacquainted with it the most fatal on the shores of the Bristol channel. In November 1828, a French West Indiaman from Martinique was wrecked off this place, and nearly all the crew and passengers perished: among the latter were Colonel Coquelin and his daughter Adeline, niece of Josephine, ci-devant empress of France, who, with the other unfortunate sufferers, were buried in the churchyard of this place. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £1400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Earl of Ashburnham. The church, dedicated to St. Illtyd, is a spacious and handsome edifice in good repair. At Llandury, a hamlet in this parish, there is a commodious chapel of ease, where divine service is performed regularly in the afternoon; and in the hamlet of Pendryn was a chapel, called Capel Cynnor, which is now in ruins, and the site is used as a coal-yard by the Pen-brey Iron and Coal Company. There are places of worship for Independents and Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. The Rev. Mr. Pemberton bequeathed a house and garden, and £5 per annum, to a master, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, of whom there are now twelve on this foundation. A rent-charge of £1, and some trifling charitable benefactions in money, have been bequeathed to the poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £488. 13.

PENBRÛN (PEN-BRÛN), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (E. N. E.) from Cardigan, containing 1733 inhabitants. This place derives its name, signifying "the Head of the Hill," from the situation of its church on the summit of an abrupt eminence near the sea, and is sometimes also called Llanvihangel Pen y BrÛn, from its dedication to St. Michael. The vicinity appears to have been distinguished, at a very early period, as the scene of several of those sanguinary conflicts which took place during the fierce struggles for empire among the rival chieftains of the principality, and the continued efforts of the confederate natives to repel the usurpation of their territories by foreign invaders. The names of several places within the limits of the parish are by some supposed to bear testimony to the carnage which ensued upon those occasions: among these, Maes Glâs, Pwll Glâs, and Clôs Glâs (Glâs being considered, though somewhat fancifully, to be a contraction of Galanas), are reputed severally to signify the plain, the pit, and the enclosure of slaughter; Fynnon Waedog, "the bloody well;" and Llêch yr Ochain, "the stone of lamentation." One of those places Mr. Evans supposes to be the spot where the forces of Arthur were slain, through the treachery of his kinsman Mordred; and Llongborth, another place in this parish, is by some thought to be that celebrated by Llywarch Hên as the field where Geraint ab Erbin, a prince of Devon, was slain, with a vast number of his followers, and who is supposed to have been interred on a farm in this parish, still called Porth Geraint; but



others think that the place mentioned in the aged poet's elegy on the fall of Geraint was in Devonshire or Cornwall; and Dr. Owen Pughe, in his notes to the translation of that composition, supposes it might be Portsmouth. The parish is situated on the bay of Cardigan, and is intersected by the turnpike road leading from Cardigan to Aberystwith: it comprises a large tract of land extending along the shores of the bay; the surface is exceedingly hilly, and by far the greater part of the land is barren and uncultivated. A portion of the shore, called Traeth Saith, is supposed to be the most favourable place for sea-bathing on this part of the coast. On the beach is a flat rock, called Carreg Morwynion, or "the Maidens' rock," from the circumstance of several females having been drowned while bathing there. The surrounding scenery is for the greater part dreary, and contains few features either of rural or picturesque beauty; but the views over the bay are enlivened by the passing and re-passing of vessels navigating this part of the coast. Within the parish is a small hamlet, or village, called Sarnau, from the remains of several paved roads across a bog in the immediate vicinity of it. Llanborth was formerly an ancient mansion belonging to the family of Rhys ab Rhydderch, Lord of Tywyn; in default of heirs it fell to the lord of the manor, and was afterwards the property of Colonel Bailly Wallis, who sold it to R. Hart Davis, Esq. The living is a vicarage, with the perpetual curacies of Bettws Evan and Brongwyn annexed, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £15, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, and situated on the summit of an eminence overlooking the bay of Cardigan, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, consisting of a nave and chancel, separated by a finely pointed arch, and having a porch in the same style: the font is an ancient square basin. In the churchyard are the stone steps of a cross, supposed to have been destroyed about the period of the Reformation. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. This parish abounds with relics of antiquity, principally of ancient British origin; and almost every spot of elevated ground seems to have been occupied as a military post. Castell Nadolig, an extensive British encampment, strongly defended by a double intrenchment, occupies a situation on a farm of the same name, near the high road; and the course of a paved road leading thence northward might some time ago be traced for more than a mile. In a field not far from the church there is an erect stone, about five feet high, with an inscription which was read, by Mr. Llwyd, COR BALENCI IACIT ORDOVS. Under the heap of stones near which it then stood some silver coins, and an urn containing ashes, were found. Bishop Gibson also notices a gold coin, about the weight of a guinea, supposed to be of native British antiquity, and of a period prior to the Roman invasion, as having been found in this parish. Several tumuli and carneddau are seen in various parts of the parish, and the vestiges of numerous fortifications are still discernible. On the farm of Cevn Lletre, in this parish, is a lofty mound of earth, encircled by three ramparts, called Castell, originally a place of great strength, but the fortifications are at present nearly demolished: within a short distance is another tumu-

lus, called Castell Prydd. At Blaenhovnant, another farm in this parish, is a large carnedd; and there are two others in the immediate neighbourhood. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £470. 10.

PENBYALLT (PEN-BUELLT), a hamlet in the parish of LLANGAMMARCH, hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S. W. by W.) from Builth, containing 614 inhabitants, the population having increased one-sixth since the census of 1821. This hamlet, which contains the church, is situated at the junction of the Cammarch with the Irvon (over each of which there is a bridge, maintained by the hundred), and on the road from Builth to Llandovery. Many respectable residences are scattered on the banks of the Irvon, and in the neighbourhood of Maesy Gevnfordd, where the petty sessions for the hundred are occasionally held. Near the church is a celebrated inn, called Tavern y Prydd. The vales in this hamlet are luxuriant and well wooded, especially on the banks of the Irvon, and near the fall of the Dulas, contiguous to Maes y Gevnfordd, though the northern declivity of the Eppynt hills is in most places extremely steep, and sometimes even precipitous. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor, is £180. 2.

PENCADER, a chapelry in the parish of LLANVHANGEL AR ARTH, upper division of the hundred of CATHINOG, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 10½ miles (N. by E.) from Carmarthen. The population is included in the return for the parish. This chapelry, the name of which signifies "the head chair," is situated in a vale, on the banks of the Tafwili stream, which falls into the river Teivy; and the road from Carmarthen to Lampeter passes through the village, which is only of small size. It was here that Henry II. arrived with his army, in 1163, to punish Rhys ab Gruffydd, Prince of South Wales, for some inroads which he had made into the territories of the vassals of that monarch, while engaged in Normandy; but a compromise taking place between them, Henry returned to England, taking with him the nephews of Rhys, as hostages. The murder of these persons afterwards by the Earl of Gloucester, to whose custody they were committed, induced Rhys to make dreadful ravages in Cardiganshire and Pembrokeshire. The chapel has been in ruins for upwards of a century, but the cemetery attached to it is still preserved from desecration. An old Roman road from Carmarthen to Lampeter passed through the chapelry.

PENCARREG (PEN-CAREG), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of CATHINOG, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S. W.) from Lampeter, containing 1178 inhabitants. It forms a pleasing and well-wooded tract on the banks of the Teivy, and is intersected by the road from Lampeter to Carmarthen. A lofty mountain, called Mynydd Pencarreg, extends across the parish on the south. The village is situated on the left bank of the river Teivy: a fair is held here on October 11th. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Pryse Pryse, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Patrick, is a small structure of no architectural pretensions. There is a



place of worship for Presbyterians. Within the limits of the parish is an ancient British fortification, of which no particulars have been recorded. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £ 365.

PENCELLY (PEN-CELLI), a hamlet in the parish of LLANVIGAN, hundred of PENCELLY, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{3}{4}$  miles (S.E.) from Brecknock, containing 357 inhabitants. It is situated on the western bank of the Usk, where it is joined by the Mehascyn brook, on which are several mills. The manor of Pencelly anciently formed one great lordship, and was, in the 28th of Edward I., the property of Roger Mortimer, who was summoned to parliament that year by the title of Baron Mortimer of Pencelly; but in the reign of Edward II. it was divided into English and Welsh Pencelly, and was subsequently converted into five minor lordships, namely, those of the Castle and the Manor, Pencelly English, Cwm Orgwm, Wenallt, and Welsh Pencelly, to which was afterwards added the adjoining lordship of Scethrog. The castle and manor are now the property of James Gwynne Holford, of Cilgwyn, in the county of Carmarthen, Esq., by marriage with the heiress of the late Thynne Howe Gwynne, of Buckland, Esq. Of the ancient castle of Pencelly, which stood in the village, about a quarter of a mile to the east of the church, scarcely a vestige is discernible, a mansion of the Herberts having been erected on its site, and with a part of its materials; and even of the latter building there now remain only a few rooms and ruined walls, which have been converted into a farm-house. A chapel, dedicated to St. Leonard, stood within the precincts of the castle, but that also has been demolished: it was endowed with a portion of the great tithes, now the property of the lord of the manor. The parish church is situated in this hamlet, which is in general well wooded and picturesque; there are a few agreeable residences overlooking the Usk. It forms the lower division of the parish, and gives name to the hundred. The Brecknock canal passes through it, on the banks of which are wharfs for landing coal and limestone for the supply of the neighbourhood.

PENCOED (PEN-COED), a hamlet in the parish of COYCHURCH, hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (E. by N.) from Bridgend, containing 402 inhabitants. This place, the name of which signifies "the head of the wood," is situated on the road from Bridgend to Llantrissant, at a short distance from the right bank of the Ewenny river. A house has been built for the poor, at the expense of £32, out of a sum of £47 left by two individuals; and a trifling sum is annually distributed among them, arising from a bequest by two other persons. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, by whom also a Sunday school is supported. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £ 98. 15.

PENDERIN, otherwise PEN Y DAREN (PENDERYN), a parish, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, each of which separately maintains its own poor, in the hundred of DEVYNOC, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (W.N.W.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 1385 inhabitants, of which number, 241 are in the Upper, and 1144 in the Lower, division. The name of this parish, signifying literally

"the head of the rock," is descriptive of its situation at the head of a rock of excellent limestone, from which the large iron-works in the neighbourhood are supplied. The parish comprises part of the extensive common of Hirwaun Wrgan, on which was fought the memorable battle between the forces of Iestyn ab Gwr-gan, aided by some Norman auxiliaries, and the army of Rhys ab Tewdwr, in which the former obtained a signal and decisive victory. Rhys, after the defeat of his army, fleeing from the field of battle, is, according to some historians, said to have reached Glyn Rhonddû, about twelve miles distant, where he was overtaken by the victor and beheaded: according to others, it would appear that he was slain on the field of battle; and others again affirm that, having effected his escape into the territories of his kinsman, Bleddyn ab Maenarch, he was afterwards killed in the battle which decided the fate of that chieftain, in the neighbourhood of Aberhonddy. The remembrance of this event is still preserved in the names of several places in the parish: among these are *Bôdwigad*, corrupted from *Bôdwaun y Gad*, signifying "the mansion on the field of battle;" and *Cadlan*, a name of nearly the same import, used to designate the valley which intersects the parish, in which are numerous *carneddau*, two of the larger of these being regarded by Mr. Jones, the historian of Brecknockshire, as military memorials, probably connected with this conflict: one of them is twenty yards in circumference; the other is fourteen, and is surrounded by a trench.

The parish is situated in the southern extremity of the county, bordering upon Glamorganshire, from which it is separated on the south-east by the Tâf Vawr river, while on the west it is bounded by the river Hepstê, which, after pursuing a very romantic course through the parish, falls into the Mellte, by which the boundary is continued between this parish and that of Ystradvelltey. The entire district abounds with mineral treasures, the principal of which are iron, limestone, a kind of coal of a quality between the bituminous and the stone coal, a bed of excellent fire clay, marble, and some lead, which last, however, is not found in sufficient quantity to repay the expense of working it. On Hirwaun common are the Penderin iron-works, forming part of the very extensive establishment of Messrs. William Crawshay and Sons, of Cyarthva, near Merthyr-Tydvil: these works comprise four blast furnaces for smelting the ore, worked by a steam-engine and a water-wheel, two fineries, twelve refining furnaces for converting the pig iron into castings, and two pair of rollers for making malleable bars. The quantity of iron manufactured in these works, during the year 1831, was nine thousand and thirty-five tons, long weight; the quantity of refined bars, five thousand two hundred and sixty tons and a half; and the quantity of ore raised, twenty-eight thousand four hundred and thirteen tons, in the manufacturing of which fifty-five thousand seven hundred and thirteen tons of coal were consumed: the number of men employed in them and in the collieries, during the same year, was eight hundred and ninety-five, of whom six hundred and seven were engaged in the collieries and mines. Considerable quantities of limestone are burned for the supply of the surrounding country, chiefly as manure. Facilities are afforded for



the supply of the works, and for the conveyance of their produce, by tram-roads from the lime rocks near the church to the Hirwaun iron-works, and thence down the vale of Cynon to Aberdare, where they communicate with the Aberdare branch canal, which, joining the Glamorganshire canal at the Navigation House, in the Vale of the Tâf, affords a direct intercourse with Cardiff and the ports of the Bristol channel. The turnpike road from Brecknock, by the Hirwaun iron-works, to Neath passes through the parish, which is within the jurisdiction of the court of requests established at Merthyr-Tydvil, by an act of the 49th of George III., for the recovery of debts not exceeding £5.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9.3.11½, and in the patronage of William Winter, Esq., M. D. The church, dedicated to St. Cynog, is an ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a massive tower at the west end: it is situated on the summit of the rocky eminence which gives name to the parish, and is kept in good repair. There are two places of worship for Baptists. David Gwalter, of Maesgwalter, in the parish of Devynock, in 1723, bequeathed £5 per annum payable out of the rents of two tenements called Tyle and Heolvawr, in the parish of Ystradvelltey, for the instruction of five poor children, and the apprenticing of one poor child of this parish. Edward Price, of Ewys Harold, in the county of Hereford, in 1797, charged a tenement called Melin Rhydian, in this parish, with the annual payment of £6 to the poor. In this parish is Craig y Dinas, an ancient strong hold, so called from its inaccessible situation on an abrupt, rugged, and precipitous rock of limestone, the base of which is washed on one side by the united streams of the Hepstè and Mellètè, and on the other by the brook Sychryd, which forms the boundary between the counties of Brecknock and Glamorgan. Prior to the formation of the present turnpike road from Neath to Merthyr-Tydvil, the main road between these places led directly up the steepest part of this rock, and through a natural chasm near the summit, altogether impassable for carriages, and even on horseback, except with the greatest danger. This road, which is shorter by half the distance than the turnpike road from Penderin to Pont Neath Vaughan, is still in use. Near this spot are the fine vein of fire-clay and the lead-ore above noticed. Within the parish is the remarkable waterfall called Eiro Hepstè, formed by that river, which here precipitates itself from a height of nearly fifty feet, over an abrupt rocky precipice, sometimes, according to the fullness of the stream, in one, and at others in three, distinct torrents: the river, which is here sixteen yards in breadth, forms in its descent, from the scarcely perceptible projection of the ledge of rock, a single arch, or a series of three parallel arches, under which is a passage between the base of the rock and the descending water. The scenery around this spot is strikingly picturesque and romantic: the common, over which is the road from Penderin to the waterfall, is of the most dreary character, diversified only by huge masses of limestone rock of fantastic form; and broken fragments, which lie scattered round their bases, contribute to diminish the scanty pasturage which this desolate tract affords to a few mountain sheep and ponies. On reaching the

margin of the river Hepstè, however, the scenery becomes suddenly changed; the steep banks of this impetuous stream are richly clothed with wood to the water's edge, and the river, concealed in its course by the impending foliage, is only heard to murmur as it rushes through its rocky channel, till, emerging from a thick grove, it forms the cascade above noticed, and, about a quarter of a mile further down, unites with the river Mellètè. Between these rivers is a finely wooded promontory, from which there is a good view of the courses of the rivers to their confluence, and of the fall of the Hepstè, the roaring of which is distinctly heard. The beautiful vale of Neath, with the plantations of the Gnoll, above the town, and the mansion and grounds of Aberpergwm and Rheola, with a fine view of part of the Bristol channel, may be seen also from various parts of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £243. 9., of which sum, £83 are assessed on the Upper, and £160. 9. on the Lower, division.

PEN-DERWI (PEN-DERI), HIGHER, a hamlet in the parish and hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7½ miles (N. by W.) from Swansea, containing 415 inhabitants. A member of a family resident here bequeathed £50, directing the interest to be distributed annually among the poor of this hamlet. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £158. 6.

PEN-DERWI (PEN-DERI), LOWER, a hamlet in the parish and hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5½ miles (N.N.W.) from Swansea, containing 612 inhabitants. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £121. 5.

PENDINE (PEN-DAIN), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of DERLLŷs, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 3½ miles (W. by S.) from Laugharne, containing 183 inhabitants. This parish is beautifully situated on the shore of Carmarthen bay, by which it is bounded on the south, and comprises but a moderate tract of land, of which, with the exception of an extensive common, affording good pasturage, the whole is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is pleasing; and the views over the bay and the adjacent country are very fine. On the beach, which is well adapted for the purpose of sea-bathing, and affords a pleasant walk, there is a natural cavern, from which issues a small rivulet running into the bay. The living is a rectory not in charge, annexed to that of Llandawke, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's. The church, which is pleasantly situated, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £25. 12.

PENDOYLAN (PEN-DEULWYN), a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (E.N.E.) from Cowbridge, containing 351 inhabitants. The name, signifying literally "the head of the two groves," was probably derived from the appearance of the neighbourhood at an early period, which, like many other parts of the county, was richly wooded. The parish is pleasantly situated on the river Elay, and comprises a moderate extent of arable and pasture land, which is all enclosed and in a good state



of cultivation: the surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied. Within the limits of the parish is Hensol, the ancient seat of the family of Jenkins, under whose auspices an annual assembly of the bards was for many years held in the adjoining parish of Ystrad-Owen, till the death of Richard Jenkins, Esq., who was a warm admirer of Welsh poetry and music, and a good performer on the harp. After this event, in 1721, the estate was conveyed by marriage with his niece to Lord Chancellor Talbot, who was elevated to the peerage by the title of Baron Talbot of Hensol, and whose son added two wings to the mansion, and greatly improved the estate: afterwards it became, by purchase, the property of the Richardsons, and now belongs to William Crawshay, Esq., who has expended considerable sums on its further improvement and embellishment. The present house is spacious and handsome, and is beautifully situated within very extensive grounds, which are laid out with great taste, and comprehend some finely varied and highly picturesque scenery. The parish abounds with limestone, which in general forms the substratum of the soil. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £8.13.4., and in the patronage of the Archdeacon and Chapter of Llandaf. The church, dedicated to St. Cadog, is not remarkable for any architectural details of importance. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. The sum of £5 per annum, the interest arising from £100, of which, £50 was bequeathed by Lord Chancellor Talbot, is annually distributed among the poor. In the parish are several springs, to the waters of which are ascribed medicinal properties, and great efficacy in the cure of diseases, especially those of the eye, and in erysipelas. The names of some farms in the parish appear to indicate the past existence of some ancient encampments; but nothing is recorded of their history, nor are there any vestiges of them remaining. The inferior title of Baron Talbot of Hensol is still enjoyed by the noble family of that name. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £172.3.

PENDRYN, a hamlet in the parish of PEN-BREY, hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish. It contains a ruined chapel, called Capel Cynnor, now used as a coal-yard by the Pen-brey Iron and Coal Company.

PENEGOES, or PENEGWEST, a parish in the hundred of MACHYNLLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (E.) from Machynlleth, containing 826 inhabitants. This parish is said to derive its name from one of the petty sovereigns of Wales, named Egwest, who was beheaded near the church: it is situated in a very mountainous district in the western part of the county, and is intersected by the river Dovey, which flows within little more than half a mile of the parish church, and by the turnpike road from Welshpool to Machynlleth, which passes through the village. The mountains afford pasturage to numerous flocks of sheep, and in the lower grounds the soil is favourable for the growth of corn. The manufacture of flannel is carried on in the parish, affording employment to a portion of the inhabitants; and in the mountains of Dylivau and Esgair Galed lead-ore is found, of

a good quality. The surrounding scenery, though rather dreary, is of a bold and striking character; and the adjacent country, though not greatly diversified, is still in some points interesting and romantic. The living is a rectory, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £7.19.7., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Cadvarch, is an ancient edifice, in the early style of English architecture: a considerable portion of the outside is overspread with ivy, which in some places has found its way into the interior. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. An unknown benefactor left £40 to the poor of this parish, the interest of which sum is annually divided among them, according to the intention of the testator. In a field near the church there is a spring, the waters of which are esteemed efficacious in rheumatic complaints: it was formerly covered over by a building, part of the walls of which still remain: the well has been formed into a bath, about seven yards in length and three in breadth, divided in the middle with steps leading down into each part: the average depth is about four feet. Dôlguog, an ancient residence in this parish, is said to have been the retreat of the celebrated Llywarch Hên, who retired to this place in order to soothe with his harp the griefs occasioned by the misfortunes with which the Saxon invaders had overwhelmed his country at large, and his family in particular. Richard Wilson, the celebrated landscape painter, was born in this parish, in the year 1714, his father being then rector here. Mrs. Hughes, wife of the present rector, and sister of Mrs. Hemans, is distinguished for her musical skill, and for having set to music some of the poetical compositions of her sister. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £326.18.

PENIARTH, a township in the parish of LLAN-EGRIN, hundred of TALYBONT, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N. N. E.) from Towyn, containing 289 inhabitants. It occupies the north-eastern portion of the parish: its name signifies "the head of a lofty ascent," and is derived from its surface being elevated, rugged, and mountainous, forming a part of the Cader Idris chain. On the south-east it is bounded by the river Dysynny, on which is a weir to convey its waters to a mill, and up to this point it is navigable for small craft. Here is a chalybeate spring.

PENLEY, a chapelry in that part of the parish of ELLESMERE which is in the hundred of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  miles (N. by E.) from Ellesmere, containing 517 inhabitants. It is situated on the road from Overton to Hanmer: the remainder of the parish is included in the hundred of Pimhill, county of Salop. There are several respectable residences within the limits of the chapelry. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Salop, and diocese of Lichfield and Coventry, endowed with the produce of £400, and a rent-charge of £30 per annum, both the gift of Lord Kenyon, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Ellesmere. The chapel is dedicated to St. Mary. There is a small bequest producing £1 per annum for teaching poor children. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £130.5.



**PENLLÊCH (PEN-LLÊCH)**, a parish in the hundred of COMMITMAEN, Lleyl division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 10 miles (W.) from Pwllheli, containing 268 inhabitants. This place derives its name, signifying "the head of the rock," from its situation at the extremity of some rocks on the coast of St. George's channel. It is composed of comparatively a small portion of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The inhabitants are principally employed in agricultural pursuits, except during the season of the herring fishery, which is carried on here to a considerable extent. Of the great quantity of herrings taken on this coast part is salted and sent coastwise for the supply of distant markets. The living is annexed to the rectory of Llaniestyn, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is not distinguished for any architectural details of importance. There are some trifling benefactions in money, the interest of which is annually distributed among the poor of the parish, in conformity with the intentions of the benefactors. Cevnamwlch, the birthplace of Bishop Griffith, which, under the head of Llaniestyn, has been erroneously described as being in that parish, is included within the limits of this. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £184. 4.

**PENLLYNE (PEN-LLÛN)**, a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (N.W. by W.) from Cowbridge, containing 349 inhabitants. This place is chiefly distinguished for its ancient castle, the founder of which and the time of its erection are both unknown; but the construction of its walls plainly indicate a very early origin; and its situation on the summit of a lofty eminence near the village, commanding the surrounding country, shews it to have been a post of some importance. In Leland's time the castle, with its dependencies, was the property of the Turberville family, from whom it passed to the Stradlings of St. Donatt's, and from that family, in default of heirs male, to the Mansels of Margam, together with part of their other estates. The property was subsequently devised by the late Lady Vernon, daughter of Lord Mansel, to Miss Gwynnette, who erected on part of the site of the castle an elegant modern mansion, in which some remains of the ancient edifice were incorporated: this lady bequeathed it to the Earl of Clarendon for life, with reversion to Capt. Tyler, R. N. From the eminence on which the present mansion is built there is an extensive view of the surrounding country, abounding with highly picturesque and beautifully diversified scenery, in some parts enriched with woods, and in others enlivened with pleasing villages and numerous gentlemen's seats. Penllyne Court, formerly the seat of Major Dacre, and now, by marriage with his only daughter, the property of Dr. Salmon of Swansea, is a handsome mansion, pleasantly situated in the centre of a thriving plantation, and commanding some fine views of the adjacent country. The village is small and pleasantly situated; and the turnpike road from Cardiff to Swansea passes through the parish. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £4. 15. 2½., endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Earl of Dunraven. The church, dedicated to St. Brynach, and hence commonly called

Llanvrynach, is an ancient and venerable structure, in the early style of English architecture, situated on the south side of the turnpike road, about a mile from the village. Burials and christenings, and occasionally divine service are performed here; but the regular service is performed every Sunday at a chapel of ease in the village, which is more conveniently situated for the parishioners. A school on the National system is about to be established in connexion with the Central Society in London, from which the parish has received a grant of £28 towards the erection of a building for the purpose. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £136. 9.

**PENMACHNO (PEN-MACHNO)**, a parish in the hundred of NANTCONWAY, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 9 miles (S.) from Llanrwst, containing 984 inhabitants. This place derives its name from its situation near the source of the river Machno, which rises to the south-west of it, and, flowing through the parish in a north-easterly direction, falls into the river Conway, which also has its source in a fine lake in this parish, and forms its boundary on the east and north, separating it from the county of Denbigh. The surface is mountainous, and the district abounds with mineral wealth: the soil in the valleys is fertile, and the lands, which are watered by the Machno and other streams descending from the hills, are productive and in a good state of cultivation. The vicinity is distinguished for some fine mountain scenery, and the views from the higher grounds extend over a tract of country abounding with picturesque beauty. Copper, lead, and other minerals are supposed to be contained in the mountainous parts of the parish; and, in 1784, a lease of the minerals within the common called Llêchwedd Oernant was granted by the crown to Mrs. Anne Robinson, for thirty-one years, at a rent of £1. 6. 8., and fifteen shillings per ton for lead-ore, eight shillings per ton for calamine, and one-tenth part of the copper and other minerals. Fairs are held annually on April 17th, August 18th, and October 20th. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £9. 10., endowed with £200 private benefaction, £600 royal bounty, and £1400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Sir R. W. Vaughan, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Tyddud, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. Richard Anwyl, in 1682, bequeathed £200, which has been vested in the purchase of land; Frederick Lloyd bequeathed £100 in money, and a considerable portion of land; Maurice Hughes, in 1723, left £70, and David Price £20 in money, to the poor of the parish, the income arising from which benefactions is annually distributed according to the intentions of the testators. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £378. 9.

**PENMAEN (PEN-MAEN)**, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (W. S. W.) from Swansea, containing 137 inhabitants. The name of this place, signifying literally "the head of the rock," is derived from its situation at the extremity of a ridge of rocks forming the eastern side of Oxwich bay, in the Bristol channel. The parish comprises but a small tract of land, of which little more than half is enclosed and cultivated. The rocks



on the coast below the church rise with majestic grandeur from the shore, and have a strikingly imposing appearance: one of them, called the Tor, after attaining a considerable elevation, terminates nearly in a point. At low water there is a pleasant ride to Oystermouth and Swansea, over the Oxwich sands, by which from two to three miles are saved in the distance. About six miles to the west of the church is the small hamlet of Paviland, belonging to this parish, from which place one of its churchwardens and one of its overseers are invariably chosen. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 10., endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. In the hamlet of Paviland there is a small meeting-house, built by Lady Barham. It is in contemplation to erect a school-house, and to establish a school here, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, in connexion with the National Society in London. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £48. 14.

PENMAEN, a township in the parish of LLANVAWR, hundred of PENLLŷN, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish.

PENMARK (PEN-MARK), a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. E.) from Cowbridge, containing 536 inhabitants. The name of this place, signifying literally "Mark's Head," is supposed to have been originally derived from the preservation of a human scull in the churchyard, which, according to some monkish legend, was said to be that of St. Mark, to whom the church is dedicated, and which was consequently regarded for many years with religious veneration. This place was distinguished at an early period by the erection of two castles, called respectively Penmark and Fonmon, both belonging to the followers of Fitz-Hamon, and originally built for the protection of a portion of the territories which, upon the conquest of this part of the principality, that nobleman divided among the knights who attended him in his expedition. Penmark castle, which was the property of Sir Gilbert Humphreville, continued a place of strength till the reign of Henry IV., when it was destroyed by Owain Glyndwr, in one of his incursions into the borders, and is now in ruins. Fonmon castle originally belonged to Sir John St. John de Bletso, and continued in the family of that nobleman till the reign of Charles I., when, during the interregnum, it was given by the parliamentary party to Colonel John Jones, an active and zealous supporter of their interests, whose descendant, Robert Jones, Esq., is the present proprietor. The ancient building has undergone various repairs and alterations, and now forms a venerable castellated mansion, the residence of Mr. Jones. The village occupies the summit of an eminence overlooking a romantic dell; and the entire parish, which is situated in the south-eastern part of the county, on the coast of the Bristol channel, comprises a considerable tract of land, which has been enclosed from an early period, and is in a good state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified and highly picturesque; and the views over the adjacent country,

which is extremely fertile and richly cultivated, are extensive, and embrace many interesting objects, among which the castellated mansion of Fonmon castle is most conspicuous. A fair is held annually in this parish on the 15th of April. The living is a vicarage, annexed to that of Lantwit-Major, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £8. 13. 4., and endowed with £200 royal bounty. The church, dedicated to St. Mark, is a substantial and well-built edifice, but not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. The chapels of East Aberthaw and Rhôs, anciently dependent on the mother church, have long since fallen into decay. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. Several charitable donations and bequests, consisting of two houses, two acres of land, and about £60 in money, have been made for the benefit of the poor, the produce of which is periodically distributed among them. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £318. 1.

PENMON (PEN-MON), a parish in the hundred of TYNDAETHWY, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N. E. by N.) from Beaumaris, containing 240 inhabitants. The name of this place, signifying "the head of Mona," is derived from its situation in the eastern extremity of the Isle of Anglesey (anciently called Mona), on a promontory boldly projecting into the Irish sea, at the northern entrance to the Menai strait, and having at its extremity the small island of Priestholme. This and the surrounding country were desolated by the Danes, in 969, and again shortly afterwards, in common with the whole of Anglesey. The parish is not of very great extent, but comprises nearly equal portions of arable and pasture land, in a tolerable state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is not remarkable for features either of rural or picturesque beauty; and the views, though comprising some objects of romantic character, derive their chief interest from the expanse of waters composed of the Irish sea and the Menai strait. The houses do not form any village, but are widely scattered over the parish. The only metallic mineral found here is pyrites of iron; but the parish abounds with beautiful grey-coloured marble, clouded with an almost endless variety of shades, and susceptible of a high polish. This marble has been long in estimation for ornamental purposes, and for the construction of mantel-pieces, tablets, &c., but its excellent qualities as a solid and durable material for buildings of superior strength and importance has been but recently brought into notice, by its being selected for the construction of the piers and buttresses of the grand suspension bridge over the Menai strait. The pier and quays of Holyhead, the piers of Aberconway bridge, Penrhyn Castle, and many other public and private buildings have also been constructed of marble from the quarries here; and the town-hall of Birmingham, for the erection of which upon an extensive and magnificent scale the proprietor has generously given a sufficient quantity of marble, is now being built with this valuable material. The quarries, which are very extensive, have been worked for a considerable period with great success, and their favourable situation on the shores of the Menai strait on the east, and of the Irish sea on



the north and north-east, greatly facilitates the conveyance of their produce to its destination. A great number of men is constantly employed in them, and several vessels, which can come in and load at all times of the tide, are regularly engaged in transporting the marble to various parts of the kingdom. Part of the parish is included within the limits of the borough of Beaumaris.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £400 private benefaction, £800 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Sir R. B. Williams Bulkeley, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Seiriol, and formerly the conventual church of an ancient priory founded here, was originally a spacious cruciform structure, in the Norman style of architecture, with a square tower in the centre, but the nave and choir are all that remain of the ancient building: the former is in a state of great dilapidation, and the latter, which is appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service, is embellished with some of the richest details of the most finished period of the Norman style. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The priory, according to some historians, was originally founded in the sixth century, by Maelgwyn Gwynedd, and subsequently enlarged by Gruffydd ab Cynan, who appointed his son Idwal prior, in 1140. Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, in 1220, made considerable additions to its revenue, and placed in it monks of the Benedictine order, in whose possession it remained till the dissolution, at which time its revenue was estimated at £49. 12. 2. The site, with the park and other appurtenances, was granted, in the 6th of Elizabeth, to John More, Esq. The principal remains of this ancient establishment are, besides the present church, the refectory, and part of the prior's house and dovecote, exhibiting massive pillars and semicircular arches, richly ornamented with zig-zag and other mouldings. In the park is a very ancient stone cross, ten feet high, the shaft of which is curiously sculptured with knots and other ornaments; and on the south side are the figures of a saint, and two other persons, now very much defaced. Among the *Plâs Gwyn* manuscripts is preserved the grant of a free pardon to Robert ab Johns, with a fragment of the seal of the priory, bearing the upper part of figures of the Virgin and Child, with the legend *PENMONA + SIG.* About a mile to the south of the priory are the remains of "Castell Aber Llienawg," built by Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, and Hugh the Red, Earl of Shrewsbury, in 1098, when they jointly invaded the Isle of Anglesey, and committed the most cruel outrages on the inhabitants: the castle, which occupies the summit of an artificial mount, surrounded by a moat, consists of four walls, enclosing a quadrangular area, with a small circular tower at each angle, and was evidently intended to defend the pass of the adjoining valley. Nearer the shore is a circular mound of earth, which was connected with the castle, and most probably thrown up to command the landing-place near the mouth of a small rivulet which runs into the strait. On the estate of Trôsyf Avon, in this parish, there is a copious spring, the water of which holds in solution a sulphate of lime,

and contains a considerable portion of fixed air: it is much resorted to, and held in high estimation for its efficacy in chronic diseases. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £62. 12.

Within the limits of this parish is the small island of PRIESTHOLME, anciently called Ynys Seiriol, and now commonly Puffin Island, from the number of those birds by which it is frequented. This island, which is situated in the Irish sea, about a mile to the east of the shore, was originally occupied as a place of devotional retirement; and St. Seiriol, to whom the priory church is dedicated, is said to have built a hermitage here, which afterwards became a cell to that establishment. Considerable uncertainty prevails among the ancient historians with respect to this place: Giraldus appears to have regarded the island as the site of the priory of Penmon, probably from the brethren being styled "*Canonici de Insulâ Glannauch*," by which name it was occasionally designated; and the remains of a square tower, and the foundations of three others, between which there appears not the slightest connexion, have been supposed to be the ruins of the ancient conventual buildings. Probably the cell founded here by Seiriol, and resorted to only as a place of more austere seclusion by some of the brethren, may have led other historians to confound it with the principal establishment; for the nature of the island, consisting entirely of barren rock, of which the surface is but thinly covered with loose sand drifted by the winds, renders it impossible that any number of men could exist in a state of society on so sterile a spot, incapable of producing any vegetable, and cut off many weeks together from any communication with the main land. The only appearances of building now are the remains of a square tower, serving as a landmark, the foundations of several similar buildings destroyed by the violence of the northern gales, to which the island is particularly exposed, and a hut inhabited by a man who attends a signal staff, erected here in 1826, in connexion with Llandudno on the east, and Llanellian on the west, and forming a link in the telegraphic communication between Liverpool and Holyhead. About half-way between the main land and the island is a piece of rock, displaying itself above the surface at low water from which, in a southerly direction, stretches a causeway, constructed with large fragments of rock on each side, and having the interval filled up with smaller stones and cement. It is in a very perfect state, and extends for a considerable distance into the channel, where its termination is marked by a red buoy. It is traditionally said to have been a road leading across the channel of the Menai strait, which anciently was here very shallow, to the main land on the opposite shore, forming a communication between this place and the coast of Carnarvonshire, now nine miles distant. By whom or at what time this causeway was originally made, is not known; but it may probably have been a work of the Romans, to facilitate the landing or shipping of troops or merchandise, as the remains of a paved Roman road may be traced leading through Penmon towards Llanestyn. Near this spot the *Rothsay Castle* steam-vessel, between Liverpool and Bangor, was wrecked, in August 1831, when more than a hundred passengers perished.



The island is about a mile in length, of very great elevation, and forming on all sides abrupt precipices, except towards Penmon, where the ascent, though not precipitous, is very steep: the surface affords only scanty pasturage for a few sheep and rabbits; but the island is the resort of various sea fowl during the breeding season, more particularly of puffins or puffin auks, which congregate here in such numbers as to have given name to the island. Some of the inhabitants of the parish are engaged in the fisheries on the coast; and the large oysters found in extensive beds in the sound, which are highly esteemed, after being pickled and packed in casks, are exported to various distant places as "Penmon oysters." Here is also an abundance of crabs, and a great variety of beautiful shells are taken in the dredges of the oyster-men between Priestholme Island and Beaumaris. The sound or channel between the main land and Priestholme, which is of great depth, forms the common passage for ships to and from the roads of Beaumaris; and on the eastern side of the island is another passage into the same roads, which is little more than a quarter of a mile in breadth, and navigable only for vessels of very small burden. Maelgwyn Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, the original founder of the ancient priory, is said to have been buried in Priestholme.

PENMORVA (PEN-MORVA), a parish in the hundred of EIVIONYDD, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (W. N. W.) from Trêmadoc, containing 982 inhabitants. The parish is situated in the south-eastern part of the county, and the village stands upon a gentle eminence beneath craggy mountains of considerable elevation, and on the turnpike road from Trêmadoc to Carnarvon. The surrounding scenery is rather of bold and rugged character than of pleasing or picturesque appearance; and the views of the adjacent country, though comprehending some romantic features, are neither interesting nor extensive. Clenenny, the family seat of the Owens, is an ancient mansion, distinguished as the birthplace and residence of that independent royalist Sir John Owen, Bart., who commanded the king's forces in this part of the principality during the civil war in the reign of Charles I. He was defeated and taken prisoner near Bangor, in 1648, in the last effort which was made by the Welsh in that monarch's cause, and was conveyed to Windsor, where, being tried, he was, with the Duke of Hamilton and others, condemned to death; but, through the intercession of some of the parliamentary commanders, he received a pardon, and returned to his patrimonial estate, where he died in 1666. Considerable deposits of copper-ore have been found in the parish, and several spirited attempts have been made, and large sums of money expended, in working them; but the ore, when found, was so mixed with iron, that the difficulty and expense of separating it, and the depression in the price of the metal, induced the proprietors to discontinue their works, and the mines are for the present abandoned. Fairs are held in the village annually on March 6th, May 14th, August 20th, September 25th, and November 12th. The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacy of Dôlbenmaen annexed, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £9. 12. 6., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedi-

cated to St. Beuno, is a small neat edifice, not distinguished by any architectural details: it contains a monument to the memory of Sir John Owen, Bart. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Mrs. Owen bequeathed £60, and Anne Lloyd, in 1783, £30 in money, to the poor of this parish; and there are also some smaller benefactions in money and land, the produce of which is annually distributed according to the will of the testators. On Bwlch Craigwen are the remains of an extensive Druidical circle, consisting of forty-one upright stones, several of which are more than seven feet high; and near the church is a smaller circle, some of the stones composing which have been broken and used as materials in constructing or repairing the neighbouring fences. In 1829, a curious ancient silver coin was dug up, in opening a grave in the churchyard: it was in good preservation, with the inscription, in rude ancient characters round the obverse, RADVLVS DEI GRA. DVX BVRG., and is supposed to be a coin of Rodolphus, Duke of Burgundy, who flourished at the commencement of the ninth century, and was a celebrated collector of sacred reliques. Sir Hywel y Vwyall is supposed to have been born in this parish, the greater portion of which belonged to him. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £279. 13.

PENMYNNEDD (PEN-MYNYDD), a parish in the hundred of TYNDAETHWY, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (W.) from Beaumaris, containing 377 inhabitants. The name of this place, signifying literally "the summit of the mountain," is derived from the situation of its church on a lofty eminence. The lordship originally belonged to the ancestors of Owain ab Meredydd ab Tudyr, husband of Catherine of France, Queen dowager of Henry V., and grandfather of Henry VII., who was born here in 1385. The ancient mansion of that family, now converted into a farm-house, preserves many vestiges of its former owners, and some remains of its ancient grandeur; the great mantel-piece of the hall, some coats of arms of the family, with dates of different parts of the building, and of successive repairs, are still in existence. The last male descendant of this house, from which sprung the Tudor line of English sovereigns, was Richard, who was sheriff of the county in 1657, on whose death the lordship or manor passed to Margaret, the sole heiress, who conveyed it by marriage to Coningsby Williams, Esq., of Glân y Gors, in this county, who possessed it during his life: it was afterwards sold to Lord Bulkeley, whose representative still continues in the possession of it. The parish, which is situated on the old Holyhead road, comprises a very extensive tract of arable and pasture land, which, with the exception only of a very small portion, is enclosed and cultivated. The surface is undulating, and the soil, though various, is tolerably productive. There is a fair on Easter Monday, principally for hiring servants. This place constitutes a prebend in the cathedral church of Bangor, valued in the king's books at £8. 5. 7½., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Prebendary. The church, dedicated to St. Credivael, a saint who flourished about the close of the fifth century, and first presided over the college of Tŷ Gwŷn, is a very ancient



structure, supposed to have been erected in the year 630: it contains a very superb altar-tomb of white alabaster, without arms or inscription, removed hither on the dissolution of the abbey of Llanvaes, and supposed to have been erected to the memory of some of the Tudor family; it supports the effigies of two recumbent figures, one a warrior in complete armour, with a helmet of conical form, and the other a female in flowing robes and a square hood: the heads are supported by angels, and the feet rest upon lions. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Six almshouses, which had been previously founded in this parish, were endowed in 1623, by Lewis Owen, Esq., of Twickenham, in the county of Middlesex, with the tithes of the parish of Eglwys-Rhôs, for the better support of the almspeople: these tithes have long been held by the family of Mostyn, who have paid an annual sum for the support of the almshouses, at present amounting to £60 per annum. There are also other charitable donations and bequests of land and money for the poor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £208. 13.

PENNAL, a parish, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, in the hundred of ESTIMANER, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (W.) from Machynlleth, containing 776 inhabitants, of which number, 258 are in the Upper, and 518 in the Lower, division. This parish, which is situated on the river Dovey, and is intersected by the turnpike road from Machynlleth to Aberdovey and Towyn, comprises a tract of hilly and rocky ground but little adapted for purposes of agriculture. The soil is thin and poor, but, in some of the lower grounds, not altogether unproductive; the declivities of the hills afford only a scanty pasturage for sheep and young cattle: peat, which forms the principal fuel of the inhabitants, is found in various parts of the parish. The petty sessions for the hundred are held here every alternate month. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £1400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, was rebuilt about fifty years ago, with the materials of an ancient Roman fortress, called Cevn Caer; but, as the building is entirely covered with stucco, the ancient Roman bricks are not discernible. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Sunday schools are supported by subscription, in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations. Of the ancient Roman fortress of Cevn Caer, nothing but the site is remaining. Several coins of Domitian, Augustus, and Tiberius have been dug up in this spot; and in a turbary at no great distance from it was found a spear head, evidently of Roman construction. From this situation is obtained a fine view of the river Dovey to its mouth, and of Cardigan bay, with the Cardiganshire coast, and the country adjacent. At Esgair Llyverin, in this parish, are preserved the bed and furniture for the reception of Charles I., when on his way through this country to Chester, which was removed to this place from an ancient mansion still remaining in the parish of Machynlleth. In the grounds of Pantylludw is a remarkably fine yew tree of amazing growth: the trunk is thirty-two feet in girth, at the height of six

inches from the ground, and forty-eight feet in height; and the largest branch is nine feet in girth, and forty-four feet in length. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £331. 7.

PENNANT, or PENNANT MELANGELL, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of LLANYVLLIN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 10 miles (N. W. by W.) from Llanvyllin, containing 789 inhabitants. This place derives its name, signifying "the head of the brook," from its situation near the source of the river Tanat, which rises in this parish, and falls into the Vyrnwy near Llanymynech, on the confines of Shropshire. The adjunct to the name, by which it is distinguished from other places of the same appellation, is derived from St. Monacella, by the Welsh called Melangell, the daughter of an Irish monarch, who, having devoted herself to a life of celibacy, retired from her father's dominions to this place, where she spent her time in seclusion. St. Monacella had passed fifteen years in devotional retirement at this place, in a small cell among the rocks near the present church, when Brochwel Yselythrog, Prince of Powys, gave her some lands, to which he added the privilege of sanctuary to all who fled thither for protection. Iorwerth Drwyn-dwn, or "Edward with the broken nose," eldest son of Owain Gwynedd, Prince of North Wales, being deprived of his succession on account of that natural deformity, fled to this place for shelter, when his younger brother Davydd ascended the throne, and was, not long afterwards, killed at a place called Bwlchcroes Iorwerth, at no great distance from the spot. The parish is remarkable for the irregularity of its boundaries; some portions of it being separated from others by the intervention of the parishes of Llangynog, Llanrhajadr, and Hirnant; and some houses included within its limits are situated in the market town of Oswestry. It comprises some rich arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a high state of cultivation. The surrounding scenery is finely diversified and in many parts highly picturesque; and the views over the adjacent country abound with objects of interest and features of romantic beauty. The village, consisting only of the church and from twenty to thirty houses, is beautifully situated in an exceedingly picturesque valley, enclosed on all sides by hills, except at the entrance, and watered by the small river Tanat. Near the church the vale divides into two branches, the extremities of which are enclosed by two lofty precipices, separated from each other by the vast and rugged promontory called Moel Dimmor, which stretches into the vale: down each of the precipices, at certain times, rushes an impetuous torrent, descending from a considerable height, and forming an imposing and picturesque cascade. The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph: the rectory, which is a sinecure, is rated in the king's books at £11. 16. 10½., and is annexed to the bishoprick of St. Asaph; the vicarage, which is discharged, is rated at £5. 16. 5½., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. Monacella, is an ancient structure: on the front of the gallery is sculptured the history of the saint, and several reliques of her are still preserved. Her tomb was in a small chapel or oratory adjoining the church, now used as a



vestry-room; but her remains have been removed and deposited in the churchyard, under a stone on which is a recumbent figure of the saint, sculptured in freestone with the arms crossed. There is also a stone, with the figure of an armed man, which once covered the grave of Iorwerth Drwyndwn: on his shield, bearing a lion rampant, is inscribed the legend "*Hic Jacet Etwart.*" There is a place of worship for Independents. The produce of some trifling charitable donations and bequests is divided among the poor of the upper division of the parish. On the mountain between Llanwddyn and this parish there is a circular enclosure surrounded by a wall, called "*Hên Eglwys*," supposed to be a Druidical relic, or probably the remains of an ancient cemetery; and near Plâs dû, in the lower division of the parish, are some remains of an ancient British encampment. On the mountain between Bala and this place was found, some years ago, a large bone called the Giant's Rib, probably the bone of some fish, and now kept in the church. In the left branch of the valley in which the village is situated there is a large stone, under which were found, a few years ago, several coins, rings, and other relics of antiquity. It is said that a Roman road passed near this place, towards Aberystwith; and in many of the narrow passes between the hills which confine the vale are vestiges of ancient intrenchments, probably thrown up for defence. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £385. 16.

PENNARTH, or PENNARD (PEN-ARTH), a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. S. W.) from Swansea, containing 357 inhabitants. The name of this parish, signifying "the bear's head," is supposed to be derived from the peculiar form which this part of the coast assumes in its projection into the Bristol channel. Pennarth is thought to have been originally of more importance and of much greater extent than at present: the remains of an ancient castle, which appears to have been a structure of some magnificence; and the ruins of the ancient church, and foundations of numerous buildings, now covered with sands, afford striking evidences in support of this opinion. By whom or at what time the castle was originally erected has not been satisfactorily ascertained: its foundation has by some writers been ascribed to the Earl of Warwick, who brought this territory under his dominion in the reign of Henry I.; and by others its erection is attributed to an earlier period. A town is supposed to have existed where the sands now are: to the south of them is a small village, which still retains the name of Southgate, and to the north is a farm preserving the original name of Norton, or North-town. The parish is situated in the south-western part of the county, and is separated from that of Penmaen by a small rivulet called Penarth Pill: the coast is lined with rocks which extend from this place to Pwll dû Point, forming the eastern side of Oxwich bay. The lands, with the exception of a very large portion which has been covered with sand and rendered incapable of tillage, are enclosed and cultivated. The surrounding scenery is of rugged and dreary character; and the views, though combining some romantic features, derive their principal interest from the contiguity of the Bristol channel. Kilvrough House, the seat of Thomas Penrice, Esq., is a handsome

mansion: the grounds are now undergoing considerable improvement, and are being laid out with great taste and judgment, and, when the present alterations and improvements are completed, will form an interesting feature in the scenery of the place. Mr. Penrice has built a respectable and commodious house of entertainment, called the Gower Inn, for the accommodation of tourists, or persons on business, who, previously to its erection, were deterred from visiting this place, or the neighbouring country. The parish abounds with limestone of excellent quality, and extensive quarries have been opened, much of the produce of which is shipped to the counties of Cornwall and Devon. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 16. 8., endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Warden and Fellows of All Souls' College, Oxford, with whom Mr. Penrice is now in treaty for an exchange, in the event of obtaining which it is the intention of that gentleman to erect a parsonage-house, and to appoint a resident incumbent. The present church, dedicated to St. Mary, was erected about two centuries ago; it occupies a situation on the summit of a hill, about half a mile from that of the more ancient structure. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists, erected by the late Lady Barham. A school-room has been built by Mr. Penrice, in which poor children of the parish are gratuitously instructed, principally at his expense. The remains of the ancient castle occupy a site a few hundred yards above the mouth of the Pennarth Pill, and consist principally of the gateway entrance, which is nearly perfect, and in a good style of architecture: they are surrounded with sand hills of considerable elevation, and present a very singular appearance. In the limestone rocks along the southern boundary of the parish are two remarkable caverns, in which have been found bones of animals of various kinds: one of these, called Bacon's Hole, is inaccessible from the sea at any state of the tide, and is entered only by a steep narrow path from the summit of the cliff. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £70. 11.

PENPONT (PEN-PONT), a hamlet in the parish of LLANSPYTHID, hundred of DEVYNOC, county of BRECKNOCK, 5 miles (W. by N.) from Brecknock, containing 150 inhabitants. This place, which is sometimes called Capel Bettws, though more generally known under the name of Penpont, is pleasantly situated on the river Usk, near the influx of the Camlais, and on the road from London through Brecknock to Milford. The surrounding scenery is richly diversified and highly picturesque, and the views from the higher grounds, though partially obstructed by the intervention of luxuriantly wooded hills, embrace many objects of pleasing character, and features of romantic beauty. Penpont, the seat of Parry Williams, Esq., is a handsome and substantially built mansion, recently modernized, and beautifully situated in extensive park-like grounds, comprehending a rich variety of finely varied scenery: the grounds, which are tastefully laid out, are enlivened by the windings of the river Usk, on the bank of which a beautiful walk has been constructed, leading through them to Abercamlais: the margin of the river is finely shaded by lofty oaks throughout the



whole of this walk, and its waters, rolling over their rocky bed beneath, give to the whole a highly picturesque appearance. The grounds are almost surrounded by hills richly clothed with wood to their very summits; and within them the chapel of Penpont, otherwise called Capel Bettws, with its fine ample cemetery, forms a strikingly interesting object. In the house is preserved a portrait of Queen Anne Boleyn, second wife of Henry VIII., and mother of Queen Elizabeth, from whose family, of French origin, that of Williams is descended. Abercamlais, the seat of the Rev. John Williams, of the same family, and canon of St. David's, is also a good family mansion of more ancient appearance, situated in grounds which, though pleasingly disposed, are not distinguished by any strikingly picturesque scenery. Aberbrân, formerly the seat of another branch of this family, has been converted into a farm-house. All these houses are situated on the south bank of the Usk, within a mile of each other; and there is a bridge over the river nearly adjacent to each. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the parishioners residing within the hamlet. The chapel is a very small but neat edifice, with a cupola at the west end, pleasantly situated in the grounds of Penpont, close to the turnpike road, in an extensive cemetery enclosed within a ring fence, and surrounded with some venerable yews of luxuriant growth, intermixed with other trees: being much dilapidated, it was rebuilt about forty years since, and its general appearance greatly improved, at the sole expense of the late Mr. Philip Williams: here is the place of interment for the family of Williams. On a hill called the Gaer are some remains of an ancient British encampment. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £127. 4.

PENRHÔS (PEN-RHÔS), a parish in the hundred of GAFLOGION, Lley Division of the county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (W. S. W.) from Pwllheli, containing 112 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the western shore of Cardigan bay, is but of very moderate extent, comprising only a small portion of arable and pasture land, with some common: in many parts of it the soil is poor and sandy, and a considerable portion of the land will scarcely repay the labour and expense of cultivation. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the vicarage of Abereirch, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Cynwyl, is a very small edifice, with a thatched roof. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £29. 1.

PENRHÔS-LLIGWY, a parish in the hundred of TWRCelyn, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (E. N. E.) from Llanerchymedd, containing 557 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated near the shore of the Irish sea, is of very considerable extent, and is principally distinguished for the fine quarries of Mona marble with which it abounds, and in the procuring of which several of its inhabitants find constant employment. A small creek running up from Dulas bay affords every facility for conveying their produce to the shipping-place there, from which great quantities are sent to London and Liverpool. At a short distance from the mouth of the bay, which forms

a very commodious harbour, is a small island called Ynys Gadarn, a lofty rock of marble, on which is placed an occasional light to direct mariners in the navigation of these dangerous coasts, and to point out an object which has often proved fatal to those who were unacquainted with this part of the shore. A few of the inhabitants are also employed in carding and spinning wool, of which a small manufactory is carried on in the parish. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £800 royal bounty, and £500 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Lord Boston. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a neat modern structure. In the churchyard are two very ancient sepulchral stones, with inscriptions in very rude and antique characters, of which one is noticed by the author of the "*Mona Antiqua Restaurata*," as covering the grave of Mechell, or Macutus, grandson of one of the lords of Gloucester, Bishop of St. Maloes, and founder of the church of Llanvechell, in this county, who was massacred at Stonehege. Owen Lloyd, Esq., of London, in 1665, bequeathed a farm in the parochial chapelry of Iscoed, near Wrexham, directing the income to be applied to the apprenticing of poor boys of this parish to some trade or calling in London: the same gentleman left also £400 to be laid out in the purchase of land for the endowment of two exhibitions in the University of Oxford, for one boy, a native of this parish, and one a native of any part of the Isle of Anglesey. The rental of the farm is now £70 per annum, which is applied to the apprenticing of four boys of this parish: the exhibitors are appointed by Mr. Meyrick, of Bôdorgan. There are also some small charitable donations and bequests for distribution among the poor. Lligwy, in this parish, the ancient seat of the family of Llwyd, and now the property of Lord Boston, has been a venerable mansion, celebrated for the extensive woods surrounding it, of which at present there are but very small remains, the woodlands being now covered only with small brushwood and brambles, and the mansion almost in ruins. On the same estate are some remains of an ancient chapel, situated on an eminence overlooking the bay of Llŷs Dulas: the architecture, which is of the very rudest kind, bears testimony to its great antiquity: it is said to have been a private chapel belonging to the family mansion. On digging out a fox which had taken shelter in the ruins of this building, a large square vault was discovered, containing several human skeletons, which, on exposure to the air, crumbled into dust; and, on searching farther into the interior of the building, the ground which it enclosed was found to consist of a large mass of human bones, several feet in depth, and protected only by a covering of plaster, which formed the floor of the chapel. About a quarter of a mile to the south of these ruins is a very large cromlech, said to be the largest in the island: the table stone is nearly eighteen feet in length and sixteen feet in breadth, and is supported on five low upright stones, having one end resting upon a rock: this relic of antiquity is called by the country people Arthur's Quoit. Lewis Morris, an eminent antiquary, poet, and man of science, was born in this parish, in 1702: he was employed by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to survey the



coast of Wales, which work was completed and printed in 1748; he also left a work which he called "Celtic Remains," still unpublished, with an immense number of manuscripts, of which eighty volumes are deposited in the library of the Welsh charity school in Gray's Inn Lane, London. Richard Morris, his brother, distinguished himself as a Welsh critic and poet of considerable talent: he spent the greatest part of his life as first clerk in the Navy Office, during which time he superintended the printing of two valuable editions of the Welsh Bible. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £161. 4.

PENRICE, or PEN-RHÛS, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 13 miles (W. S. W.) from Swansea, containing 362 inhabitants. This place is said to have derived its name, signifying "the head of RhÛs," from the circumstance of RhÛs ab Caradoc ab Iestyn having been defeated and slain here, in defending his territories from the aggression of a party of Norman invaders. According to other authorities, the place is said to have obtained its name from the family of Penrice, who accompanied William the Conqueror into England, and afterwards obtained a settlement in Gower, in the reign of Edward I. The ancient castle, of which there are still some remains, is supposed to have been originally one of the fortresses raised by the Earl of Warwick, for the defence of the territory of Gower, which he had subjected to his authority, and to have been conveyed, together with the lordship, by marriage with Isabel, daughter and heiress of Sir John Penrice, to Sir Hugh Mansel, in the reign of Henry V. The property remained in the possession of this family till the year 1750, when, in default of heirs male, it passed to the second son of Mary, youngest daughter of Sir Thomas, afterwards Lord Mansel, who had been married to John Ivery Talbot, Esq., of Laycock Abbey, in the county of Wilts. The parish is situated on the western shore of Oxwich bay, in the Bristol channel, and comprises a moderate portion of arable and pasture land, the latter of which has been for the greater part recovered from the sea. The village is neatly built and of prepossessing appearance; the surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and enriched with wood; and the views over the bay and the surrounding country are not destitute of interest. Near the remains of the ancient castle stands the modern villa called Penrice Castle, the seat of the family of Talbot: the mansion, which is a handsome edifice, was erected by the late Mr. Talbot, with stone brought from the quarries of Margam; and the grounds, which are laid out with great taste, and ornamented with a large artificial sheet of water, well stocked with fish, comprehend a variety of pleasing scenery. At the distance of about half a mile from the house is Oxwich marsh, an extensive tract, partly in the parish of Penrice, and partly in those of Oxwich and Nicholaston adjoining: it was formerly overflowed by the sea at high water, but was recovered by means of an embankment, constructed at the expense and under the superintendence of Mr. Talbot: it was also drained by a broad ditch cut on the north side, which empties itself by flood gates into a rivulet or pill communicating with the sea. This tract, which is more than two hundred acres in extent,

affords excellent pasturage for cattle and horses, but the sheep that feed in it are now invariably subject to the rot, from which they were always free previously to the exclusion of the sea water. A market was formerly held here, and there are remains of the ancient market-place in the present village: fairs are still held on May 17th, June 20th, July 17th, and September 17th. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of C. R. M. Talbot, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, and situated on the summit of a hill, is an ancient structure with a lofty tower, which, being partly mantled with ivy, is both a conspicuous and picturesque object, as seen from the sea, and from the grounds of Penrice castle. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists at Horton. Sarah Bennet, in 1735, bequeathed £15 to the poor of the parish. The remains of Penrice castle occupy the summit of a high rock commanding Oxwich bay, and from its ruins it appears to have been of great strength and magnificence. Near the village are vestiges of an ancient intrenchment; and at a short distance is an old house, called the Sanctuary, which is said to have belonged to the manor of Millwood, or St. John's, the property of the knights of St. John of Jerusalem. Several ancient Saxon coins have recently been found here. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £61. 3.

PENRIETH (PEN-RHÛDD), a parish in the hundred of KILGERAN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (S. S. E.) from Cardigan, containing, with the chapelry of Castellan, 346 inhabitants. This parish is situated in a mountainous district in the north-eastern part of the county, and comprises a moderate portion of arable and pasture land, which, though light and poor, is enclosed and cultivated, and a considerable tract of unenclosed moor land, unsuceptible of profitable culture. The lofty mountain called Vrenni-Vawr, which, with only one exception, is the highest in the county, is comprehended within the limits of the parish. The surrounding scenery is bold and striking, but contains few features either of pleasing or picturesque beauty. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Crown. The church, dedicated to St. Cristiolus, is not remarkable for any architectural peculiarities. Within the parish is a chapel called Castellan, now in ruins, on account of which the incumbent receives one guinea per annum from Sir R. B. P. Philipps, of Picton Castle, Bart. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £91.

PENSTRYWED (PEN Y STROWED), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (W.) from Newtown, containing 123 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the southern bank of the river Severn, and on the turnpike road leading from Newtown to Llandinam, is composed of a very moderate extent of arable and pasture land, of which by far the greater part is enclosed. The surface is boldly undulated, rising in some parts into eminences of considerable elevation: the soil, which is in general fertile, is in the lower grounds rich and productive, and the



inhabitants are principally employed in agriculture. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, combining many features of picturesque beauty; and the views from the higher grounds embrace a tract of fertile and richly cultivated country. The living is a discharged rectory, within the jurisdiction of the Consistorial Court of the Bishop of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £5. 0. 10., and in the patronage of the Bishop. The church, dedicated to St. George, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, kept in decent repair, and appropriately fitted up. A portion of the Roman road leading from Caer-Sws to the Gaer, near Montgomery, may be traced, for some part of its course, in the grounds of Glân Havren, in this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £43. 16.

PENTIR, formerly a parish of itself, now consolidated with that of Bangor, to which it has become a township, in the hundred of ISGORVAI, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S.) from Bangor. The population is returned with Bangor. This place, which is situated among hills, after being repeatedly united to, and separated from, the parish of Bangor, was at length finally consolidated with it by the result of an action tried at Shrewsbury, in 1657, at the suit of Meredith *v.* Maurice. The living, formerly a vicarage not in charge, is now annexed to that of Bangor, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor: the tithes belong to the vicars choral of Bangor cathedral. A National school was established here in 1812, and is supported by subscription: about fifty children are gratuitously instructed, and, as there is no school-house, are taught in the church.

PENTRAETH (PEN-TRAETH), a parish in the hundred of TYNDAETHWY, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (N. W.) from Beaumaris, containing 938 inhabitants. The name of this place, signifying "the head or point of the sands," is derived from its situation at the head of a small bay of the Irish sea, called Traeth Côch, or "the Red Sands," and sometimes Red Wharf bay. The parish comprises a considerable tract of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and cultivated, and a large portion of common, affording tolerable pasturage for sheep and young cattle. Several of the inhabitants are employed in the quarries of marble and limestone which are worked here on a considerable scale, and as seamen on board the vessels engaged in conveying the produce of these quarries to its destination: there is also a small fulling-mill in the village, affording employment to a few persons. The whole of the western side of the Traeth Côch, which is the place for shipping the marble and limestone that are found on this part of the island, is within the parish; and the sands on the shore of the bay, which are dry at low water, are so intermixed with sea-shells, as to form a substitute for lime, and to be employed as manure for many miles round, even constituting a considerable article of export to the neighbouring coasts. The village, which is very neat and of prepossessing appearance, is pleasantly situated in a narrow sheltered vale, on the turnpike road from Beaumaris to Llanerchymedd. Plâs Gwyn, the seat of the late Paul Panton, Esq., and now the residence of his brother, is a spacious and handsome mansion, surrounded with thriving woods and plan-

tations, and containing a valuable library, in which are ninety-one volumes of manuscripts, chiefly in the Welsh language, which, during the life of the predecessor of the present occupier, was open to the inspection of the literary portion of the community. Fairs are held on May 5th, June 24th, and September 20th. The living forms part of the great rectory of Llanddvy-nan, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, held in commendam since the year 1701 by the Bishops of Bangor, who appoint a curate to serve both churches. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small but neat edifice, and was put into a complete state of repair in 1821: it contains some good monuments to the memory of deceased members of the families of Plâs Gwyn and Tre-vrŷ, and is one of the only two churches in the island noticed by the learned Grose, in his *Antiquities of Great Britain*. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Richard Jones, in 1715, bequeathed a tenement called Gors-lâs, in this parish, the rental of which he directed to be divided in equal portions among the poor of Pentraeth and Llansadwrn; and Dr. John Jones, Dean of Bangor, in 1719, gave £100 to the rector, in trust for teaching ten poor children to read Welsh. Mrs. Anne Williams charged the estate of Plâs Gwyn with the payment of £50, the interest of which, together with the rental of a tenement in Holyhead, an annual payment in money from Tan y Lôn, £28 per annum arising from a mortgage on a tenement called Pen y Lôn, and the bequest of Richard Jones, has been from some unknown cause either totally withheld, or diverted from its proper object. There are also various other charitable donations and bequests, of which several are by unknown benefactors, for distribution among the necessitous poor of the parish. Dr. John Jones, Dean of Bangor, who bequeathed many extensive benefactions to various parishes, principally for educating poor children, was born at Plâs Gwyn, in this parish: he left his valuable library to the cathedral church of Bangor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £261. 8.

PENTRE-HOBYN, a township in the parish of HAWARDEN, hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 1½ mile (S.) from Hawarden, containing 931 inhabitants, the population having increased upwards of one-fifth since the census of 1821. It comprises what may be considered the southern suburbs of the town of Hawarden, and is chiefly noted for its manufacture of fire-bricks, tiles, coarse earthenware, &c., of which large quantities are exported: the clay for the purpose is procured in the immediate neighbourhood. A part of the Warren mountain, in this township, was enclosed by an act of parliament in 1798. Pentre Hobyn House is a fine old mansion, erected in 1540.

PENTRE-VOELAS, a parochial chapelry in the hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, on the road from London to Holyhead and Dublin, 14 miles (S. W.) from Denbigh, containing 616 inhabitants. This chapelry comprises a portion of the most sterile moorlands of the county: three houses only constitute the village, at which a post-office has been established, and fairs are held on March 18th, May 12th, August 14th, and November 20th. An excellent road has recently been constructed from this place to Denbigh, across the mountains, which is intended to be continued to Fes-



tinog, thus forming a direct line of communication between the Vale of Clwyd and the slate quarries of Merionethshire and Carnarvonshire. The female inhabitants are chiefly employed in the spinning of woollen yarn, and the knitting of stockings, and the males in attendance upon their herds and flocks. At the extremity of the chapelry stands a small house, built in a curious style by C. W. G. Wynne, Esq., for a family residence, and called Lima. The living is a perpetual curacy, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, endowed with £300 private benefaction, and £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of C. W. G. Wynne, Esq. The chapel is a small edifice, very much dilapidated. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. Several small bequests have been made for the benefit of the poor by different members of the family of Wynne, the produce of which is distributed among them on St. Thomas' day. Within a short distance of the chapel is an extensive earth-work, once the site of Castell Côch, a fortress which was taken and destroyed by Llewelyn the Great; and in a plantation near the ruins of Voelas Hall stands a lofty columnar stone, bearing an inscription in Latin and Welsh, supposed to have been erected over the grave of Llewelyn ab Sytsylt, Prince of Wales, who was slain in the year 1021. There is a mineral spring within this chapelry, strongly impregnated with iron. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £255. 17.

PENTRËV-CWN a hamlet in that part of the parish of LLANDILO-VAWR which is in the hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. S. W.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 206 inhabitants. It is situated in the valley of the Towy, and on the left bank of that river, immediately opposite to Dynevor Castle, and contains several agreeable residences. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £131. 17.

PENTYRCH, a parish in the hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N. W. by W.) from Cardiff, containing 926 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the western bank of the river Tâf, here crossed by an iron bridge, the passengers over which are subject to a toll, is divided into Garth and Castle hamlets, which do not, however, maintain their poor separately. Messrs. Richard Blakemore and Co., of the Melin Gruffydd Works, two miles southward, have also extensive works here: at the upper works is a blast furnace, and pig iron and finers' metal are there manufactured; these are rolled into charcoal bar iron at the lower works, the metal thus completed in which is conveyed by a tram-road to the Melin Gruffydd works, for the manufacture of tin and sheet iron: the number of persons employed, including colliers and miners, is about one hundred and seventy. In one part of the parish the iron-ore is found in parallel strata; in another, in patches, indiscriminately blended with limestone: there is also an abundance of good coal, which is actively worked. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £8. 3.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Archdeacon and Chapter of Llandaf. The church is dedicated to St. Cadocus. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. A school is about to be established by subscrip-

tion among the principal landed proprietors. Mary Matthew, in 1729, gave by will the sum of £300, for the benefit of the poor. An old mansion in this parish, called "Castell y Mynach," now the property of Lord Dynevor, and occupied by a farmer, was formerly a religious house, but nothing is known of its history. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £355. 17.

PEN Y BONT, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES. —See LLANBADARN-VAWR.

PETERSTON super ELY, a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (W.) from Cardiff, containing 192 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Peter, and its distinguishing adjunct from its situation on the bank of the river Ely, lies in the south-eastern part of the county, and comprises a moderate portion of arable and pasture land, which is in a good state of cultivation. Limestone is found in most parts of the parish, and the procuring of it affords employment to a portion of the inhabitants. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £7. 12.  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of Sir T. D. Aubrey. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is not distinguished by any architectural details. A parochial school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, and a Sunday school, are supported principally by subscription. There are in this parish the remains of an ancient castle, which has been long in ruins; but nothing satisfactory is known either of its original foundation or of its history. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £125. 16.

PETERSTON super MONTEM, a chapelry in the parish of COYCHURCH, hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (N. E. by E.) from Bridgend, containing 134 inhabitants. It is in Welsh called Llanbedr ar Vynydd, "the church of St. Peter on the mountain," and is situated on the confines of the hundreds of Ogmere and Cowbridge, at some distance from the mother church. It occupies the southern declivity of the mountain of Mynydd y Rhiw, and the inhabitants are exclusively engaged in agriculture. The river Ely partly bounds it on the north. The chapel is dedicated to St. Peter: attached to it is a Welsh Sunday school. A sum of £15 has been left to the poor of this chapelry; besides which, twenty-five shillings per annum are distributed among those not receiving parochial relief. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £66. 14.

PETROX (ST.), a parish in the hundred of CASTLE-MARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (S. W.) from Pembroke, containing 77 inhabitants. This parish, which is also called Llan Pedrog, derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Pedrog, a British saint, who flourished about the commencement of the seventh century. It comprises but a very moderate tract of arable and pasture land, and is chiefly distinguished for the salubrity of the air, and the longevity of its inhabitants: the surface is pleasingly varied, and the soil fertile. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 3. 9., and in the patronage of Earl Cawdor. The church, dedicated to St. Pedrog, is a neat edifice, with a handsome square tower, and is situated on an eminence commanding a



pleasing view over the adjacent country. Attached to the living is a comfortable glebe-house, pleasantly situated and in good repair, with a moderate portion of land. The poor children of this parish have the privilege of gratuitous instruction in the parochial school at Cheriton. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £58. 15.

PICKHILL, a township in that part of the parish of BANGOR-ISCOED which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. S. E.) from Wrexham, containing 175 inhabitants. It is situated on the western bank of the Dee, and has a few handsome residences overlooking that river, among which Pickhill Hall is the most conspicuous. There are benefactions amounting to £6. 13. 4. per annum, for teaching poor children. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £126. 4.

PILLITH (PWLL-LLAITH), a parish in the hundred of KEVENLEECE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{3}{4}$  miles (S. W.) from Knighton, containing 75 inhabitants. This place is distinguished as the scene of a memorable engagement which took place between the army of Owain Glyndwr and the forces under the command of Sir Edward Mortimer, in which the latter was taken prisoner, with the loss of eleven hundred of his men. This battle, which is noticed by Shakspeare in his play of Henry IV., was fought on the 22d of June, 1402, on a hilly common, about half a mile to the north of the church. The parish is situated on the river Lug, and extends for about three miles in length, and one mile and a half in breadth: the greater portion of the land is enclosed, and in a tolerable state of cultivation; the surface is boldly undulated; and the soil, especially in the lower grounds, is fertile and productive: in many parts of the parish is dug peat of excellent quality. The living is a vicarage not in charge, annexed to that of Llangunllo, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is an ancient structure, consisting only of a nave and chancel, and not remarkable for any architectural details. The poor children of this parish are entitled to gratuitous instruction in the school founded at Whitton, by Lady Child, of this parish, who endowed it with lands producing more than £100 per annum, and under the provisions of whose will one child of this parish is annually apprenticed. On a common in the northern part of the parish are a few scattered houses, forming a place called Hên dre'r Garreg, or "the old town of the rock." In the churchyard is a well, the water of which is said to be peculiarly efficacious in the cure of all diseases of the eye. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £51. 12.

PIPTON, a hamlet in that part of the parish of GLÂSBURY which is in the hundred of TALGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. W.) from Hay, containing 140 inhabitants. This hamlet is situated on the south bank of the Wye, and between that river and the Llynvi. The road from Hay to Builth passes through it, and the surrounding country is fertile and pleasing. Here was formerly a chapel of ease to the mother church of Glâsbury, now demolished. A small benefaction of £1 per annum was left for the use of the poor, in 1671, by Mrs. Sybil Williams, of Trêvithel, in the adjacent parish of Bronllys. A separate

assessment is made for the maintenance of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £84. 11.

PISTILL (PISTYLL), a parish in the hundred of DINLLAEN, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (N. by W.) from Pwllheli, containing 528 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the shore of Carnarvon bay, and comprises a small mountainous district, the entire surface of which is dreary, rugged, and barren; and the scenery derives the little interest it possesses from the vicinity of the bay. There is no village, the houses being entirely scattered. Near the church is a modern farm-house, built upon the site of an ancient mansion: the proprietor of this farm, comprising two hundred acres of land, pays only one shilling modus for tithes, in consideration of the smallness of which charge he is compelled to provide bread and cheese, with good ale, or mead, for every person who shall have crossed the pass leading through the mountains of Yr Eivl, on their way to the market town of Nevin. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Edern, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor. The church, in which divine service is performed only on every third Sunday, is a small edifice, situated under a high rock, and upon the verge of a precipice overlooking the sea. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists: the former is situated at a place called Llithvaen, and the latter, to which a school is attached, stands near the church. To the east of the church is a small vale, called Nant Gwrtheirn, or "the Vale of Vortigern," to which that prince is said to have retreated for shelter from his infuriated subjects, and where he built a castle, which is said to have been destroyed by lightning. This narrow vale is situated between Craig y Llan and Yr Eivl, and is accessible only by sea; the sides are bounded by barren and rugged rocks, on which not a blade of vegetation is seen. At one extremity rises the loftiest peak of Yr Eivl, and the only opening is towards the sea, by which it is bounded on the north: the sole agricultural produce of this vale is oats. Near the shore is a small verdant mound, said to have been the site of Vortigern's castle; and near it was formerly a tumulus, called Bedd Gwrtheirn, or "Vortigern's Grave," in which was found a stone coffin, containing human bones. No traces of these relics are now visible, but the spot is still pointed out where that unfortunate prince, who met his death in this retired spot, in 464, was interred. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £119. 15.

PONTVAEN (PONT-VAEN), a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. E.) from Fishguard, containing 61 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the turnpike road leading from Haverfordwest to Newport, has a diversified surface, enlivened by the river Gwayn, which runs through it. Pontvaen House, formerly the residence of the Laugharnes, and now by purchase, together with the estate, including the whole of the parish, the property of Henry Rees, Esq., is a handsome mansion, pleasantly situated, and surrounded with thriving plantations. The neighbourhood is supposed to afford some of the best grouse-shooting in the county. The soil is in general fertile: the substratum is slate, which however has not yet been worked. The living is a discharged



rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £3. 6. 8., endowed with £1200 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Henry Rees, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Bernard, is not remarkable for any architectural details of importance. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £24. 15.

**PORT-DINORWIG**, a small port, in the parish of LLANVAIRISGAER, hundred of ISGORVAI, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. N. E.) from Carnarvon: the population is returned with the parish. This place, anciently called "Aber Pwll," is situated on the Menai strait, and has a small and commodious harbour, accessible at high water to vessels of one hundred tons' burden. It forms a convenient shipping-place for the produce of the slate mines in the parish of Llandeiniolen, from which a rail-road, seven miles in length, extending from the quarries to this place, was constructed in 1824, for the conveyance of the slates, of which not less than twenty thousand tons are annually shipped at this port. The harbour, which has been recently enlarged, is capable of accommodating thirty vessels, which may lie here in safety while waiting for their freight, and the quay has been greatly improved.

**PORT-EYNON (PORTH-EINION)**, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 15 miles (W. S. W.) from Swansea, containing 368 inhabitants. It is situated on the Bristol channel, and is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation: the village, which occupies a pleasant situation on the west, forms a pleasing feature in the picturesque scenery with which the environs abound. There is an extensive oyster fishery on the coast, which, with the exportation of its produce, affords a lucrative employment during the season to a large proportion of the inhabitants. There are from fifteen to twenty vessels, varying in burden from thirty to sixty tons, engaged in this and the limestone trade, the oysters, when obtained in sufficient quantity, being shipped off to Bristol. The parish abounds with limestone, which is procured in large quantities for exportation, and also for the supply of the neighbouring districts. On that which is exported a toll of two-pence per ton, called "cliffage," is paid to the lord of the manor, and frequently amounts to £40 per month. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 5. 10., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church is dedicated to St. Cadocus. Mr. John Clement, in 1784, bequeathed the sum of £14. 9. 6., directing the interest to be laid out in bread for distribution among the poor of this parish not receiving parochial relief. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £62. 13.

**PORTHKERRY (PORTH-CERI)**, a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S. E.) from Cowbridge, containing 109 inhabitants. This place derives its name, signifying the port of Ceri, from its situation on a small harbour of the Bristol channel, which is entered by vessels of inconsiderable burden, for the purpose of shipping the limestone which is quarried in the neighbourhood. Ceri,

from whom the harbour received its name, was the great grandfather of the celebrated Caradog, or Carac-tacus; but in what respect that chieftain was connected with this place does not appear. The manor formed part of the allotment of Sir John St. John, of Fommon castle, one of Fitz-Hamon's knights, and, after passing through various hands, ultimately came into the possession of the late Sir Samuel Romilly, whose heirs are the present proprietors. The parish comprises but a very small tract of land, the whole of which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £7. 8.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the patronage of the heirs of the late Sir Samuel Romilly. The church, dedicated to St. Curig, is not remarkable for any architectural details; but in the churchyard is a handsome cross, in tolerably good preservation. There is a small charitable bequest to the poor of this parish by an unknown benefactor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £63. 16.

**PORT-PENRHYN**, a small sea-port in the parish of LLANDEGAI, hundred of LLÊCHWEDD UCHÂV, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (E.) from Bangor. The population is returned with the parish. This place, which is of recent origin, owes its existence to the late Lord Penrhyn, by whom it was selected, as the shipping-place for the slates from his very extensive quarries in the vale of Nantfrancon, in this parish. It is very conveniently situated for that purpose on the Menai strait, closely adjoining the city of Bangor. About the year 1790, his lordship constructed a commodious wharf at the mouth of the river Cegin, which here falls into the strait, and in proportion to the extension and increased production of the quarries have been the subsequent improvements of this port. Extensive quays, accessible at all states of the tide to vessels of considerable tonnage, and additional wharfs, have been constructed; several sluices have been made; and spacious warehouses for depositing the produce of the quarries have been erected. A railway, six miles in length, has been formed from the quarries to the port, and every possible accommodation has been provided for facilitating the business here transacted. The only article shipped is the slate, of which immense quantities are sent coast-wise, and several cargoes of roofing slates are annually exported to America. The business transacted at this port affords constant employment to more than two hundred men, making, with the number engaged in the quarries, nearly one thousand seven hundred persons employed in these very extensive and important works. Port Penrhyn, for representative purposes, is included within the new limits of the city of Bangor.

**PORTSEYBORVAWR, (PORTH SCYBOR, or YS-GUBOR, VAWR)**, a joint hamlet with Kitploith, in the parish of LLANDEVEYLOG, hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (S.) from Carmarthen. The population is returned with Kitploith. It is situated on the left bank of the river Towy, along which there is a causeway to the town of Carmarthen. Several respectable residences are observable on the banks of the river, as well as on those of the river Pibwr, which flows through this place to its junction with the Towy. Over a chasm through which this stream takes its course is a remarkable bridge, on



the road from Carmarthen to Llandarog. A Roman road from Kidwelly to Carmarthen passed through this hamlet.

**PREES-UCHÂ**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**.—See **TRÊV-BRÛS**.

**PRENDERGAST**, a parish in the hundred of **DUNGLEDY**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, adjoining to and comprising part of the borough of **Haverfordwest**, and containing 1105 inhabitants. This place derives its appellation from an ancient family of the same name, to whom the whole parish formerly belonged, and of whose mansion some remains may still be traced. The last member of that family who enjoyed this property was **Maurice de Prendergast**, who accompanied **Strongbow**, **Earl of Clare**, into Ireland, in which kingdom he finally settled. The property afterwards came into the possession of the **Stepneys**, who resided here till their removal into the county of **Carmarthen**, when the ancient seat, being deserted, soon fell into decay. The parish is situated between the rivers **Hiog** and **Cledy**, and, near its south-western extremity, is connected with the town of **Haverfordwest** by a bridge across the latter, from which the village extends chiefly along the road to **Cardigan**, with a branch street southward; the whole forming an extensive and important suburb of **Haverfordwest**. A small tract at this angle of the parish, comprising a part of the village lying nearest to the town, is included within the ancient limits of the town and county of the town of **Haverfordwest**, the electoral boundaries of which are extended by the 2nd and 3rd of **William IV.**, c. 64., so as to include the whole village, together with the south-western portion of the parish, which contains about fifty houses of value sufficient to qualify the tenants as voters for the borough. The petty sessions for the hundred are held in the village. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of **St. David's**, rated in the king's books at £9. 14. 9., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the King, as **Prince of Wales**. The church, dedicated to **St. David**, is an ancient and venerable structure, in the early style of English architecture, and in good repair. There is a place of worship for **Primitive Methodists**. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £186. 19.

**PRESTATYN**, a joint township with **Nant**, in the parish of **MELIDEN**, hundred of **PRESTATYN**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**, 6 miles (**N.N.E.**) from **St. Asaph**. The population is returned with the parish. This place, from which the hundred derives its name, was anciently a lordship, and had a castle, which is supposed to have been erected at a very early period by the native British inhabitants of the district. This fortress was wrested from its ancient owners, in the reign of **Henry II.**, by the English, who had possession of it in the year 1167, when it was destroyed by **Owain Gwynedd**, **Cadwaladr**, and **Rhÿs**, **Prince of South Wales**, who then reduced the whole of **Tegengle** to the power of **Owain**. The lordship was granted by **Richard I.** to **Robert Banaster**, who kept possession of it for nearly four years, and built a town which was afterwards destroyed by **Owain Gwynedd**. In the seventh of **Edward I.** **Robert de Crevecoeur** laid claim to it, in right of his ancestor **Banaster**, and, on an inquisition taking place, it was determined in his favour. From the **Crevecoeurs** the lordship passed by marriage to the **Conways** of **Bôd-**

**ryddan**, and on the division of the family estates, after the death of **Sir John Conway**, it fell, in right of his mother, to the **Rev. Richard Williams**, of **Vron**, who disposed of it to his brother-in-law, **Richard Wilding**, Esq. Of the ancient castle there are still some small vestiges, consisting of portions of the foundation, on an elevated spot called **Plas Prestatyn**, in a meadow below the mill; and likewise traces of the fosse by which it was surrounded, at some distance. The township is situated on the shore of the **Irish sea**, in a flat district, which is highly cultivated and richly productive of all kinds of grain, but more especially of excellent wheat, for the growth of which the soil is peculiarly favourable. From the shore, which is a fine sandy beach, extends for a distance of four miles, in a westerly direction, a sand-bank called **Chester Bar**, which is dry at low water; and other extensive banks are observable at a greater distance from the coast, projecting into the sea, and occupying the mouth of the æstuary of the **Dee**: at the distance of half a mile from the shore the water varies from one to two fathoms in depth.

**PRESTEIGN**, otherwise **LLANANDRAS**, a parish, partly in the hundred of **WIGMORE**, county of **HEREFORD**, and partly in the hundred and county of **RADNOR**, **SOUTH WALES**, in which latter it comprises the township of **Presteign** (including the market and assize town of that name), and the chapelry of **Discoed**, which separately support their own poor, 8 miles (**E. N. E.**) from **New Radnor**, and 152 (**W. N. W.**) from **London**; the whole parish contains 3282 inhabitants, there being in that part of it which is in the county of **Radnor** 1629, of which number, 1513 are in the township of **Presteign**, which includes the whole of the town, together with an extensive tract of land surrounding it on the east, south, and west. This place, of which the latter name is derived from the dedication of its church to **St. Andrew**, appears to have remained in obscurity till towards the close of the thirteenth century, and to have first risen into importance during the prelacy of **David Martin**, **Bishop of St. David's**, who was raised to that see in the year 1293. This prelate, who continued to preside over the see till 1328, was a munificent benefactor to it, having obtained for the inhabitants the privilege of holding a weekly market, which, according to **Leland**, was in his time celebrated for its corn, and frequented by the people of the cantrêv of **Maelienydd**. Either from its retired situation or its want of local importance, it appears to have been altogether unconnected with any of the military events that so often disturbed the internal tranquillity of the principality, or made the marches the scene of havoc and slaughter. During the parliamentary war in the reign of **Charles I.**, that monarch, retreating before **Cromwell**, then in the neighbourhood of **Hereford**, appears from an entry in an old parish register to have passed two nights at the house of **Nicholas Taylor**, Esq., who lived in this parish, at a place called the **Lower Heath**, near what is now called "the King's Turning," probably from the circumstance of the king having turned thence over the hills to **Newtown** in **Montgomeryshire**, from which place he proceeded to **Chester**.

The town, which is now the chief town in the county of **Radnor**, is pleasantly situated in the midst of a fertile vale surrounded by hills, of which some are richly wooded, and is separated from that



part of the parish which is in Herefordshire only by the small river Lug, which here forms a boundary between the two counties, and is crossed by an ancient bridge of three small arches. It consists of one principal thoroughfare, from which two smaller streets diverge nearly at right angles, and parallel with each other, in a direction towards the river. Though of an irregular form, it has an air of neatness and respectability superior to most of the towns in this part of the principality: the houses, though in general small, are well built and of neat appearance, and are interspersed with several of larger size, inhabited by respectable families of independent fortune, and professional individuals. The streets are partially paved, though not lighted; and the inhabitants are amply supplied with water by means of pumps and open wells. The surrounding scenery is finely varied, and in many points highly picturesque; and from the hills by which the vale is surrounded are some interesting and extensive views over the country adjacent. An eminence called Warden, a little to the west of the town, supposed to have been the site of an ancient castle, of which there are no remains, was presented to the inhabitants by the Earl of Oxford, and has been laid out in agreeable walks, forming a pleasant promenade, which is a favourite resort of the inhabitants: it commands a very delightful prospect, embracing a fine tract of highly cultivated country, embellished with pleasingly diversified scenery, and enlivened with numerous gentlemen's seats, among which Boultonbrook, the seat of Sir Harford Jones Brydges, Bart., an elegant mansion situated in beautifully disposed grounds, forms a conspicuous object. The river Lug is celebrated for its trout and graylings, which are taken here of superior quality. A woollen manufacture was formerly carried on, but it has been for some time abandoned, and the town has now no branch of manufacture: the trade is principally in malt, of which a great quantity is made, the soil in the neighbourhood being favourable to the growth of barley. Some trade is also carried on in timber, which is brought from the counties of Hereford and Radnor, and in coal, brought by land carriage from the Clee Hill in Shropshire, and also from Monmouthshire, by a railroad to Kington, in Herefordshire, and thence by land carriage to this town. A portion of traffic arises also from its situation on the turnpike roads leading from New Radnor to Leominster, and from Knighton to Kington; and the neighbourhood for five miles round is principally supplied with grocery, drapery, iron work, and shop goods in general, from this place, which has become a central dépôt for those articles of trade. The market is on Saturday: the principal fairs are now held annually on May 9th and October 13th, of which the former is also a statute fair for the hiring of servants; and there is a smaller fair on December 11th. A fair formerly held on the 20th of June has been superseded by a celebrated wake, called Warden Wake, now annually held on that day upon the eminence called Warden.

This place is a borough by prescription; and there is a crown manor, styled "the Lordship, Manor, and Borough of Presteign," comprising the township of Presteign and the chapelry of Discoed. It has a bailiff and two constables, the former appointed annually at the court leet of the crown, but exercising no magis-

terial authority. The township is divided into the four wards of High-street, St. David's-street, Broad-street, and Hereford-street, of which the two former and the two latter collect their poor's rates jointly, and the whole are united for the maintenance of the poor. The borough formerly claimed to be contributory to New Radnor, in the return of a member to parliament; but this claim of the inhabitants to exercise the elective franchise was rejected by the House of Commons, in 1690, on the assertion of the right, from which, according to the prevailing tradition among the inhabitants, they had been previously excluded, on refusing to contribute towards the expense of supporting their representative. But, under the recent act to amend the representation, the township of Presteign, and the chapelry of Discoed, comprehending all that part of the parish which is situated within the county of Radnor, together with a small tract of the Herefordshire portion of it, on the banks of the Lug, immediately opposite the town, of which it contains a small suburb, form a contributory borough with those of Kevenleece, Knighton, Cnwclas, and Rhaiadr, in returning one member to parliament for the borough of Radnor. There being no former freemen, the right of election is vested in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the limits of the borough are minutely defined in the Appendix; the number of tenements of the above value, comprised within the Radnorshire portion of the borough, is one hundred and thirty-seven. In the 35th and 36th of Henry VIII. a statute was passed, ordaining that the county courts, which had been previously held alternately at New Radnor and at Rhaiadr, should be thereafter held alternately at New Radnor and at Presteign, in consequence of a sheriff having been resisted in the execution of his duty, and killed in a tumult at Rhaiadr; and it was subsequently arranged that the courts of assize should be held invariably at this place, where also the quarter sessions are held. The sheriff's courts are held here alternately with New Radnor. Presteign is likewise, by the 2nd and 3rd of William IV., c. 64, constituted a polling-place for the election of the county representative. The shire-hall, erected in 1829, at an expense of £ 5000, defrayed by the county, is a handsome and commodious edifice of brick and stone, with a stuccoed front: it consists of a centre and two wings, the former ornamented with four equidistant pilasters of the Tuscan order, supporting an entablature and cornice, and the latter having each a receding portico, supported by three Tuscan columns: the centre comprises the court for holding the assizes and sessions, which is conveniently arranged: the north wing contains an apartment for the grand jury, a withdrawing-room for the petty jury, offices for the clerk of the peace, and apartments for the housekeeper; and the south wing comprises a suite of apartments intended for the accommodation of the judges, consisting of two bedrooms, with dressing-rooms attached, a dining-room and a drawing-room, each thirty feet long, twenty feet wide, and sixteen feet in height. But the recent alteration in the Welsh judicature has rendered these preparations less necessary, as the judges seldom protract their



stay in the town beyond two days, and the apartments, which have not been yet furnished, are not likely to be occupied for that purpose. The county gaol, including also the house of correction for the county, was built in 1820, at an expense of £3500: it is situated on the east side of the town, and comprises three wards for the classification of prisoners, and, including the apartments for debtors, contains thirty-five sleeping cells, four day-rooms, and four airing-yards: the prisoners sentenced to hard labour are employed in breaking stones, there being no tread-wheel at present in the prison: the whole is enclosed within a wall eighteen feet high, and the entrance is between two massive three-quarter columns, supporting an entablature.

The living is a rectory, with the chapelry of Discoed annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Hereford, rated in the king's books at £20, and in the patronage of the Earl of Oxford. The impropriate tithes of this parish having been forfeited to the crown by the feoffees of the parish of St. Antholine, in the city of London, in the 15th of Charles I., in consequence of their purchasing impropriations for the purpose of maintaining "factious and seditious lectures," were granted by that monarch to the Rev. John Scull, B.D., rector of this parish, and to his successors for ever: this grant was revoked after the decapitation of that sovereign, but was restored by Charles II., in the first year of his reign. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a spacious and handsome structure, partly in the decorated, and partly in the later style of English architecture, with a square western tower, strengthened with buttresses at the angles, and surmounted by a turret at one of them, and by pinnacles at the other three. The interior consists of a nave, chancel, and two aisles, the south aisle extending the whole length of the building, and forming a second chancel, which is claimed by the parishioners as their property: the nave is separated from the aisles by series of six pointed arches, resting upon octagonal pillars. The altar-piece is embellished with some fine tapestry, representing the entry of our Saviour into Jerusalem, the colours of which, though not vivid, harmonize well, and the whole is in a state of excellent preservation: above it is the following inscription, recording the name of the donor,—"*Richard de Brampton Parva, in hac parochia, Arm., 1737.*" This was Richard Owen, who also gave two silver salvers, to hold the bread at the communion. There are four small galleries, and in that at the west end is a good organ, presented to the parish, in 1819, by the late Robert Edwards, of this town. In the chancel are some handsome monuments to the memory of several deceased members of the families of Owen, Price, and Davies. There are places of worship for Baptists and Wesleyan Methodists. The free grammar school was founded in the reign of Elizabeth, by John Beddowes, formerly a clothier of this town, who endowed it with some houses, and with seventy-seven acres of land, in the township of Presteign, now producing £150 per annum, and vested in eleven trustees: the present number of trustees is seven, who have power to fill up vacancies. There are also numerous charitable donations and bequests for the relief of the poor, and for various other purposes, of which the following are the principal: Nicholas Taylor, Sen., Esq., gave £30 for apprenticing one poor boy or girl of the parish, to

which £20 was afterwards added by his son, who also bequeathed £30 to buy clothing for the poor; Ambrose Meredith, of Napleton, gave one-half of two parcels of land, and one cottage with a garden, for apprenticing children, and the other half to the poor generally; Sir Thomas Street, of Worcestershire, one of the judges on the circuit, gave £20, forfeited by William Whitcomb, high sheriff of Radnorshire, for his non-appearance at the assizes, towards apprenticing seven children; and Margaret Price, of Pillith, left £50 for apprenticing one poor boy, and ten pounds for clothing to be given to two poor people annually. Ellen Harris, of London, in 1630, bequeathed the yearly sum of £4, of which four marks were to be paid for four sermons, one mark to be distributed among the poor on the days those sermons were delivered, and one mark to the churchwardens of the parish for ever. John Matthews, of Clerkenwell, London, bequeathed £50 to be lent without interest for two years to five or six poor tradesmen of this parish, and £2. 12. per annum to be distributed in bread to the poor: he also bequeathed a fund for the distribution of six coats and six bibles to poor children. John Eccleston, Esq., of this town, gave £50 for the erection of some small houses, as rent-free residences for the poor. Edward Price, Esq., of Aylesbury, in the county of Bucks, bequeathed £50, now secured on the Radnorshire turnpike trust, the interest to be distributed in bread to the poor. Thomas Cornwall, Baron Burford, and lord of Stapleton and Lugharnest, gave several sums of money forfeited to him as lord of the manor, and amounting to £8. 12.; and Nicholas Scarlet, of this town, gave £2 per annum, to the poor. Littleton Powell, Esq., of Stannage, one of the six clerks in Chancery, gave a large silver flagon for holding the sacramental wine, weighing seventy-four ounces three drachms, and valued at £25, to the church; and Giles Whitehall, Esq., of the Moor, gave to the township of Presteign an engine with twelve leather buckets, for extinguishing fires in the town. Dr. Richard Lucas, master of the free grammar school at Abergavenny, and subsequently vicar of St. Stephen's, Coleman-street, London, and lecturer of St. Olave's, Southwark, a popular preacher of his time, was born in this town. A curious custom prevails here on Shrove-Tuesday, which is observed by one party pulling a rope upwards, and another downwards to the river, the successful party retaining the rope in token of victory; and it is popularly predicted that, if the party pulling the rope upwards prevails, grain will be cheap that year, but, if it goes down, it will be dear. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the township of Presteign amounts to £422. 7., and of the chapelry of Discoed to £17. 7.

PRIESTHOLME ISLAND, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES.—See PENMON.

PRION, a joint township with Cliciedig, in the parish of LLANRHAIADR-IN-KINMERCH, hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S. S. W.) from Denbigh. The population is included in the return for the parish. This township was formerly assessed with those of Cliciedig Isâv and Uchâv, for the joint maintenance of their poor, but now there is a general assessment for the parish. A river rises in the hilly part of it, from two sources, after the union



of the waters from which it sinks under ground, and does not shew itself again, until it bursts forth in a copious stream from a limestone rock at the well of Fynnon St. Dyvnog, near the parish church.

PRISK (PRYSC), a joint township with Carvan, in the parish of LLANDEWY-BREVI, upper division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, containing, with Carvan, 149 inhabitants. These names signify a coppice on the ridge of an eminence, in allusion to the situation of the township. The population is exclusively agricultural. A separate assessment is made for the support of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £55. 17.

PRYSG (Y PRYSG), a joint parcel with Killey, in the parish of LLANGATTOCK, hundred of CRICKHOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  miles (S. W.) from Crickhowel. The population, which has increased nearly a fourth since the census of 1821, is included in the return for the parish. This place is situated on the right bank of the river Usk, and one of the roads from Abergavenny to Crickhowel passes through it. The Brecknock canal intersects it in a line parallel with the river, and the neighbourhood contains some pleasing residences, the principal of which is Dan y Park, to which was formerly attached an extensive demesne, now partly divided into cultivated enclosures. There are numerous limestone quarries, and much of their produce is burned into lime, which is conveyed by the Brecknock canal to various places along its banks. At the south-western extremity of this district, on the banks of the Ebbwy Vawr stream, which separates it from Monmouthshire, are situated the Beaufort iron-works, belonging to Messrs. Kendall, West, and Bevan, from which railways diverge across the mountains to the Gylvâch coal-pits and to the Brecknock canal.

PUNCHESTON, a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (N. N. E.) from Haverfordwest, containing 326 inhabitants. This parish, which is also called "Castell Mael," probably from an ancient encampment, of which there are still some remains, comprises a considerable tract of arable and pasture land, the greater portion enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surface is boldly undulated, in some parts rising into mountainous elevations; and the soil is various, but in the low grounds fertile and productive. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 6. 8., and in the patronage of the Rev. James Williams James. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is not remarkable for any architectural details. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists; and the Society of Friends had formerly a place of interment in this parish. The remains of the ancient encampment above noticed occupy the summit of a rocky eminence, inaccessible on one side by the precipitous steepness of the acclivity, and defended on the other sides by a deep intrenchment. The Rev.—Gambold, father of Bishop Gambold, and the compiler of a Welsh, Latin, and English Dictionary, was for some years rector of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £51. 13.

PWLLCROCHON (PWLL-CROCHAN), a parish in the hundred of CASTLEMARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (W. by N.) from Pembroke, con-

taining 174 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the south side of Milford Haven, and comprises a considerable tract of arable and pasture land, of which, with the exception of a comparatively small portion, the whole is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. Limestone abounds within its limits, and some of the inhabitants are employed in the quarries, which are worked on a moderate scale. A small creek of Milford Haven affords great facility for conveying their produce to its destination. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 12. 11., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a venerable structure, in the decorated style of English architecture, erected in the fourteenth century by Radulph Beneger, then rector of the parish, who was interred in the south aisle, where his effigy is placed in a recess, with the following inscription in old Norman characters;—*Hic jacet Radulphus Beneger, Hujus ecclesie rector.*" In a tablet inserted in the wall there is also a complimentary tribute in Latin verse; and in the outer angle of the north transept is the inscription, also in Norman characters, "*A.D. 1342, Erat ista Ecclesia constructa de novo, cum capella ista, per Radulphum Beneger, qui rexit ecclesiam per annos . . .*" In the churchyard a skirmish took place in 1648, during the parliamentary war in the reign of Charles I., between the royalist and parliamentary forces. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. John Meares, Esq., of Istington, in this parish, in 1763, charged his estates in Pembrokeshire with the payment of £12 per annum for the instruction of twelve poor boys of this and the adjoining parish of Rhôscrowther: the school-room, which had been previously built by that gentleman, is kept in repair by his successors, who, with the rector for the time being, have the nomination of the children. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £115. 15.

PWLLHELL, a borough, sea-port, and market town, in the parish of DENIO, hundred of GAFLOGION, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 20 miles (S. S. W.) from Carnarvon, and, through that town, 271 (W. N. W.) from London. The population, amounting to 2091, is returned as that of the parish of Denio, with the limits of which those of the ancient borough are co-extensive. This place derives its name, signifying literally the "Salt Pool," from the small bay on the eastern side of the great promontory of Lley, on the shore of which it is situated, and which forms the æstuary of several small streams, which pour their waters through it into the northern part of the wide and stormy bay of Cardigan. Edward the Black Prince granted this place, together with Nevin, to Nigel de Lohareyn, in consideration of his numerous services, particularly as a reward for his fidelity and valour at the battle of Poitiers; and by charter dated at Carnarvon, in the twelfth year after his accession to the principality of Wales, he incorporated the inhabitants, upon whom he conferred all the privileges of a free borough, with exemption from toll in England and Wales, and the right of a mercatorial guild, a market, and two annual fairs, stipulating that they should pay to Nigel no less than £40 per annum: all these privileges were subsequently confirmed by Edward III. The town is well built, and amply supplied with water, but badly paved



and not lighted. The surrounding scenery comprehends many features of grandeur and of beauty; and the view from the town, embracing the whole extent of the Snowdon mountains, the Merionethshire hills, and Cardigan bay, is truly magnificent. The waste lands in this and the adjoining parishes were enclosed pursuant to an act of parliament obtained for that purpose in the 48th of George III., under the authority of which two embankments were constructed, one on each side of the town, at an expense of £10,000, by means of which three thousand acres of land have been recovered from the sea, and are now under cultivation. The situation of the town is well adapted for carrying on an extensive commerce with Liverpool, South Wales, and Dublin; but it has now only a small coasting trade. The harbour, which is entered by a high round rock, called Carreg yr Imbill, or "the rock of the Gimlet," and accessible to vessels of one hundred tons' burden at all states of the tide, has been in some degree injured by the embankments above noticed, and from neglect is nearly choked up. The commerce consists entirely in the importation of coal and of shop goods from Liverpool, for the supply of which to the surrounding country Pwllheli forms a great depôt, and is thus, though small, rendered a flourishing place: the port is a creek to that of Beaumaris. The market, which is on Wednesday, is well supplied with fish, poultry, eggs, butchers' meat, and all other kinds of provisions, which are here cheaper than in any other town on the coast of North Wales; and, there being no other market held near, it is resorted to even by persons living at the furthest extremity of the promontory of Llyn, a distance of twenty miles. Fairs are annually held on March 5th, May 13th, June 28th, August 19th, September 24th, and November 11th.

The government, by the charter of Edward the Black Prince, confirmed by Edward III., Henry IV., V., and VI., Edward IV., Richard III., Henry VII. and VIII., Edward VI., and by Mary and Elizabeth, is vested in a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, and an indefinite number of burgesses, assisted by a town steward, a serjeant at mace, and other officers. The mayor, who holds his office for life, and the senior bailiff, who is chosen annually on the 29th of September, are elected by the burgesses at large, who also nominate the junior bailiff, and elect annually to all the other offices; but the nomination of the junior bailiff is subject to the approval of the mayor, who also appoints the recorder. This is one of the contributory boroughs which, with Carnarvon, return one member to parliament: the elective franchise was conferred in the 27th of Henry VIII. The right of election was formerly in the burgesses at large, one hundred in number, but is now vested in the resident burgesses only (of whom there are seventy-five within the borough and a distance of seven miles), if duly qualified according to the provisions of the act; and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of at least ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the number of tenements of this value, within the limits of the borough, which have been altered by the late act, and are minutely detailed in the Appendix, is one hundred and fifteen. The freedom of the borough is inherited by all the

sons of freemen, whether born in the borough or not, and is acquired by marriage with the daughter of a freeman, by servitude to a freeman whether resident in the borough or elsewhere, by a residence of twelve months within the borough (paying scot and lot), and by election at a borough court. The corporation have no magisterial power, the borough being entirely under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, who hold petty sessions in the town. A court is held every alternate Saturday, at which the recorder and bailiffs preside, for the determination of all pleas and the recovery of debts under forty shillings. By the recent acts for amending the representation, Pwllheli has been constituted a polling-place for the election of the knight of the shire. The town-hall, erected in 1818, is a neat substantial edifice, the lower part of which is appropriated on the market days as shambles, and the upper part contains an excellent assembly-room, and a room in which the petty sessions are held. The parish church, which is situated about half a mile to the north of the town, being very small and much dilapidated, it is intended to erect in lieu of it a new church in the town, which will be parochial, though funerals will nevertheless continue to be solemnized at the old church of Denio. There are places of worship for Independents, Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, and Presbyterians. The Rev. Hugh Jones, in 1695, bequeathed to Griffith Vaughan £1000 in trust, to appropriate £200 of that sum to the erection of a school-house in such place in either of the counties of Anglesey, Carnarvon, or Merioneth, as he should think fit, and to vest the remaining £800 in the purchase of land for the endowment of a school for the gratuitous instruction of all poor boys of either of those counties. The school-house was built at Pwllheli; but the money, never having been vested in the purchase of land, still remains in the hands of his descendant, Lloyd Mostyn, Esq., who appoints the master, to whom he pays the interest of that sum as a salary: there are at present fifty-six boys in the school. The rent of some land in the parish, which was bequeathed to the poor, is annually distributed among them at Christmas.

PWLLYWRACH (PWLL Y WRACH), a hamlet in the parish and hundred of TALGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S.E. by S.) from Talgarth, containing 187 inhabitants. This hamlet, the name of which signifies "the hag's pool," lies in a deep valley formed by the Talgarth mountain, on the east, and that of Mynydd Troed on the west, and at the source of the Rhiangoll stream, which afterwards pursues its course into the vale of Llanvihangel Cwm-dû.

PYLE, a joint parish with Kenwig, in the hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 11½ miles (S.S.E.) from Neath, containing, exclusively of Kenwig, 475 inhabitants. It was originally a chapelry attached to the parish of Kenwig, but since the devastation of that town and the destruction of its church by an inundation of the sea, as noticed in the article thereon, the parishes have been united, the livings consolidated into one vicarage, and the chapel of Pyle has become the parochial church. The two places are nearly of equal extent. Through Pyle now runs the turnpike road from Cardiff to Swansea, which formerly passed through Kenwig, but was diverted from its original course after the devastation of



the borough. The village, though small, has a neat and pleasing appearance: a handsome and capacious inn has been erected here by the late J. M. Talbot, Esq. Near the church, on the estate of C. R. M. Talbot, Esq., is a quarry of excellent building stone, from which that employed in the erection of the spacious mansion in Margam Park, belonging to Mr. Talbot, now in progress, is taken. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £4. 8. 11½., and in the patronage of the Crown. The church, dedicated to St. James the Apostle, is a handsome structure, appropriately fitted up for the accommodation of the parishioners. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. A parochial school for the gratuitous instruction of the poor is supported by subscription. Mr. Thomas Lougher, in 1747, bequeathed £50, and Mr. John Waters left £40, both which sums have been invested in the purchase of land producing £4. 10. per annum, which is distributed annually among the poor of this parish. Near the church is a spring called Collwyn Well, the water of which has been long celebrated for its medicinal properties. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £209. 2.

Q.

QUARTER-MAWR, a joint hamlet with Gwydre, in the parish of LLANTHOYSAINT, lower division of the hundred of PERVETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES. The population is returned with the parish. It lies on the borders of the Black Mountains, which separate Carmarthenshire from Brecknockshire. The poor are maintained by an assessment conjointly with Gwydre, the average annual expenditure amounting to £94. 17.

R.



Arms.

Radnor (NEW), or MAES-YVED, a borough and parish, having exclusive jurisdiction, and formerly of sufficient importance to have given its name to the county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (W. S. W.) from Presteign, and 157 (W. N. W.) from London, containing 472 inhabitants. Its Welsh name, signifying "the imbibing meadow," is derived from the circumstance of the little river Somergil sinking into the earth in its vicinity, and pursuing a subterraneous course for a considerable distance. Though at present little more than an inconsiderable village, it was anciently a place of some importance, and most probably owed its origin to the erection of a castle here by the Mortimers, for the protection of the territories they had acquired in this part of the principality. This castle, which was of considerable strength, occupied an eminence above the town, commanding

the passage from the mountains into the open country; and, from its situation on the border, the town was fortified with walls having four strong gates, and surrounded by a deep moat. In 1188, Baldwin, archbishop of Canterbury, accompanied by Giraldus Cambrensis, on his mission to preach the crusades throughout Wales, commenced his labours at this place, to which he was attended by Ranulph de Glanville, justiciary of England, and where he was received by Rhys ab Gruffydd, Prince of South Wales, and several other Welsh chieftains; and at this town commences Giraldus' Itinerary. In the following year, Rhys ab Gruffydd, having made a formidable incursion into the English marches, assaulted and took possession of the castle, which he resolutely defended against Sir Roger Mortimer, who came to its relief with a considerable body of well-armed veteran forces. All the efforts of Sir Roger to retake the fortress proved unavailing; and the troops of Rhys, sallying from the castle, entered into close action with the English forces, whom they ultimately drove from the field, after an obstinate and sanguinary conflict. In 1217, King John, in resentment of Llewelyn ab Iorwerth's abandonment of his interests, laid siege to the castle, which he demolished; but it was soon afterwards rebuilt by the English, from whom it was taken by Llewelyn in 1231. It was besieged, in 1263, by the confederate forces of Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, Prince of North Wales, and the two sons of the celebrated Simon de Montfort, and, being taken, was burnt to the ground; but, though no further account of it occurs in the mean time, it was probably rebuilt, for its final destruction, together with the ruins of the town, is stated in the charter granted by Queen Elizabeth to have been effected by Owain Glyndwr, who, in 1401, having posted himself on Plinlimmon hill, thence despatched his forces on plundering excursions, during which they destroyed the abbey of Cwm Hir, in Radnorshire, and took the castle of Radnor, causing the whole garrison, to the number of sixty men, to be beheaded on the brink of the castle yard. By an act of the 27th of Henry VIII., New Radnor was constituted the shire town of the newly erected county of Radnor; and the assizes and quarter sessions were appointed to be held alternately here and at Rhaiadr; but, by subsequent acts of the 35th and 36th of the same reign, these courts were ordered to be held alternately here and at Presteign, to which latter place the assizes were subsequently wholly removed, and are still invariably held there. Leland, describing New Radnor in the reign of Henry VIII., states that the ruins of the four gates were then remaining in the walls; that the castle was in ruins, with the exception of part of the gate, which had been repaired; that there was an old church near the castle, then used as a chapel; and that not far from it was a new parish church, built by William Bacheffeld and Flory his wife. According to Speed's map, in 1610, the town appears to have had at that time three principal streets, extending parallel with each other, in a direction from east to west, and four smaller streets intersecting them at right angles, exclusively of four short streets leading from the upper street to the church and castle. Since that period, however, it has dwindled into an insignificant village. "In times past," says Camden, "it was firmly fenced with a Wall and Castle, but after that



Owen Glendwrwy (that notable Rebel) had burnt it, it began by little and little to decrease and grow to decay, tasting of the same fortune as the mother thereof did before (I mean Old Radnor), which in the Reign of King John Rhys ap Gryffyn did set on fire." Indeed, its sole importance depended upon its existence as a border fortress; when it ceased to be such, Kingston and Presteign soon surpassed it as market towns.

The present town is situated on the banks of the small river Somergil, near its descent from the mountains into the Vale of Radnor, and consists only of a few houses, built of a perishable slaty stone, and of very mean appearance: the names of some of its ancient streets are still preserved, though others no longer exist: vestiges of them, however, may still be traced among the gardens, but most of them have become merely foot-paths. With the exception of a few maltsters and handicraftsmen the entire population is engaged in agriculture. The market, formerly held on Tuesday, after several ineffectual attempts to revive it, has altogether fallen into disuse. Fairs are held annually on August 14th and October 28th and 29th, which latter is very numerously attended. This place was a borough by prescription till the reign of Elizabeth, who, in the 4th year of her reign, granted the inhabitants a charter of incorporation, with many privileges, an extensive manor, and an exclusive jurisdiction, extending over a district nearly thirty miles in circumference. Under this charter, confirmed and extended by one of George II., which not only recites it, but likewise mentions others "by divers lords of the marches," the government is vested in a bailiff, two aldermen, and twenty-five capital burgesses, assisted by a recorder, coroner, town-clerk, two chamberlains, two serjeants at mace, and other officers. The bailiff and aldermen are annually elected from the capital burgesses, by a majority of that body, on the Monday after the feast of the Holy Cross: the recorder, who holds his office for life, and all the other officers of the corporation, are also elected by the capital burgesses. The capital burgesses must be chosen from among the resident burgesses, and lose their privileges on becoming non-resident: no person who is non-resident can be elected a Burgess. New Radnor, in conjunction with Kevenleece, Knighton, Cnwclas, and Rhaiadr (to the number of which contributory boroughs Presteign was added, by the recent act to amend the representation), returns one member to parliament. The right of election has heretofore been vested in the burgesses generally: it is now, by the late act, extended to every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act demands: the present number of houses of this value within the limits of the borough (which have not been altered by the late Boundary Act), is one hundred and seventy-two: the bailiff is the returning officer. The recorder, bailiff, and aldermen, and also the bailiff and aldermen for the preceding year, are justices of the peace within the borough, the jurisdiction of which extends exclusively over the whole of the parishes of New Radnor, Old Radnor, and Llanvihangel - Nant-Melan, and parts of those of Cascob and Llandeglay. The corporation hold quarterly courts of session for the borough, on the

Monday after the quarter sessions for the county; a court of petty sessions; and a court, every Monday, in which the bailiff presides, assisted by the town-clerk, for the recovery of debts and the determination of pleas under the amount of forty shillings. The sheriff's court, for the recovery of debts not exceeding forty shillings, is held every month, alternately here and at Presteign. The court for the election of the knight of the shire may be held here, though it has not been so for nearly half a century: this has also, under the late Boundary Act, been made one of the polling-places. The town-hall, in which the various courts are held, and the public business of the corporation is transacted, is a mean building, in a state of very imperfect repair: it is situated in the principal street, and opposite to it is a small prison for the borough, consisting only of two rooms and an airing-yard. The parish comprises from two thousand five hundred to three thousand acres of rich loamy pasture land, and a fertile tract capable of producing good crops of corn: the upper part of it comprehends a portion of the mountain range of the forest of Radnor.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Hereford, rated in the king's books at £13. 10. 10., and in the patronage of the Crown. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, and situated on the declivity of a lofty hill to the north of the town, is an ancient structure, roofed with tiles, with a handsome square tower, strengthened by buttresses, and containing five bells: the body consists of a nave, chancel, and aisle, but is in a very dilapidated condition: part of it appears to rest on the foundation of a more ancient building: the old church mentioned by Leland is no longer in existence. John Green, of Hereford, bequeathed to this parish the sum of £300, of the interest of which he appropriated £10 for the support of a charity school, £3 to be distributed in bread to the poor, and the remainder to be expended in purchasing articles for the church. An estate called Longney, in the county of Gloucester, was devised to this parish by Mr. Henry Smith, of London, in 1627, the proceeds of which are distributed among the poor: being subject to the inundations of the river Severn, it varies greatly in its annual value, which fluctuates from £7 to £15 per annum: there are also some smaller charitable donations and bequests to the poor. Of the ancient castle, which occupied the summit of a lofty eminence to the north-east of the town, there are only some inconsiderable vestiges: the walls of this structure, which was of great strength, comprised a quadrilateral area, divided into an outer and an inner ward: at the north-eastern and north-western angles were square massive towers. The entrance, which was on the south side, was defended by a similar tower at the south-western angle; and to the east were two circular towers of smaller dimensions. Some workmen digging on the site, in 1773, discovered six or seven arches of good masonry, which appeared to have supported a range of the principal buildings: the outer intrenchments are still in good preservation. The course of the walls by which the town was surrounded may be easily traced by the remains of their foundations, and of the deep moat on the outside. About a mile from the town, and near the western extremity of the parish, the narrow vale of the small river Somergil is intersected by an intrenched dyke; and in a narrow defile, about two



miles to the west of the town, and in the parish of Llanvihangel-Nant-Melan, there is a curious and interesting cascade, called "Water break its neck." Immediately to the north of the town is the high mountainous tract forming the forest of Radnor, on which numerous flocks of sheep are bred, and from one of the summits of which, called Wimble, is a view of great extent over several of the adjoining counties, embracing some pleasing scenery in the neighbourhood of the town, with several gentlemen's seats, surrounded by plantations and pleasure grounds, and forming ornamental features in the landscape. Downton House, the property of Percival Lewis, Esq., and now the residence of W. S. R. Cockburn, Esq., only son of General Sir William Cockburn, Bart., is an elegant mansion, situated in beautiful grounds, and surrounded with interesting and pleasingly varied scenery. Radnor gives the title of earl to the family of Bouverie. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £192.

**RADNOR (OLD)**, or **MAES-YVED-HËN**, a parish, comprising the townships of Ednol, Evenjobb with Bareland, Harpton, Kinnarton with Badland, Old Radnor, and Walton, each supporting its own poor, in the liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. S. E.) from New Radnor, containing 1458 inhabitants. This place by the Welsh is also called Pen y Graig, which name it derives from the situation of its church on the summit of a rock: it was anciently of some importance, and had a castle, which Sir Richard Colt Hoare identifies with that mentioned by Giraldus Cambrensis, under the appellation of "Cruker," but of which no vestiges can be discovered. In the *Iter Carolinum* it is noted that, "on 6th Aug., 1645, Charles I. went from Brecon to Gwernevit, the house of Sir H. Williams, to dinner; he supped at Old Radnor, at a yeoman's house, the court being dispersed: on the 7th he proceeded to Ludlow." The house here which gave temporary refuge to that unfortunate monarch is called "The Stones," and stands about half a mile to the west of the church. The parish, which is of very great extent, is intersected by a stream called Somergil, and also by the Hendwell, a brook issuing from a small lake of that name, which abounds with excellent trout and eels. The surface is principally flat, though partly undulating, and in some places rising into hills of considerable elevation: the lands, with the exception of some tracts of common, and some woodland, are enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The soil is in general a fertile loam, well adapted for the growth of corn, and affording pasturage for sheep and cattle. In the southern part of the parish there exists an extensive deposit of transition limestone, from which a most valuable supply of lime is obtained. The parish is intersected by the turnpike road from Hereford to Aberystwith. The surrounding scenery is agreeably diversified; and the neighbourhood is enlivened with several gentlemen's seats, among which are, Harpton Court, the residence of the Right Hon. Thomas Frankland Lewis, a handsome mansion situated in grounds tastefully laid out; Evenjobb, the seat of P. R. Mynors, Esq.; Womaston, that of S. Lewin, Esq.; and Newcastle Court, that of John Whittaker, Esq., all good houses pleasantly situated, and forming interesting features in the scenery of the place.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Hereford, rated in the king's books at £35. 1. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., and in the possession of the Dean and Chapter of Worcester, by whom a stipendiary curate is appointed and paid, and is further supported by the interest of £800 parliamentary grant. The church, dedicated to St. Stephen, is a spacious and venerable structure, with a lofty square tower containing six bells: the body consists of a nave, with north and south aisles, and a chancel separated from the rest by a screen of richly carved oak, which extends across the nave and both the aisles: the font is of large dimensions, rudely carved out of a single stone; and on the north side of the chancel stand the remains of a singular organ case, of large size, elaborately though somewhat rudely carved in oak: there are some handsome monuments of modern erection to the family of Lewis, of Harpton. At Ednol and Kinnarton are chapels of ease to the mother church. There is a place of worship for Independents. Lady Joan Hartstongue bequeathed a house and twenty-five acres of land at Weythel, in this parish, for the foundation and endowment of a school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children of the parishes of Old Radnor, Llanvihangel-Nant-Melan, and Gladestry: the present annual income arising from the endowment is about £30, and is regularly appropriated to the support of the school. A farm called the Wolfpits, now producing £12 per annum, and another called the Broken Bank, in the parish of Gladestry, were bequeathed by an unknown benefactor to the poor of this parish. Mrs. Cassandra Davies, in 1635, bequeathed to the poor not receiving parochial relief some land in the township of Bareland, now producing £2 per annum, which is regularly paid; but a bequest of thirty shillings per annum, charged on an estate called the Callenders, has long ceased to be paid. Near the church are the remains of an ancient religious house, supposed to have been a nunnery: the moat by which it was surrounded is still plainly visible. Within the limits of the parish, and nearly in the centre of the Vale of Radnor, there is a singular relic of antiquity, generally supposed to be Druidical: it consists of four stones placed at the angles of a square, each stone being of such vast dimensions that it is as difficult to conjecture by what means as for what purpose they were placed there. Their position corresponds precisely with the cardinal points of the compass, the largest being to the south, and the smallest to the north; and they are ranged symmetrically, as far as their rude shapes will allow. A stone tablet is by some thought to have covered the whole; but the unequal height of the stones, and their distance from each other, render this supposition improbable. Whatever may have been the object of this monument of a rude and uncivilized age, its destruction is said by Camden to have taken place in the reign of John, when this district was ravaged by Rhys ab Gruffydd. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £729. 17. for the entire parish, of which sum, £170. 10. is assessed on the township of Old Radnor.

**RADNORSHIRE**, an inland county of South Wales, bounded on the north by the county of Montgomery (in North Wales), on the west by Cardiganshire, on the south-west and south by Brecknockshire, on the east



by the English county of Hereford, and on the north-east by that of Salop. It extends from  $52^{\circ} 2'$  to  $52^{\circ} 27'$  (N. Lat.), and from  $2^{\circ} 59'$  to  $3^{\circ} 45'$  (W. Lon.), and comprises an area, according to Mr. Carey's Communications to the Board of Agriculture, of three hundred and ninety square miles, or two hundred and forty-nine thousand six hundred statute acres. The population, in 1831, was 24,651.

As this district never contained any large or important town within its limits, or formed of itself a separate community until by the act of Henry VIII. it was raised to the rank of a county, it does not appear to have taken any signal or prominent part in the events which mark the troubled history of Wales. At the period of the invasion of Britain by the Romans, it formed part of the territory of the *Silures*, who so greatly distinguished themselves by their resolute opposition to the progress of the Roman arms. After their subjugation, which was partly effected by Ostorius Scapula, and completed by Julius Frontinus, it contained a Roman station at Cwm, on the western bank of the river Ithon, between one and two miles to the north-east of Llandrindod Wells, and was traversed by several vicinal ways. After the abandonment of Britain by the Romans, it became part of the territory of Ferregs, included between the rivers Severn and Wye, and was subjected to Caradog Vraich Vras, or "Caradoc with the Brawny Arm," ruler of Brecknock, who flourished about the commencement of the sixth century, and is celebrated in Welsh story, as one of Arthur's knights. The derivation of the present Welsh name of this county, *Maesgyed* or *Maes-Hyved* (which has been noticed under the head of New Radnor), is, however, by some persons deduced from *Hyvaid*, the name of one of the sons of Caradog Vraich Vras, for whom his father formed this portion of his territories into a separate lordship. Offa King of Mercia, having expelled the Britons from nearly the whole of the fertile province of Ferregs, introduced into this district a Saxon population, and formed the celebrated line of demarcation, still called Offa's Dyke, which, however, included within the Saxon territory only the easternmost extremity of the present county of Radnor. In the division of the sovereignty of Wales by Roderic the Great, among his three sons, the territory forming the present county of Radnor is thought to have been included in the kingdom of Powys. The scene of the great battle which was fought, about the year 1088, between Rhys ab Tewdwr and the sons of Bleddin ab Cynvyn, for the sovereignty of South Wales, and which terminated in favour of the former, has been generally laid at Llêchryd, in the parish of Disserth, near the banks of the Wye, in this county; but it is now, with more probability, considered to have been at Llêchrhŷd, on the Teivy, near Cardigan. After the Norman Conquest of England, the territory of Maesgyed became the prey of the Norman adventurers who successfully invaded the adjoining districts of Brecknockshire and Herefordshire: the family of de Breos, and afterwards the Mortimers, had the most extensive domains in it. In 1189, Rhys ab Gruffydd, Prince of South Wales, invading the marches, took the castles of Radnor and Painscastle in Elvel, in this county. Trehaern Vychan, a Welshman of great influence in the territory of Brecknock, having been treacherously and barbarously mur-

dered, in 1196, by William de Breos, Lord of Brecknock and Abergavenny, Gwenwynwyn, Prince of Powys, who was related to Trehaern by marriage, marched a body of troops into de Breos' territories in Radnorshire, and laid siege to Painscastle, of which that baron had repossessed himself, declaring that, after he had gained possession of that fortress, he would devastate with fire the whole country as far as the Severn, a sacrifice which he owed to the manes of Trehaern Vychan, his kinsman. But the Welsh chieftain, having no means of destroying the fortifications, lay for three weeks before the castle without capturing it, which gave time for William de Breos to receive reinforcements from England, under Geoffry Fitz-Peter, the justiciary, and from several of the lords marcher, who came to his assistance. But as the issue of hostilities might be uncertain, he proposed terms of peace to Gwenwynwyn, which the latter indignantly refused, the Welsh declaring their firm resolution of avenging, in this enterprise, the past wrongs of their country. The English then released from confinement Gruffydd, son of the late Rhys ab Gruffydd, between whom and Gwenwynwyn they knew that a deadly feud subsisted; and, being joined by the Welsh forces immediately raised by that chieftain, they advanced to the relief of Painscastle. Gwenwynwyn, confident in his strength, deviated from the wary system of warfare generally pursued by his nation, and opposed the English in an open plain, where he was defeated, with the loss of three thousand men slain, besides a great number of prisoners, among whom were many of considerable note.

In the year 1282, Llewelyn, the last native sovereign of Wales, marched with his little army to Aberedwy, or Abereddown, where he had a castle or mansion, on the Radnorshire side of the Wye, three miles below Builth, in expectation of there holding a conference with some of his friends; but his object having been treacherously communicated to the enemy, he was surprised by the approach of a superior force from Herefordshire, under the command of Edmund Mortimer and John Gifford. The unfortunate prince then endeavoured to effect his escape, and arrived at the bridge over the Wye in time to cross and break it down, before his pursuers came up. Thus baffled in their object, the English returned downwards to a ford known to some of the party, about eight miles below, near a ferry at that time and still called Caban Twm Bâch, or "Little Tom's ferry boat," where they crossed, and thus ceased the movements of the two parties in this county: the sequel of this melancholy transaction is described in the article on ABEREDWY. During the war waged by Owain Glyndwr against Henry IV., the former, in the year 1401, destroyed the abbey of Cwm Hir, in this county, and took the castle of Radnor, causing the garrison, amounting to threescore men, to be beheaded on the brink of the castle yard. After this event, Owain, by his continued successes, excited so much alarm in Henry, that the latter resolved to march against him in person. He issued writs to the lieutenants of thirty-four counties; requiring them to assemble their respective forces, and attend him at Lichfield, on the 7th of July, 1402; but before his army could be collected, Owain had advanced with his troops to the borders of South Wales, in the direction of Herefordshire, carrying fire and sword into the lands











of his opponents. Of these none suffered so severely as the vassals and tenants of Edward Mortimer, Earl of March, a child of ten years of age, whose uncle, Sir Edmund Mortimer, collected a large body of his nephew's tenants and retainers, as well in Herefordshire as from the district of Melienydd in Radnorshire, and with these marched to resist the invader. The two armies met on Brÿn Glâs, a mountain near Pilleth, a little to the south-west of Knighton, where victory declared in favour of Owain. Eleven hundred men fell on the side of Mortimer; and, as the loss fell chiefly on the people of Herefordshire, there seems reason to believe that March's Welsh retainers were not hearty in his cause. It is to this battle, and to some "shameful villanie," as Holinshed calls it, "used towards the dead carcases," that Shakspeare finely and mysteriously alludes, in the first part of Henry IV. When the conflicts had ceased, which "the irregular and wild Glendower" had excited, this district seems to have sunk into repose; but under the rule of the Lords Marcher, (a singular compound of hostility and government,) Wales, though sometimes composed, was never pacified. It was not until, by the act of the 27th of Henry VIII., cap. 26, the rights and privileges of English subjects were extended to Wales, that peace, order, and obedience were established: by that act Radnorshire was included amongst the newly established counties.

This county is partly in the diocese of Hereford, and partly in that of St. David's, and is wholly in the province of Canterbury: the portion included in the former diocese (consisting of the parishes of Presteign, Old and New Radnor, Norton, and Knighton) is comprised in the archdeaconry of Hereford, and deanery of Leominster, excepting the parish of Knighton, which is in the archdeaconry of Salop, and deanery of Clun; and that in the latter, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and deaneries of Elvel, and Melenith *sub* Ithon and *ultra* Ithon: the total number of parishes is fifty-three, of which fourteen are rectories, sixteen vicarages, and the rest perpetual curacies. For purposes of civil government it is divided into the six hundreds of Colwyn, Kevenleece or Cevnllÿs, Knighton, Painscastle, Radnor, and Rhaiadr. It returns to parliament one knight for the shire, and one member for the borough of New Radnor and the contributory boroughs of Presteign, Knighton, Rhaiadr, Cnwclas, and Kevenleece. The assizes and quarter sessions for the county are held at Presteign, where the gaol and house of correction are situated, and where the chief business of the county is transacted. The county elections are usually held there, though they may be held at New Radnor, where the member for the boroughs must be chosen. The polling-places appointed by the act to amend the representation are Colwyn, Knighton, Painscastle, Pen y bont, Presteign, Radnor, and Rhaiadr. Presteign, Knighton, and Rhaiadr, are the principal market towns: New Radnor has the privilege of a market, but none is held there. The parochial rates raised in the county for the year ending March 25th, 1829, amounted to £14,468, and the expenditure to £14,655, of which, £12,163 were applied to the relief of the poor.

Radnorshire is one of the most regularly shaped counties in the principality, being a trapezium, the mean di-

mensions of which are about twenty-two miles by twenty. Its surface throughout is hilly; in many places the mountains attain to a considerable elevation, the summit of the Forest of Radnor being three thousand one hundred and sixty-three feet above the level of the sea: the hills have generally a regular outline, with gradual slopes and rounded summits, though in many parts abrupt declivities and deep ravines relieve the monotony of the scenery. It contains several small lakes worthy of mention, *viz.*, one in the vicinity of Rhaiadr, near the road leading from that town to Aberystwith, the most picturesque and interesting within its limits; Llÿn Gwÿn, a piece of water of considerable size, situated within a few miles of Rhaiadr, in the opposite direction; Llÿn Llanilin, about a mile in circumference, of considerable depth, and containing abundance of fish, singularly situated near Llanvihangel Nant-Melan, in an elevated mountain valley; and Llÿn Bychlllyn, in the vicinity of Painscastle.

Of the superficial area of the county, about one-third is supposed to be enclosed, and of this enclosed portion not more than a fourth part is under the plough at the same time. In the vicinity of market-towns, and on farms where the soil is good, the cultivation of grain for sale prevails to a considerable extent: but, as regards the whole of the county, it must be observed, that the distance from large corn markets, the high price of lime, and the roughness and moisture of the climate, operate as great discouragements to the growth of grain; and the chief object of the farmers is to grow only what is sufficient for their own consumption, viewing their stock of sheep, cattle, and horses as the main sources of their profit. It is a common practice to plough a piece of sward (which is sometimes pared and burnt for a crop of wheat), and to take, in the first instance, one or two crops of oats; then to summer fallow the land, giving it all the manure of the farm, and what lime can be procured, for a crop of wheat: after this the land is generally thought capable of bearing a crop of barley, with which the better sort of farmers sow clover and grass seeds; the crop is mown the first year, and afterwards the land is suffered to rest, whilst some other portion of the farm undergoes the same process. Rye and a mixture of rye and wheat (called Monk's corn) were formerly much grown, but are now seldom seen. Potatoes, as a field crop, are extensively and successfully cultivated: peas, though precarious and unprofitable, are sometimes sown; and flax, for domestic purposes, rather than for sale. In the mode of cultivation there is little that is peculiar; the implements are cheap and imperfect, though much improved. A light cart, drawn by three small stout horses, is in general use: waggons also are common. A ground sledge, with two wheels in front, is found useful in drawing heavy weights down steep declivities; and a rude car without any wheels is still used for conveying peat from the mountains. The ploughs in general use have a bent iron mould-board, similar to those in Herefordshire; but the Scotch plough, drawn by two horses abreast, is gradually advancing into use throughout the county. The fertile districts which are found in the vales of Wye, Lug, and Tawe (to which may also be added the vale of Radnor) are subject to a better system of cultivation: in these tracts turnips



are grown to a considerable extent, being drilled on ridges, in imitation of the Scotch practice. On the red soils of Glásbury and Clyro the two favourite objects of Herefordshire husbandry, namely, the hop and the apple, may be cultivated with advantage. Throughout the whole county irrigation is successfully, though somewhat rudely and unskilfully, practised: the rapid fall of the brooks facilitates the construction of new water courses, which are not unfrequently conducted in long continued lines along the steep sides of the valleys: the purest water, issuing at once from the clay slate rocks, frequently produces most fertilizing effects, in cases where no deposit of earthy matter can be discerned by the eye. The assistance thus obtained from various mountain streams enables the farmers to mow annually considerable tracts of land, the produce of which chiefly supports their cattle and horses during the winter. Such land as cannot be irrigated, and which may be also either too steep and rugged, or at too great a distance from the farm-yard, to be advantageously ploughed, is usually devoted to the pasturage of cattle and horses, both of which are reared in considerable numbers. The black cattle, which still prevail in the adjoining county of Cardigan, have not for many years been much bred in Radnorshire: they gave place to a coarse hardy variety of the long-horned breed, introduced from Shropshire, which were generally of a brindled colour, and gave much milk: some of these still remain, but they have in a great measure been superseded by the Herefordshire breed, which, being found to be sufficiently hardy to endure the scanty food and rough climate, have the advantage of growing to a larger size, and possess a greater aptitude to fatten. The draught horse in general use is small and ill-shaped, but capable of enduring great fatigue. The original Welsh ponies are still bred in the mountains, and their price in the markets has of late years increased: of their activity, courage, and patience, and of their strength as compared with their size and the little sustenance they require, it is difficult to dilate in terms too favourable. Where so large a portion of the surface is unenclosed, the pasturage of the commons necessarily forms an object of interest to the farmers: on the lower ranges of commons the young cattle of the farm, of every kind, are frequently depastured; but for the most part cattle are found to require more attendance and care than can well be afforded them on commons. Throughout the entire county the breeding of sheep is the primary object of the farmers adjoining the open lands. On the western side of it a small active breed prevails, mostly without horns, with white faces and legs, and having long, open, coarse wool, abounding with kemps. But in the forest of Radnor, and on the lower hills on the north and south of that elevated range, a breed has been produced by the introduction of rams from Shropshire: these sheep are well covered with a fleece of thick close wool, and have larger carcases than those just described: they are, however, much less hardy, and can only be maintained by farmers who can afford some shelter to their stock during the winter. Throughout the county it is the practice to take the ewes into the enclosed grounds in October, and, if possible, the lambs of the preceding spring also: the wether sheep, for the most part, brave the climate of the hills during the whole

of the year. These sheep, when fat, usually weigh from nine to fourteen lb. per quarter; and their fleeces average from two to three lb.: vast numbers of them are annually driven into Essex and Hertfordshire, where the superior quality of the mutton ensures for them a ready sale. Large quantities of butter are still made in the county, though it is chiefly an object to the smaller farmers: it is salted during the summer, and placed with great care and cleanliness in tubs, in which it was thus formerly carried to the fairs in Herefordshire: this article of produce, however, has of late years been sold by the farmers at their own houses. Oxen, which were formerly much used in husbandry, are now sold at too early an age to be so employed, and almost the whole draught of the county is now executed by horses. In a county of which nearly two-thirds are unenclosed it may be presumed that there exists great capability of improvement, and the large tracts of low commons which are seen on passing through the centre of it tend to confirm this idea. Of late years, considerable encroachments have been made on the wastes both by cottagers and by farmers, and even this lawless process has tended somewhat to improve the lands taken in. About six parishes have been submitted to the operation of enclosure acts, but the expense which attends the allotment of the land, and the still greater cost of maintaining the fences, discourage any further attempts of this sort: from one of these attempts, indeed, in the immediate vicinity of Rhaiadr, the most beneficial effects have resulted, the produce of a small common having been increased many hundredfold, to the great advantage of the inhabitants of that town. Many tracts still remain which are susceptible of almost equal improvement; but the rough surface of the pasture land throughout the greater part of the county, overgrown as it is, in many parts, with rushes, shews that, without an extensive and effectual system of drainage, the soil can never be brought to its utmost point of fertility. It is by this, rather than any other, mode that the improvement of the low lands can be effected. On the hills the use of iron wire in fencing has been introduced to some extent, and is likely to enable the farmers to defend their lands from the mountain sheep, where no other means would avail.

Radnorshire was anciently distinguished for extensive woods and forests, but these, excepting a few scattered coppices of comparatively small extent, have disappeared. The forests of Radnor and of Blethvaugh continue such in name, and still suggest the idea of extensive wooded tracts; but if at any time they were covered with wood, which may at least be doubted, they have long ceased to be so. The mountain sheep have been the chief destroyers of the woods; no ordinary fences can restrain them, and when once a wood has been felled, by browsing the young shoots in the spring, they have effectually prevented a renewed growth. On the estates of the principal landed proprietors thriving young plantations of forest trees are seen. The larch is likely to be grown to a considerable extent on the steep declivities of the mountains. This hardy plant, which pines in the moist and fertile plains of the South of England, thrives in this elevated district. Its rapid growth, when young, enables it soon to lift its head beyond the reach of the sheep, which will not, except when pressed by severe hunger,



either bark or browse on it. It is popular, too, because it foliates so early in spring, that it is clothed for weeks with the most vivid green, when no other tree has unfolded a bud; and again in autumn its golden tint serves to enliven even the latter half of November.

The geological structure of the county is but imperfectly known, there being no mineral productions sufficiently valuable to have hitherto attracted much attention to it. The great mass of the county consists of the same grey *wackè* slate which prevails through the whole of the principality: it emerges from beneath the old red sandstone of the counties of Hereford and Brecknock, a part of which fertile stratum is found on the northern side of the Wye, and constitutes the most productive tract within the county. The red soil prevails in the parishes of Glàsbury, Clyro, Llowes, Boughrood, and some others in the hundred of Painscastle. The upper beds of the grey *wackè*, or clay slate, very much resemble the lowest beds of the old red sandstone; insomuch that the produce of a quarry worked near the summit of the Forest of Radnor is of the same granular and micaceous texture as the tile of Clyro hill. But these beds soon disappear, and give place to a stratified lead-coloured rock, of rhomboidal fracture, so perishable as to be useless for roofing houses, and scarcely applicable either to masonry or the making of roads. It must be observed, however, that the lower beds of this formation are much harder and more durable than the upper; so that on the western verge of the county, in the neighbourhood of Rhaiadr, coarse durable slates of good colour, and very strong stones for building purposes, are obtained. The dip of the strata throughout the great slate formation will be found, on examination, to be extremely irregular: it has been disturbed by the contact of two very considerable and independent trap formations, which occur in different parts of the county; one has been described by Dr. Gilby, and has its western termination in the river Wye, about a mile above Builth, opposite to which town it rises in high, rugged, irregular masses, forming the ridges of the Carneddau hills, and, stretching northwards by Penkerrig and Llwynmattock, it passes Llandrindod and Kevenleece, where one branch diverges, and terminates at Llandeglay; the other passes to Llanbadarn-Vawr, near which it disappears, though an independent mass of the same formation occurs at some distance, called Baxter's Bank. This remarkable tract is perfectly irregular throughout, being neither columnar nor stratified: its mineralogical characters vary at almost every step; feldspar is probably the chief component part. Around its base mineral springs are found, which deservedly enjoy a very high reputation. At Llandrindod are a salt, a sulphur, and a steel water; at Builth are the same, though of a coarser quality: at Llandeglay and Blaen-ddw the sulphur springs are also found. Round the edges of this formation the clay slate of the county is found broken up, disturbed, and in some places evidently turned over; and both its colour and its texture have been so altered by the contact, that it has become black and friable, and is not unfrequently mistaken for coal, or at least is thought to indicate its presence. The other trap formation mentioned above has not yet been described by any geologist: it occurs near Old Radnor, and is separated from the Llandeglay formation by a

distance of seven miles, and by high intervening hills composed wholly of clay slate. It consists of four considerable hills, of which those of Old Radnor and Stanner appear to be connected, both of them being in some degree independent of the two other hills,—Hautes and Worsel. They are all wholly irregular and unstratified, and differ so much in mineralogical character from the Llandeglay range as to suggest the probability of a different period of formation. Sienite and porphyry occur in many parts; and a coarse amygdaloidal trap is met with at the base of Old Radnor hill, near the church: the character of the whole bears some resemblance to granite, though neither feldspar nor mica prevails to any great extent. The hill at Old Radnor appears to have raised with it a considerable mass of grey stratified transition limestone, the strata of which lie round the base of the trap rock, dipping from it in every direction: on the north and east sides these beds have been nearly exhausted, but on the south and west vast and almost inexhaustible masses still remain. This stone emits a strong and disagreeable odour on being broken: it contains shells, though not in abundance, and corals, and has throughout a chrySTALLINE texture. As a manure for land, the lime obtained from it is more valuable than that produced by the carboniferous or mountain limestone, which is used so extensively in North and South Wales; as a cement it is inferior, though it is extensively used for mortar, there being no stratum of limestone that can be worked between Old Radnor and the sea-coast of Cardiganshire. As the four formations already described, namely, the old red sandstone of the hundred of Painscastle, the pervading grey *wackè* slate, the trap formations, and the limestone of Old Radnor, constitute and define the geological character of this county, no minerals of value can be looked for within its limits. Coal can scarcely exist to an extent worth working. Some narrow seams of lead have been found and worked near Llandrindod and Llandeglay, and one is now being worked near Cwm Elain. As connected with the geological structure of the county it may be observed, that wherever the soil consists of the wreck of the clay, or grey *wackè*, slate, it is porous and fertile, though of a less powerful and productive character than the soils which result from the old red sandstone. The soils which are composed of the detritus of the trap rocks are clayey and retentive of water, the surface for the most part being covered with a thin layer of peaty soil. It is remarkable that the wreck of these rocks has been carried and deposited to the south and east of their positions, to a much greater extent than in any other direction. Their fertility, however, is greatly increased by the addition of lime, the supply of which from Old Radnor, and from a mass of similar rock which occurs at Nash, in Herefordshire, not far from Presteign, has been lately facilitated and augmented by the construction of a rail-road from the canal at Brecknock, by Hay and Kingston, to Old Radnor. The total consumption of coal in the two districts of limestone rock is said to amount to about five thousand tons annually.

The chief commerce of Radnorshire consists in the sale of its agricultural produce at the public fairs and markets. The trade in manufactured goods and in foreign and colonial produce is small, little being



sold excepting for immediate consumption. Until within the last few years the chief supply of these articles was introduced through Kington, either from the respective manufacturing districts or from Bristol; but the construction of an easy road from the canal at Newtown in Montgomeryshire, through the centre of this county, to Builth in Brecknockshire, has enabled the inhabitants to derive what is necessary for their use from the marts of Liverpool and Chester. Small manufactures of flannel exist at Rhaiadr, Maestryloe near Presteign, and at Llanvihangel-Rhydithon. Considerable quantities of hides are tanned and dressed, and find a market out of the county. The rivers are none of them navigable, and no canal has been constructed, within the limits of the county.

The principal rivers are, the Wye, with some of its tributaries, and the Teme. The romantic and rapid Wye, the scenery on the banks of which has so frequently been the subject of the pencil and the pen, rises on the southern side of Plinlimmon mountain, in Montgomeryshire, about a mile from the source of the Severn, and, flowing first southward, then eastward, and again southward, for about eleven miles through desolate wastes, enters this county about four miles to the north of Rhaiadr, and crosses the north-western extremity of it, by that town, to its confluence with the Elain, where it becomes the boundary between Radnorshire and Brecknockshire, and so continues during the remainder of its course in the principality (a distance of thirty miles), excepting a short interval at Glásbury, where a small portion of Radnorshire is situated on its southern banks. The Elain, (*anglicè* the Roe), also affording many attractions to the admirers of the picturesque, is a powerful stream from the westward, which for several miles separates the north-western extremity of the county of Radnor from the northern part of Brecknockshire. With this accession of waters the Wye shapes its course south-south-eastward, until within a short distance of the town of Builth, in Brecknockshire, when it turns south-eastward: at the southernmost extremity of Radnorshire it winds north-eastward, and quits this county and Wales on entering the English county of Hereford at the town of Hay, in Brecknockshire, after a turbulent course of about forty-seven miles. The principal tributaries to the Wye from Radnorshire are, the Ithon, which descends from the mountains in the north-eastern extremity of the county, and on its junction with the Wye near Disserth, five miles from Builth, after a course of about twenty miles south-westward, is of nearly equal magnitude with that river itself; the romantic Eddw, or Edwy, which joins it about four miles below Builth; and the gloomily picturesque Mâchwy, or Bâchwy, which falls into it a few miles lower. The Teme rises in the Kerry hills, in Montgomeryshire, and forms the entire boundary between this county and that of Salop, which it enters a little below the town of Knighton. The Lug, the Somergil, and the Arrow, are all tributary to the Wye, but do not join it in this county. The Lug has its source in the Llangunllo hills, and flows south-westward through the Vale of Llangunllo, into Herefordshire, which county it enters after forming the eastern boundary of Radnorshire for some distance below Whitton and Presteign. The Somergil rises in the Forest of Radnor,

and one of its tributary streams forms the cascade called "Water break its neck:" it soon enters the basin-like Vale of Radnor, by the dry gravelly soil of which it is wholly absorbed in dry summers: on reaching a bed of clay it re-appears, after flowing by New and Old Radnor, and enters Herefordshire after a course of about thirteen miles. The Arrow is a small stream which flows by New Church towards Kington, in Herefordshire. In 1812, an act of parliament was obtained for the formation of a rail-road from the canal near the town of Brecknock, by Hay, to Kington, a branch of which is continued to the Weythel lime rocks near Old Radnor, between three and four miles to the west-north-west of Kington: this line of communication confers considerable benefit on the county, by supplying the south-eastern part of it with coal, and in return conveying agricultural produce to the mining districts of Brecknockshire and Glamorganshire. The roads which pass through the centre of the county have been much improved of late years, and are now remarkably good; but the cross roads are in general of an inferior kind. That from London to Radnor by Hereford enters the county from Kington: one of the roads to Presteign passes through Hereford. The road from London to Aberystwith, by Worcester, enters from Leominster, in Herefordshire, and passes through Kington, New Radnor, and Rhaiadr, into Cardiganshire: three miles beyond New Radnor, a branch of this road diverges to Builth, in Brecknockshire. A new and beautiful line of road from Rhaiadr to Aberystwith has been lately completed, which passes along the banks of the Wye for some miles from the former town, through Llangurig in Montgomeryshire.

Though there may be traced numberless intrenchments and mounds scattered over the county, which mark the ruins of former fortresses, the remains of antiquity are upon the whole of minor interest: the name Castell Pren (or castle built of wood), which still exists in several instances, suggests the probability of many of these intrenchments having been fortified only with a stockade. The Roman station already mentioned, may be distinctly traced on a farm called Cwm, about two miles to the north-east of Llandrindod Wells. This camp is a perfect square, including an area of about four acres, and appears to have been originally surrounded by a thick stone wall, the massive foundations of which are yet visible, with a deep fosse on the outside: at a short distance are vestiges of other military works and buildings. The vicinal roads from Carmarthen, and the Gaer near Brecknock, to Chester, appear to have united at this station, from which a branch, passing through the centre of Radnorshire, is thought to have proceeded to Kenchester in Herefordshire, but no traces of such a work have hitherto been discovered. In the parish of Llandewi-Ystradenny, about four miles above Pen y bont, near the Vale of Ithon, is an ancient British encampment, called the Gaer, which is oval, and defended by two deep fosses. It occupies an eminence above the river; and on the opposite side of the valley there is a large tumulus, or barrow, called *Bedd Ygre*, or Ygre's Grave, on an estate belonging to J. C. Severn, Esq. In the vicinity of Rhaiadr are several remarkable tumuli, some of which are composed wholly of stones, and bear the descriptive name of *carneddau*.



the largest is situated in the parish of Cwm-toyddwr, and is called *Tommen Saint Fraid*, or the tumulus of St. Bridget. There is also a large tumulus close to the churchyard of Aberedw. Of the numerous buildings for military defence little can now be ascertained. Camden says, "there remain many footings of castles, to be seene here and there, but especially Kevenllece and Timbod, which, standing upon a sharp poynted hill, Llewellyn, Prince of South Wales, overthrew in the year 1260." The same author also says, that the castle of Maud in Colwyn was very famous, and that Robert de Todeney, a noble Norman, was lord of it. It took its name from Maud of Saint Valeric, wife to William de Breos, who rebelled against King John. The castle being thrown down by the Welsh, was rebuilt in 1231 by Henry III., and called by him, in despite of Llewelyn, Prince of Wales, *Maugrè Llewellyn*. The fortress at Rhaiadr owed its origin to other hands. The celebrated chief, Rhys ab Gruffydd, had, in 1169, made peace with Henry III., and became attached to English interests. In 1176, he gave a feast in the castle of Cardigan, to which he invited many Normans and English: these visitors, however, were treacherously murdered by his son-in-law, Einion; and, to awe his enraged and revengeful opponents, Rhys is said to have "built the castle of Rhaiadr, on precipitous strong ground, (near the noted cataract of that name,) above the Wye," where the fosse and ruins of a considerable fortress may still be distinctly traced. There are small remains of the castle of Aberedw, or Aberedwy, at the junction of the Edw, or Edwy, with the Wye; of that of Bâchrhŷd, or Boughrood, lower down on the banks of the Wye; of that of New Radnor; of the castle of the Black Rock, overhanging the tremendous chasm through which runs the river Mâchwy, or Bâchwy, *anglicè* Little Wye; and of a small fortress on the banks of the Wye, about two miles above Builth. There are also vestiges of the town walls and ditch of New Radnor; of the moat of Castell Cymaron, near Llandewi-Ystradenny; of the foundations of Castell Glyn Ithon, at Kevenllece; of those of Dinboeth, or Tynboeth, castle, near the upper extremity of the Vale of Ithon; of those of Payne's castle. Offa's Dyke, entering on the north from Shropshire, is first seen in Radnorshire near the town of Knighton, to which it gives its Welsh name of Trêv y Clawdd, or "the Town on the Dyke," and whence, proceeding southward, it is easily traced between the parishes of Norton and Whitton to the vicinity of Beggar's Bush, where it inclines to the south-east, and enters Herefordshire at the parish of Knill. Burva Bank, a steep hill on the border of the county, near this place, is skirted on the west by this dyke, which is about fifty feet broad, and of great depth: on this hill are traces of some intrenchments, which have induced the opinion that it was the site of one of the forts by which the great rampart was defended. Of ecclesiastical buildings there have never been many worthy of much notice: the foundations of the abbey founded at Cwm Hir, in 1143, by Cadwallon ab Madre, for sixty monks of the Cistercian order (the only religious house existing in the county at the period of the Reformation), are yet visible in the valley of the little river Clywedog, a tributary to the Ithon. The names of Monaghty near Knighton, and Coed y Monach, near Rhaiadr, indicate a monkish connection, of which little

is known. The churches at Old Radnor and Presteign still remain as proofs that the influence of that pious zeal by which Great Britain acquired such splendid places of public worship, was not wholly excluded from this portion of Wales; but, with the exception of Clyro, Knighton, Nantmel, Glâsbury, and a few others, the churches throughout the county are of an inferior description. The principal gentlemen's residences are, Maeslough Castle, the seat of Walter Wilkins, Esq.; Stannage Park, that of Edward Rogers, Esq.; Harpton Court, that of the Right Hon. Thomas Frankland Lewis; Boultribrook, that of Sir Harford Jones Brydges, Bart.; Boughrood Castle, that of — Fowke, Esq.; Penkerrig, that of Thomas Thomas, Esq.; Wellfield House, that of Edward Thomas, Esq.; Pen y bont Hall, that of J. C. Severn, Esq.; Downton House, that of Percival Lewis, Esq.; Evenjobb House, that of Peter Rickards Mynors, Esq.; Newcastle Court, that of John Whittaker, Esq.; Noyadd, that of Hugh Powell Evans, Esq.; Nantgwilt, that of Thomas Lewis Lloyd, Esq.; and Cwmelan, that of Robert Peel, Esq. There is a curious old house at Devanner Park, formerly the residence of the Fowlers, now the property of Mrs. Severn.

This county contains a greater number of mineral springs than all the others of South Wales conjointly. Those at Llandrindod have for many years been held in great repute, and are much resorted to in the summer by valetudinarians: they are three in number, the waters of one of which are saline, containing Epsom salt, sea salt, and some earth; those of another sulphureous, containing hepatic air and sea salt; and those of the third powerfully chalybeate, containing a considerable portion of iron in a volatile acid, and probably a neutral salt. The two first are very near each other, and are situated within a short distance of the principal lodging-house for the accommodation of visitors; but the latter is about half a mile north-eastward from the others, in a little rocky valley on the contiguous waste. Llandeglay well, near the public road between New Radnor and Rhaiadr, and Blaen Edw wells, distant therefrom about two miles south-eastward, which are all sulphureous, are of considerable note, and much frequented. Near Pen y bont, on the Ithon, are two springs, one sulphureous, and the other chalybeate. The following springs are all sulphureous: *viz.*, Fynnon Ddewi, or St. David's Well, in the parish of Llanbadarn Vynydd; New Well, in the parish of Llanano; and two springs in the parish of Llanbister, within ten yards of each other, one depositing a black, the other a reddish sediment, the latter of which turns copper white and silver yellow in a very short space of time. Several springs in the vicinity of these at Llanbister deposit a black sediment, and their waters are reputed to have great efficacy in the cure of scorbutic complaints. The most remarkable waterfall is that quaintly called "Water break its neck," situated in a narrow defile among the hills of Radnor Forest, about two miles to the west of New Radnor: its height is about one hundred and seventy feet. English is spoken in Radnorshire almost universally; so that it is rare to find a peasant who understands Welsh, except in the north-western angle of the county beyond Rhaiadr, consisting of the parishes of St. Harmon and Cwm-toyddwr, the inhabitants of which for the most part speak the Welsh only; and in these two parishes alone is the church service now



performed in that language. By what means the inhabitants of this county have acquired the use of the tongue in which the laws are administered and knowledge is disseminated it is not easy to trace. The Saxon names of Norton, Whittton, Knighton, and many others on the eastern border shew that these places were wrested from the Welsh at an early period. In their immediate neighbourhood, however, the ancient language continued to be spoken till little more than a century ago; and in the parish church of Llanvihangel Nant-Melan, within three miles of New Radnor, the Welsh Bible still remains which was used in the service of that church, though no Welsh is now spoken within twenty miles of it.

**RADYR (RHAIADR)**, a parish in the hundred of KIBBOR, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. W. by W.) from Cardiff, containing 227 inhabitants. This parish, of which the name, signifying a cataract, is probably derived from the rushing waters of the river Tâf, on which it is situated, and by which it is bounded on the north-east, was formerly comprehended within the hundred of Miskin, from which it has been recently separated. It comprises about eleven hundred acres of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation; the surface is in some parts elevated and in others flat, but no where subject to inundation; the soil is a strong brown earth, favourable to the production of good crops of grain of all kinds, potatoes, and hay. The substratum is partly a hard brown stone, and partly limestone of very good quality. Radyr Court, formerly the seat of the family of Matthew, ancestors of the late Lord Llandaf, has been partly taken down, and the remainder has been modernized, and converted into a farm-house. The turnpike road leading from Cardiff to Llantrissant passes a little to the south of the parish; and the tram-road from the Penttyrch works to the tin-mills at Melin Gruffydd passes through it. The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £60 per annum, private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Earl of Plymouth, who is improprator of the great tithes: there is no glebe land attached to the living. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a neat plain edifice, with a curious turret at the west end. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. A Sunday school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported by subscription. In this parish is a spring of very cold water, called Y Pistyll Goleu, "the bright water-spout," which issues from the side of a hill, under a considerable depth of earth over a limestone rock: it has by some writers been called a mineral spring, but it is not known to possess any other properties than that of its extreme coldness, which renders it efficacious in curing sprains and weakness of the sinews. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £195. 7.

**RAKE**, a joint township with Manor, in the parish of HAWARDEN, hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES. The population is included in the return for Manor.

**REDBARTH (RYDBERTH)**, a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N. W.) from Tenby, containing 134 inhabitants. This place was formerly a hamlet in the parish of

Carew, from which it has been severed and erected into a distinct parish of itself: it is situated in the south-eastern part of the county, and is of very small extent. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1200 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and originally in the presentation of the Vicar of Carew, but now, by lapse or otherwise, in that of the Bishop of St. David's. The church having fallen into a very dilapidated condition, is now undergoing complete repair. There is a small place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £6. 16.

**RESOLVEND (SOLVEN)**, a hamlet in the parish of LANTWIT LOWER, hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N. E. by E.) from Neath, containing 261 inhabitants. This place is situated in the upper part of the parish, near the left bank of the river Neath, where the mountains are lofty and rugged, and their declivities and the glens well covered with timber. Here is a chapel of ease to the parish church. Solven hill is an elevated mountain in this hamlet, at the western base of which, overlooking the river Neath, are the remains of Glyn castle: the streams which flow into that river through the glens of the mountains form many pleasing cascades.

**REYNOLDSTON**, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (W. by S.) from Swansea, containing 220 inhabitants. This place, which is situated in the peninsula of Gower, is supposed to derive its name from Reginald de Breos, who was lord of the manor, and is said to have been the founder of the church. The parish, which is of considerable extent, comprises some fine portions of arable and pasture land, which are enclosed and in a good state of cultivation, and a large tract of uncultivated and mountainous common, affording excellent pasturage for sheep, which are remarkable for the fineness of their wool, and the excellent quality of the mutton. The village, which contains several neat cottages, is pleasantly situated under the southern declivity of the mountainous ridge called Cevn y Bryn, from the summit of which a most extensive and magnificent view is obtained of the country on both sides. From this eminence the peninsula of Gower appears to be completely insulated; the river Burry hence forms a conspicuous and interesting object, with the town of Llanelly on the opposite bank, and at its extreme point the village of Penbre: the view embraces also the bay of Oxwich, with the parish church, and the woods of Penrice castle, with the village and tower, while in intervening spaces are scattered the pleasing villages of Reynoldston, Knelston, and Llanddewi. Stout Hall, the seat of John Lucas, Esq., is a handsome modern residence, situated in extensive grounds finely laid out, and embracing much interesting scenery; and Fairy Hill, the residence of the late Lady Barham, to whose munificence the dissenters of Gower are indebted for the erection of four neat chapels in the peninsula, is also in this parish. Limestone abounds in the parish, and is procured in great quantities for the supply of the neighbourhood; the soil in the lower grounds is fertile, and the air is remarkable for its purity. A small rivulet, which has its rise on Cevn y Bryn, after traversing the parish, falls into the Loughor, below the church at Cheriton, and gives to that river



its own name, the Burry, during the finest part of its course, extending from the ferry at Loughor to its mouth.

The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 11. 0½., and in the patronage of C. R. M. Talbot, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. George, is an ancient structure, not remarkable for any important architectural details. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported by the benevolence of Miss Talbot. In Brÿn field, in this parish, are the remains of an ancient encampment of small size, which, from the discovery of some broken urns in the fosse by which it was surrounded, is supposed to be of Roman origin: it is now nearly levelled. On the summit of Cevn y Brÿn, along which a good road was made by T. M. Talbot, Esq., affording a delightful ride, and commanding an extensive and beautiful prospect over the Bristol channel to the coasts of Devon, Pembroke, and Carmarthen, are several large heaps of stones, more especially on the eastern side, where there is one called the Beacon: these are probably sepulchral mounds, and perhaps of Druidical origin. In the grounds of Stout Hall, and near a rustic bridge, is a "Maen Gwyr," a huge stone, of the same kind as Arthur's stone, about ten feet in length; and not far distant is a small circle of upright stones, placed there by Mr. Lucas, father of the present proprietor, and forming a miniature representation of Stonehenge. In the same grounds there is one of the most extensive caverns in the kingdom, accidentally discovered by the late Mr. Lucas, who, perceiving a small aperture in the limestone rock, containing a very strong clay, proceeded to clear it out; and finding the cavity expand inward, he fully explored the interior, by removing several thousand tons of clay, and occasionally blasting the rock. The bottom of the cavern is a plain surface, about forty feet below the level of the ground, and the roof, which is finely arched, varies from ten to thirty-six feet in height: it is capable of containing two thousand persons, and is entered in one part by a long flight of steps rudely formed, and in another by a gradual descent; the interior, which has an imposing grandeur of appearance, is tolerably lighted by some natural openings in the incumbent strata. On Cevn y Brÿn there is a remarkable well, called Holy Well, a very copious spring included in a square enclosure of some antiquity. Near the church is a well dedicated to St. George, and at no great distance from it is another, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and supposed to possess medicinal properties. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £31. 13.

REYNOLDSTON, a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S. by W.) from Narberth, containing 109 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the south-eastern part of the county, and on the turnpike road leading from Narberth to Pembroke, comprises but a very small tract of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The village has every appearance of antiquity, and in all probability was originally inhabited by a portion of the Flemings to whom Henry I. assigned territories in this part of the principality, with a view to strengthen his interests in the country, and for the greater security of the possessions which the

Normans had usurped from the natives. Though now fallen almost into decay, some of the cottages have still the round chimneys which usually distinguish the Flemish dwellings. This place was formerly only a hamlet in the parish of Begelly. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's, though formerly, for some time after the endowment of its church, in that of the Rector of Begelly. The church is a small ancient edifice, with a low tower, and in a very dilapidated condition. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £11. 2.

RHAIADR, a borough, market town, and parish, in the hundred of RHAIADR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 16 miles (W. N. W.) from New Radnor, 23 (W.) from Presteign, and 177 (W. N. W.) from London, containing 669 inhabitants. This place, the name of which signifies a cataract, is by the Welsh more commonly called "Rhaiadr Gwy," from its situation on the river Wye, the water of which, rushing with great violence over a ledge of rocks that obstructed its course, formed a cataract, of which the roaring might be heard at a considerable distance, till, on the erection of a stone bridge at this place, in the year 1780, a wider channel was opened for the stream, by clearing away the opposing rocks, since which time it has passed on in comparative tranquillity. The town is evidently of great antiquity; but at what time it was first inhabited is not precisely known. According to Caradoc of Llancarvan, a castle was erected here, in 1178, by Rhÿs ab Gruffydd, Prince of South Wales, for the protection of his territories against the incursions of the Norman invaders, who at that time were making frequent irruptions into this part of the principality. In 1194, Rhÿs was surprised and made prisoner by his own sons, and, during his confinement, the castle of Rhaiadr was besieged by the sons of Cadwallon ab Madoc, lord of Maelienydd, who, having succeeded in obtaining possession of it, fortified it strongly for their own use. In 1231, Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, after taking the castle of Montgomery, putting its garrison to the sword, and burning that town to the ground, advanced to this place, where he made similar devastations. Little further is recorded of the history of the castle, which existed till the civil war in the reign of Charles I., during which it was first dismantled and afterwards totally demolished. By an act of the 27th of Henry VIII., the assizes for the county were appointed to be held alternately here and at New Radnor; but, by a subsequent act of the same reign, they were ordered to be held alternately at New Radnor and at Presteign, in consequence of the inhabitants of this place having put to death the sheriff.

The town is situated on the eastern bank of the river Wye, and on the turnpike roads leading respectively from Worcester through New Radnor to Aberystwith, and from Builth in Brecknockshire to Llanidloes, in the county of Montgomery. It appears to have been originally of much greater extent than at present; for on Cevn Ceido there is a tract of land, about half a mile from the town, called Pant yr Eglwys, where, according to tradition, the church formerly stood, and to which the borough is said to have extended. The present town consists of



four streets, diverging at right angles from the market-house in the centre, and extending nearly in the direction of the cardinal points, from which they take their names: the houses are irregularly built, and mostly of rather mean appearance, though several respectable dwellings have been erected within the last three years: the inhabitants are supplied with water by rivulets, which, descending from a spring a little above, flow through the town, which stands on ground rising gently from the banks of the Wye, and surrounded on all sides by lofty, wild, and barren hills, occasionally relieved with patches of plantations on their declivities, and by spots of cultivated ground at their bases. The woollen manufacture is carried on upon a small scale, there being one establishment in the town, and two in the suburb of Llansantfraid, on the opposite bank of the Wye, for the manufacture of flannel and coarse grey cloth, affording employment to about forty persons. A new road has been lately made to Aberystwith, and the enclosure of the waste land within the borough will, it is expected, add to the prosperity of the town, which is already considered in a flourishing state, and is one of the best in the county. The principal market is on Wednesday, and a smaller market, chiefly for butchers' meat and other provisions, is held on Saturday: here are also held great cattle markets, on the four Wednesdays next after Old May day (May 12th.) The fairs are on August 6th and 27th, September 26th, October 14th, and December 3rd.

This place is a borough by prescription, and a bailiff is annually elected from among the resident burgesses at Michaelmas, at the court leet of the manor, which belongs to the crown; but he has no magisterial authority, and his power is confined to the receipt of tolls, under the authority of the bailiff of the borough of New Radnor. The burgesses are appointed by a town jury, and presented at the annual court leet: they have scarcely any other privilege than exemption from toll. Rhaiadr is one of the contributory boroughs which, with New Radnor, jointly return one member to parliament: the franchise was conferred by the 27th of Henry VIII., and was confirmed by a determination of the House of Commons in 1690. The right of election has heretofore been vested in the burgesses generally, whether resident or not; the number of whom cannot be ascertained, many having omitted to enrol themselves after presentation, in order to avoid paying the customary fees. It is now, by the late act for amending the representation, in the resident burgesses only, if duly qualified according to its provisions, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the number of tenements of this value within the limits of the borough, which have been extended, in order to include the village of Llansantfraid Cwm-toyddwr, forming a suburb on the opposite bank of the Wye, and are minutely described in the Appendix, is forty-five. The steward of the manor holds a court baron, once in every three weeks, for the recovery of debts under forty shillings. The town-hall is a commodious building, erected by public subscription in 1762, and situated in the centre of the town:

the upper part contains rooms well adapted for the holding of the courts, and underneath it is an area in which the market is held. The site of the ancient prison is now partly occupied by a dissenting meeting-house; and the place for the execution of criminals, when the assizes were held here, was at the north end of the town, near a house called Pen y Maes. By the late Boundary Act, this has been made one of the polling-places in the election of a knight for the shire.

Rhaiadr anciently formed part of the parish of Nantmel, from which it was severed, and was erected into a parish of itself, co-extensive with the borough, about the year 1735, when the first churchwarden was appointed. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with half the tithes, and with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Nantmel. The church, dedicated to St. Bridget, or, according to some writers, to St. Clement, was rebuilt in 1733, and a low square embattled tower was added in 1783: the present structure is neat and substantially built, and consists of a nave and chancel: it was thoroughly repaired in 1829, when a gallery, containing eighty free sittings, was erected at the west end by public subscription, aided by a grant of £30 from the Incorporated Society for building and enlarging churches and chapels. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A grammar school, originally founded by an unknown benefactor, and which had been suffered to fall into disuse, was revived about the close of the last century, and a school-house adjoining the churchyard was erected by public subscription, in 1793, in which six boys of this parish, and six of the adjoining parish of Cwm-toyddwr, receive gratuitous education. The present endowment arises from the rents of two estates bequeathed by Mr. Charles Price, subject to an annual charge of fifty shillings for five divinity lectures, and now producing about £50 per annum; from a rent-charge of £3 on lands in this parish; and from the rent of a tenement in the parish of Disserth, left by Mr. Daniel Davis, and now producing £8 per annum. Previously to the establishment of the college of St. David's at Lampeter, in the county of Cardigan, candidates for holy orders were ordained from this school. Sunday schools are also supported by subscription, in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations. The Rev. Henry Williams, in 1810, bequeathed £2000 in the three per cent. consolidated annuities, for the endowment of lectures in divinity, to be delivered in the parish church: the lecturer is appointed by the Chancellor and Scholars of the University of Oxford, preference being given to the nearest of kin to the founder, and is to forfeit, for every omission, ten shillings to the poor. The same gentleman left also the interest of £200 in the same stock for the clerk. A lending library, consisting of one hundred and twenty volumes, chiefly on divinity, was given to the clergy of this district, in 1810, by the associates of the late Dr. Bray. There are now no vestiges of the castle of Rhaiadr, except the fosse, which is partly filled up with fragments of rock: the site of the tower or citadel is indicated by a mount overlooking the river Wye, which is still called Tower Mount. The river, which on the west flowed immediately under its walls, was, by means of a deep



trench cut in the solid rock, made upon cases of emergency to surround the fortress. Here was also a religious house belonging to the Dominicans, or Black friars, situated near the bridge, and which may probably have been a cell to the abbey of Strata Florida, at no great distance, in the adjacent county of Cardigan. In the vicinity of the town are several cairns and barrows, the most remarkable of which is a small mound called Tommen Sant Fraid, surrounded by cottages, and said to have communicated, by means of a subterraneous passage, with the castle, and also with an encampment on the opposite side of the river, in the parish of Cwm-toyddwr. The Rev. Henry Williams, founder of the divinity lectures, was buried in the churchyard of this parish. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £165. 12.

**RHANDIR-ABBOT**, a hamlet in the parish of **LLANVAIR AR Y BRÛN**, higher division of the hundred of **PERVETH**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 7 miles (N.) from Llandovery, containing 401 inhabitants. It is situated on the eastern bank of the Towy, and at the foot of a mountain in which are extensive lead mines belonging to Earl Cawdor, the working of which is now discontinued. The chapel of Nant y Bai is in this hamlet, having been re-erected here, instead of at Ystrad Fin, where the original building stood. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Earl Cawdor. Nearly opposite Earl Cawdor's mansion of Nant y Mwyn, where the banks of the river are somewhat precipitous, there is a picturesque foot bridge across the Towy, leading to Pwll Pradog. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £118. 16.

**RHANDIR-CANOL**, a hamlet in the parish of **LLANVAIR AR Y BRÛN**, higher division of the hundred of **PERVETH**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5½ miles (N.E.) from Llandovery, containing 318 inhabitants. It forms, as the name implies, the middle division of the parish, and is situated on the left bank of the river Towy. There is a separate assessment for the support of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £113. 7.

**RHANDIR-ISÂV**, a hamlet in the parish of **LLANVAIR AR Y BRÛN**, higher division of the hundred of **PERVETH**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 3 miles (N.E. by N.) from Llandovery, containing 475 inhabitants. The romantic river Brân flows through it, and has a few pleasing residences on its banks, the principal of which is Glân Brân, the beautiful seat of Col. Gwynne. This hamlet is well wooded, and the road from Llandovery to Builth here passes along the left bank of the river, and through the park of Glân Brân. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £185. 15.

**RHANDIR-ÛCHÂV**, a hamlet in the parish of **LLANVAIR AR Y BRÛN**, higher division of the hundred of **PERVETH**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 7 miles (N.E.) from Llandovery, containing 291 inhabitants. It is situated in a mountainous district, near the source of the river Brân, on the border of Brecknockshire. A separate assessment is made for the support of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £122. 3.

**RHIGOS (RHEGOES)**, a hamlet in the parish of **YSTRADDYVODOG**, hundred of **MISKIN**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 7½ miles (W.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 505 inhabitants, the population having increased about thirty per cent. since the census of 1821. It is situated on the border of Brecknockshire, near the Hirwaun iron-works, and on the road from Neath to Merthyr-Tydvil. Hirwaun common is a high and extensive tract to the west of this place, and contains some coal-pits, from which tram-roads proceed to the Hirwaun works in Brecknockshire. A separate assessment is made for the maintenance of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £104.

**RHIW**, a parish in the hundred of **COMMITMAEN**, **Lleyn** division of the county of **CARNARVON**, **NORTH WALES**, 11 miles (W.S.W.) from Pwllheli, containing 358 inhabitants. This place derives its name, signifying the ascent of a hill, from its situation on the acclivity of Mynydd Rhiw, a lofty eminence which rises above the village to an elevation of one thousand and thirteen feet above the level of the sea. The parish, which extends across the isthmus of Lleyn, is situated on the western shore of the bay called Porthnigel, in the great bay of Cardigan, and comprises a considerable portion of arable and pasture land, of which about two-thirds are ancient enclosure, and the remainder, which is mountainous, was enclosed by an act for that purpose, in the year 1811. The soil, in the lower grounds, is a stiff clay, and in the higher lands gravelly, producing fine crops of barley and oats, and excellent grass; and the enclosed commons afford good pasturage for sheep and young cattle. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and is somewhat enlivened by several small rivulets, which run through the parish. From the summit of Mynydd Rhiw the prospect is strikingly beautiful, embracing the whole range of the mountains of Snowdon, and extending over Cardigan bay, St. George's channel, and a great part of South Wales. Plâs Rhiw, for many generations the seat of the family of Lewis, and now the property and residence of Lewis Moor Bennet, Esq., is an ancient and handsome mansion, pleasantly situated, and comprehending within the grounds some pleasing and picturesque scenery. Manganese, of very superior quality, abounds in the parish: the vein in which it lies was first discovered in 1827, and has been worked since that time with very great success: about fifty persons are now employed in procuring it, the produce being principally sent to the Liverpool market. The living is a rectory, with the perpetual curacy of Llandudwen annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £6. 14. 9½., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Aelrhiw, is an ancient and spacious cruciform structure, in the early style of English architecture, and is in good repair. There is a place of worship for Independents, with a burial-ground attached. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is held every fourth year in this parish, in rotation with that of BrÛncroes, in which the tenement is situated which forms the endowment, and those of Aberdaron and LlanvaelrhÛs. Some land in the parish, now producing £4 per annum, was bequeathed for keeping the church in repair.



The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £111. 4.

**RHIW-LLÂS (RHIWLAS)**, a joint hamlet with Tach-Lleuan, in that part of the parish of **LLANDILO-VAWR** which is in the lower division of the hundred of **CAYO**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 3 miles (N. N. W.) from Llandilo-Vawr. The population is returned with the hamlet of Tach-Lleuan, with which it is conjointly assessed for the maintenance of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £97. 1.

**RHODOGEIDIO**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**.—See **CEIDIO**.

**RHÔSBEIRIO**, or **RHÔS-PEIRIO (RHÔS-BEIRIO)**, a parish in the hundred of **TWRCELYN**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**, 3 miles (W. by S.) from Amlwch, containing 32 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the shore of the Irish sea, is of very limited extent, and comprises only a small portion of arable and pasture land, which is in a tolerable state of cultivation. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Llanellian, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Peirio, from whom the parish derives its name, is a small ancient structure, supposed to have been originally built about the year 605, and is situated in the centre of a level field, at some distance from the village: divine service is performed in it only every third Sunday.

**RHÔSCOLYN**, a parish in the hundred of **MENAI**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**, 5 miles (S. S. E.) from Holyhead, containing 495 inhabitants. The name of this parish is, by the author of the "*Mona Antiqua Restaurata*," derived from one of those columns which the Romans erected, both as commemorative of their victories, and to mark the extent of their conquests. The same author states that Gwenvaen, daughter of Pawl hên, had a religious house or cloister in this place, from which afterwards originated the parish church, called, from the original founder of that establishment, Llan-wenvaen, or "the church of Gwenvaen," an appellation which for some time superseded its original name of Rhôscolyn, or "the Moor of the Column." The site of the ancient cloister is still distinguishable by the number of human bones found whenever the ground is turned up by the spade or the plough. The parish forms the southern half of Holy Island, being connected with that of Holyhead, which forms the other half, by a narrow isthmus, along which runs the old London road to that place, and separated from the western coast of the main land of Anglesey only by a narrow, shallow, and sandy strait: its surface is chiefly cultivated, though much of it is rendered of poor quality by rocks and sands. Near Bodior, an ancient mansion in this parish, is found in great abundance the beautiful variegated marble called verd antique, of which the specimens obtained here, in the diversity and brilliancy of the colours, surpass those of Italy; and in the same quarries are found veins of beautiful asbestos, of soft silky texture, and of very superior quality. The living is a discharged rectory, with Llanvair-yn-Eubwll and Llanvihangel-yn-howyn annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £10. 5., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Gwenvaen, is a small edifice, supposed

originally to have been erected about the year 630, and not distinguished by any remarkable architectural features. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Some small charitable donations and bequests have been made for apprenticing poor children, and for distribution among the poor. An average annual expenditure amounting to £205. 17. is applied to the support of the poor.

**RHÔSCROWTHER (RHÔS Y CRYTHOR)**, a parish in the hundred of **CASTLEMARTIN**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 6 miles (W.) from Pembroke, containing 231 inhabitants. This place is said to have been anciently the residence of some of the Welsh princes, prior to the Norman conquest; and there is still a place called Estington, supposed to be a corruption of "Iestyn's-ton," which was probably their abode. The parish is situated near the shores of Milford Haven, and is partly bounded on the north by Nangle bay: it comprises a large tract of good arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in excellent cultivation; and the inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and the views over the haven and St. George's channel are interesting, and enlivened by the passing and repassing of vessels. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £15. 12. 11., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Decumanus, is a venerable structure of very great antiquity, in the early style of English architecture, but is not distinguished by any remarkable architectural details. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £136. 7.

**RHÔSDIAU (RHÔS-DDŪ)**, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of **LLAR**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 7 miles (S. by E.) from Aberystwith, containing 152 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated within a few miles of Cardigan bay, is of very small extent. The surface is varied, and in some part mountainous; and the surrounding scenery is characterized rather by features of rugged boldness than of pleasing or picturesque appearance: the soil in the lower grounds is productive, and the declivities of the hills afford scanty pasturage for sheep and young cattle. Its distance from any great turnpike road renders this place difficult of access, and it has therefore little intercourse, even with the neighbouring places. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £1. 6. 8., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, having for some time been in a state of ruinous dilapidation, was rebuilt in 1816. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £25. 8.

**RHÔSGÔCH (RHÔS-GÔCH)**, a township forming a part of the chapelry of Wolston, in that part of the parish of **WORTHEN** which is in the lower division of the hundred of **CAWRSE**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E.) from Welshpool, containing 59 inhabitants. It forms a part of the Long Mountain, on the border of Shropshire, in which county the greater portion of the parish is situated. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £26. 14.



**RHÔSILLY, or ROSILLY (RHÔS-SULWY)**, a parish in the hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. S. W.) from Swansea, containing 302 inhabitants. This parish derives its name from Reginald Sili, or Sulwy, to whom the lordship was given, in the division of the conquered territory of Glamorgan, by Fitz-Hamon. It is situated on a bay to which it gives name, in the Bristol channel, and which is enclosed on the south by Worms Head, a small promontory forming the western extremity of the county of Glamorgan, and stretching two miles into the sea, and on the north by the promontory opposite to which Holme's island is situated. The anchorage in this bay is considered very dangerous, except in fine weather, from the eddies and currents which set in here strongly at other times. The limestone rocks which line the shore exhibit some very curious caverns, in which are fine specimens of stalactite; and the sands, which extend for three miles to the north-west of the church, are firm and smooth, affording a pleasant marine walk. The parish comprises an extensive tract of land, of which about three-fourths are enclosed and cultivated, and the remainder consists of fine open downs, affording excellent pasturage, and other common and waste land. Several of the inhabitants are employed in quarrying limestone, of which great quantities are shipped from the bay to different parts of the principality. The surrounding scenery is agreeably diversified, and the views over the bay and the adjacent country abound with objects of interest and with features of pleasing character. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 6. 8., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is an ancient structure, situated near the shore, but is not remarkable for its architectural details. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £40. 11.

**RHÔS-MAEN**, a joint hamlet with Tir-Esgob, in that part of the parish of LLANDILO-VAWR which is in the lower division of the hundred of PERVETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (N. E.) from Llandilo-Vawr. The population is included in the return for Tir-Esgob. It lies on the right bank of the river Towy, and the road from Llandilo-Vawr to Llangadock passes through it.

**RHÔSMARKET (RHÔS-MARKET)**, a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (E. N. E.) from Milford, containing 456 inhabitants. This parish comprises a moderate extent of arable and pasture land, of which the whole is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation; the surface is undulated, and in some parts hilly. Its situation, about half-way between Haverfordwest and Milford, affords great facility for conveying to market its agricultural produce. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The vicar, in addition to the small tithes, has the tithe of hay. The church, dedicated to St. Ishmael, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. In the village are

the remains of an ancient mansion, formerly the seat of the family of Walters, in which was born Lucy, daughter of Sir Richard Walters, the favourite mistress of Charles II., and mother of the unfortunate Duke of Monmouth: the ruins are now the property of Mrs. Owen Barlow, who is the principal proprietor of land in the parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £110. 10.

**RHÔSVERRIG (RHÔS-VEIRIG)**, a hamlet in the parish of LLANVIHANGEL-BRYN-PABUAN, hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (N. W.) from Builth, containing 112 inhabitants. This hamlet takes its name, though situated on the western bank of the Wye, from the ancient Verreg, or Verlex, an extensive district between the rivers Wye and Severn, frequently referred to by the Welsh historians as having been governed by its own reguli: it anciently contained a mansion belonging to Elystan Glodrydd, one of the five royal tribes, whose descendant still inherits the principal portion of this division of the parish. The river Wye bounds it on the north-east, and the Whevri stream on the south-west; and between these it forms a narrow peninsula, running in a south-easterly direction almost to the town of Builth. It is the most fertile portion of the district, having a soil composed chiefly of loam, though intermixed with some gravel; and the crops are more abundant and varied than those of the remainder of the parish. The Radnorshire trap rocks extend for a short distance on the banks of the Wye, at its eastern extremity, where, on the tenement of Parc ar Irvon, near Parc wood, are three mineral springs, close to each other, one saline, another sulphureous, and the third chalybeate. The waters of the saline spring are stronger than perhaps any other in the kingdom, but the sulphureous spring has a weaker impregnation than that at Llanwrtyd. The wells are covered with a small and neat pump-room. Near them is a small projecting rock, overhanging the Wye, which was once fortified, and probably served as a post for guarding the ford of Llêchryd: it may even have been at one period occupied by the Romans, as the Roman road from Llandrindod must have crossed the Wye near this spot. The Whevri is remarkable for the abundance and excellence of its trout. A separate assessment is made for the maintenance of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £24. 13.

**RHUDDLAN**, a borough, sea-port, and parish, partly in the hundred of PRESTATYN, and partly in that of RHUDDLAN, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 11 miles (W. by N.) from Holywell, 16 (W. by N.) from Flint, 21 (N. W. by W.) from Mold, and 220 (N. W.) from London, containing, with the chapelry of Rhyl, 1506 inhabitants. The name of this place, which is of very great antiquity, is supposed to be derived from the red colour of the soil on the banks of the river Clwyd, on which it is situated. The town appears to have been of considerable importance from the earliest period; and the adjoining marsh, called by the Welsh "Morva Rhuddlan," is distinguished as the scene of a memorable and sanguinary battle which took place in the year 795, between the Saxons under Offa, King of Mercia, and the Welsh, in which the latter, after a severe and obstinate conflict, were defeated with dreadful slaughter.



ter, and Caradoc, King of North Wales, with many of his principal chieftains, was slain. Such of the Welsh as escaped the sword of the enemy perished in the marsh from the influx of the tide; and all who had been taken prisoners were inhumanly massacred, without much regard to age or sex. In commemoration of this disastrous event was composed the well-known Welsh air of "Morva Rhuddlan," which is so deservedly admired for the plaintive sweetness of its melody. According to the Welsh Chronicles, it would appear that Offa himself fell in this engagement, but the Saxon annals place his death a year earlier. In 1015, Llewelyn ab Sytysyllt, King of North Wales, erected a fortress and a palace at Rhuddlan, which he made his principal residence, and which, after his death by assassination, in 1021, continued to be that of his son and successor, Gruffydd ab Llewelyn. This prince, having given offence to Edward the Confessor, King of England, by sheltering Algar Earl of Chester, one of his refractory nobles, that monarch sent Harold, with a powerful force, to subdue his dominions; and Gruffydd, surprised at this place by the sudden approach of the English army, which he was not prepared to oppose, privately embarked with a few of his attendants in one of the vessels then lying in the harbour, and, setting sail immediately, effected his escape. Harold soon made himself master of the fortress, and, mortified at the unexpected escape of the Welsh king, burnt his palace and destroyed all the ships of war and other vessels remaining in the harbour, after which he returned into England, to make more extensive preparations. Towards the end of the Confessor's reign, Rhuddlan appears to have been possessed by Edwin Earl of Chester.

The castle was afterwards held by the Welsh, who appear to have retained possession of it for some time, during which they rebuilt and fortified the town, and rendered it one of the most flourishing places in North Wales. In 1098, Robert, nephew of Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, laid siege to this place, and compelled the garrison to surrender. William the Conqueror, perceiving the advantageous situation of Rhuddlan near to the sea, and its importance as a border fortress, issued orders to Robert, surnamed from this place "de Rotelan," to repair the castle, to strengthen the fortifications of the town, and to make it his principal residence; and the square towers still standing, evidently of Norman origin, were probably erected at this time, and in obedience to the royal mandate. The additional works raised by this nobleman, with the facility of obtaining by sea supplies of men and provisions at any time from England, rendered it a military station of great importance, and a powerful means of keeping the Welsh in subjection. In 1109, Gruffydd ab Cynan, who had previously visited Robert at this place, and had obtained from him assistance against his enemies, in consequence of some quarrel which had arisen between them, attacked the castle of Rhuddlan, burnt the outer ward, killed many of the garrison, and compelled the remainder to retire for safety within the towers. Henry II., on his invasion of North Wales, in 1157, advanced to Rhuddlan without any resistance, repaired the castle, and strengthened the fortifications with additional works, and, previously to his return into England, garrisoned it with a strong body of his own forces. The Welsh

chieftains having, in 1165, entered into a confederacy to throw off the allegiance which they had sworn to this monarch, Henry, aware of the importance of this castle as a grand border fortress, and judging that it would be the first object of their attack, advanced hastily to protect it; but the enemy retiring upon his approach, the king, not being in sufficient force to pursue them, remained at this place only for a few days, and, having reinforced the garrison, returned to England. The castle, notwithstanding its strength and the number of the garrison, being invested by the Welsh forces in 1167, though valiantly defended, was taken, after a siege of two months, by Owain Gwynedd, sovereign of North Wales, who dismantled the fortifications, and put the garrison to the sword. It appears, however, to have been soon restored by the English, for it is named in conjunction with two other fortresses given by Henry II. to Davydd, son of Owain Gwynedd, on his marriage with Emma, natural sister of that monarch; and, in 1178, it was held for him by an English garrison, in opposition to a body of his own subjects, who had risen in disgust at his tyrannical conduct. In 1187, Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, attended by Giraldus Cambrensis, in his progress through Wales to preach the crusades, was hospitably received and nobly entertained by Davydd, in his castle of Rhuddlan, which this prince probably at a subsequent period surrendered to the English, in whose possession it for some time remained.

Towards the close of the reign of Richard I., Ranulph de Meschines, surnamed Blundeville, Earl of Chester, being suddenly besieged in this fortress by a body of Welsh, at a time when the garrison was quite inadequate to its defence, was reduced to a state of extreme peril, from which he was at length relieved by his lieutenant, Roger de Lacy, who, with great promptitude, assembling a vast number of idle persons, and vagabonds of all descriptions, who had congregated at the fair of Chester, placed himself at their head, and marched towards Rhuddlan. Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, who had succeeded Davydd in the principality of North Wales, and commanded the besieging forces in person, perceiving at a distance an immense crowd of people, imagined it to be an English army advancing to the relief of the castle, and immediately raised the siege and retired with precipitation. The earl, in gratitude for the timely assistance, conferred upon his lieutenant the "*magisterium omnium peccatorum et meretricum totius Cestreshire*," which grant was, by one of his sons, partially assigned to his steward, Hugh Dutton, his heirs and assigns, whose descendants, in the reign of Henry VII., preferred their claim, in right of this grant, to an annual payment of fourpence from every woman of ill fame within the county of Chester, and to the power of summoning all minstrels exercising their calling within the said county, to appear, annually on the festival of St. John the Baptist, before themselves or their stewards, and to present each a lance, four flagons of wine, and fourpence halfpenny, as the price of their licences. These claims, being annexed to certain estates, continued to descend with them for a series of ages, and the annual procession of the minstrels to the church of St. John the Baptist at Chester was continued till the middle of the last century. King John, on his invasion of North Wales, in 1211, advanced through Rhuddlan into Carnarvonshire. In the following year the castle



was attacked, but without effect, by Prince Llewelyn, who, however, succeeded in capturing it in 1214. From this time it appears to have been alternately in the possession of the English and the Welsh, till the year 1277, when it was finally wrested from the latter by Edward I., who, fully aware of the importance of its occupation, in the prosecution of his schemes of conquest, made it the principal rendezvous for the forces which he had assembled for the subjugation of Wales. It likewise formed the grand depôt of arms and provisions for the supply of his invading army. Edward, having strongly fortified the place, took up his residence at Rhuddlan, while conducting the conquest of the country, and here entered into a treaty with Llewelyn, who submitted himself almost entirely to his mercy, consented to repair hither to take the oath of fealty to him, and paid him the sum of two thousand marks.

Anian, prior of the monastery of Rhuddlan, having been elected to the see of St. Asaph, in 1268, petitioned Edward, about the year 1282, after the seat of his diocese had been in a great measure destroyed by the contending armies, to remove the episcopal chair to Rhuddlan, as a place of safety, where the bishops and the church might, under shelter of the strong castle there, be protected from the furious attacks of both parties, to which they still continued exposed. This the English king would willingly have done, having even made an offer of land here, on which to build a new cathedral church, together with a thousand marks to defray the expense of its erection; but the consent of the pontiff was never obtained, and the cathedral was at length rebuilt on its former site. Llewelyn, however, repenting of the submission he had made to the English monarch, and aware of the danger of leaving so important a place in the hands of his enemy, in conjunction with his brother Davydd, whom a sense of the common danger had reconciled to his cause, captured all the fortresses of the English in North Wales, except the castle of Rhuddlan, which he at length invested, and slew all the workmen engaged in strengthening the fortifications. Edward, relying on the strength of this fortress, and making every preparation for the final subjugation of the Welsh, immediately issued summonses from Worcester, commanding that all his military tenants, including the military services of the prelates, and of the twenty-four abbots holding of the crown, should meet him at Rhuddlan in the ensuing month of June, 1282. On the approach of Edward, about the middle of this month, the Welsh princes raised the siege; and in the following month, the English monarch, during his residence here, issued orders to the sheriffs of the adjacent border counties to raise each a certain number of hatchet men, to act as pioneers for the safe passage of his army into the interior. From this place, too, it was that the ineffectual negotiations between Edward and the Welsh princes, through the medium of the Archbishop of Canterbury, were carried on; but all conferences being at length broken off, Edward advanced, in the beginning of November, from Rhuddlan to Aberconway, but returned on the 24th of the same month, after the defeat of a body of his forces near Bangor, and hence issued writs for assembling a parliament to grant extraordinary supplies for the maintenance of the war. After the unfortunate death of Llewelyn, in the following winter,

and the entire dispersion of the Welsh forces, his brother Davydd, with his wife, two sons, and seven daughters, was brought prisoner to Rhuddlan, where the English king had now taken up his residence to settle the affairs of his newly conquered territories: after being kept for some time a close prisoner in the castle, he was removed in chains to Shrewsbury, and was there ignominiously put to death as a traitor.

During his residence at Rhuddlan, Edward instituted the celebrated body of laws, for the government of his new subjects, called "the statute of Rhuddlan," which introduced the English system of judicature into the extensive territories which, on account of their remote situation, had escaped the usurpation of the lords marcher; and he likewise issued from this place a proclamation to all the inhabitants of Wales, that he would receive them under his protection, and assure to them the enjoyment of their liberties and estates under the same tenures as they had heretofore held them of their native princes. It was here also that Edward, while sitting in council, at which the Welsh chieftains attended, promised to them for their sovereign a native of their own country, one who knew not how to speak a word of English, and whose life and conduct had been hitherto irreproachable. On their acclamations of joy, and promise of obedience, he invested with the principality his infant son Edward, who had just been born in the castle of Carnarvon. Edward, in order to guard Rhuddlan against any future attempts of the Welsh, resolved upon rebuilding the castle, and rendering it impregnable by the strength of its fortifications; and more than fifteen years were employed in the accomplishment of this work, which was conducted on a scale of splendour and magnificence, of which striking evidence is preserved in its present stately ruins. Although not completed during Edward's sojourn here, this monarch's second child, the princess Eleanor, was born in the castle. In the mean time the town rapidly increased in population and importance: it was principally inhabited by English settlers, and soon became the chief town in this part of the principality. The inhabitants had been invested with many privileges by Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester; and the number of burgesses, which in his time amounted only to eight, was extended to eighteen by Robert de Rotelan, who augmented their privileges, making them equal to those enjoyed by the men of Hereford. By a writ issued by Edward from Bristol, in 1284, the inhabitants of Rhuddlan, in common with those of some other Welsh towns, were declared to be free for ever from paying the taxes called talliages; and by a charter dated at Flint; on September 8th of the same year, in the 12th of his reign, the same monarch made this place a free borough, ordaining that the constable of the castle should be mayor, to be assisted by two bailiffs, chosen annually from the burgesses, and by other municipal officers. He granted the corporation also a guild; a prison, with power to hold courts for determining all offences not extending to life or limb; a forest and free warren; and numerous other privileges and immunities, all which were subsequently confirmed by Richard II., at Leicester, and again by the same monarch at Westminster.

Sir Gruffydd Llwyd, who had received from Edward I. the honour of knighthood, on bringing to that monarch



tidings of the birth of his son at Carnarvon, rebelling against Edward II., assembled a large number of native troops in 1322, and assaulted the castle of this place; but, after many fruitless attempts to reduce it, he was taken prisoner, and, after being confined here for some time, was executed. Rhuddlan castle was granted by Edward III., in the seventh year of his reign, to his son Edward the Black Prince, as forming part of the earldom of Chester; and, according to a survey of the revenues of that earldom, made about forty years after this time, it appears that the town of Rhuddlan paid to the Earls of Chester a chief-rent of £72. 9. 2. per annum, and that the emoluments of the constable of the castle, who was accountable for the payment of that rent, amounted to £8. 14. per annum. On the return of Richard II. from his expedition into Ireland, whence he was recalled by the distracted state of his government at home, that monarch was brought to this town by the Earl of Northumberland and a large body of retainers, by whom he was held in a state of honourable captivity; and having staid here for a short time, for the purpose of refreshment, he was hurried forward by that nobleman to the castle of Flint, where he was betrayed into the power of his rival Bolingbroke, afterwards Henry IV. From this time little is recorded of the history of the castle, which appears to have fallen into neglect, and to have become dilapidated; for, on the breaking out of the parliamentary war, a very great expense was incurred in putting it in proper condition for receiving the troops by which it was garrisoned for the king. In 1645 it was besieged by a powerful body of parliamentary forces, under the command of Sir William Brereton: the garrison made a valiant and successful defence, and Sir William, after many fruitless efforts to reduce it, was compelled to retire to Chester. In the following year the castle was besieged by General Mytton, to whom it surrendered, and it was soon afterwards dismantled by order of the parliament.

The town, now comparatively little more than a village, is pleasantly situated in an extensive vale, on the east bank of the river Clwyd, and about two miles above its influx into the Irish sea: it consists principally of one good street, intersected by several smaller thoroughfares: the houses are neatly built, the streets indifferently and only partially paved, and the inhabitants but scantily supplied with water, which, in dry seasons, they are frequently obliged to bring from a spot a mile distant. Over the river Clwyd, which empties itself into the bay of Llandulas, is an ancient bridge of two arches, built in the year 1595, by William Hughes, Bishop of St. Asaph, near which the tide formerly rose to a sufficient height to enable boats of seven tons' burden, or "flats," as they are here called, to approach the town; but great improvements have in later times been made in the navigation of this river. Among these may be more particularly noticed an extensive embankment, raised at the expense of the land-holders, by which the river is prevented from inundating the contiguous grounds, and much valuable land has been gained. A commodious harbour has also been formed, which is accessible at all states of the tide for vessels of one hundred tons' burden. Spacious quays and wharfs have been constructed, and warehouses erected, for facilitating the trade of the place, which has become a central dépôt for supplying the several towns in the Vale of Clwyd and

the adjacent parts of North Wales. The principal trade of the port consists in the exportation of grain and timber, of which great quantities are shipped to Liverpool and the neighbouring ports, and of lead-ore from the adjacent mines of Talar gôch; and in the importation of coal, groceries, and shop goods of various descriptions, to be distributed hence throughout the surrounding country by land carriage. The port is formed by the mouth of the Clwyd, at a place called the Voryd, or "Sea Ford." A steam-packet plies regularly between this place and Liverpool, and brigs and sloops sail frequently both to that and other neighbouring ports: the old turnpike road from Holywell to Abergele passes through the town. Rhyl, in this parish, has of late years risen into repute as a bathing-place, and is much frequented by visitors during the summer, for whose accommodation two hotels have been erected: for a more detailed account see the article on that place. Fairs are held annually at Rhuddlan on February 2nd, March 25th, and September 8th.

The charter granted by Edward I., and confirmed by Richard II., has been in disuse ever since the period when the castle was dismantled by order of the parliament, no constable having since been appointed, and consequently the borough has had no mayor: the appointment of the bailiffs, which is vested in the lord of the manor, still annually takes place. The corporation no longer exercise any magisterial authority: the courts formerly held under their charter have been discontinued, those now held being only the courts baron and leet of the lord of the manor, at the latter of which, held annually in October, the borough officers are chosen. Though reduced in extent and importance, this place still retains its privilege, as one of the parliamentary boroughs within the county, of contributing in the return of one member to parliament: the right of election is in all the inhabitants paying scot and lot within the limits of Rhuddlan franchise, which extends over five townships of the parish of Rhuddlan, a great part of that of St. Asaph, and portions of those of Cwm and Dyserth: the present number of electors is about one hundred and eighty. The limits of the borough remain unaltered by the recent measures to amend the representation: although so extensive, they comprise only thirty-three houses of the yearly value of £10, twenty-three of which are situated in the town. Rhuddlan is now one of the polling-places in the election of a knight for the shire.

The living is a vicarage, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £11. 10. 5., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The great tithes of the parish were granted by Edward I. to the Dean and Chapter of St. Asaph, in 1284, and are now the principal source of revenue belonging to that body. A good glebe house was erected about twelve years ago. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is an ancient structure, partly in the early style of English architecture, consisting of a nave, chancel, and north aisle, and containing some interesting monuments to the family of Bôdryddan, especially one of white marble, erected to the memory of the very Rev. W. D. Shipley, Dean of St. Asaph, who was buried in an elegant mausoleum adjoining, which was erected by himself during his life. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Me-



thodists, the two latter having also places of worship at Rhyl. Through the exertions of the present vicar, the Rev. Thomas Wynne Edwards, a National school was established here, in 1829, by subscription, aided by a grant of £50 from the parent society in London: the building is capable of receiving one hundred and forty boys, and there are at present ninety-five boys who are gratuitously instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic. A similar institution for girls has also been established, and is entirely supported by Lady Mostyn, of Pengwern, and Mrs. Yonge, of Bôdryddan. There are various charitable donations and bequests, the produce of which is annually distributed among the poor of the parish. The ancient castle occupied an elevated site on the bank of the river Clwyd, commanding the harbour and the pass above Morva Rhuddlan: the walls enclosed an octagonal area, and were defended by six round towers of great strength, of which those at the east and west angles were double, and those at the north and south were single: the steep acclivity towards the river was defended with high walls and square towers, and the whole was surrounded by a broad and deep fosse, faced with stone. This fortress was built of limestone, freestone, and red sand-stone, and of its original splendour and magnificence a striking memorial is preserved in its venerable and stately ruins, which are among the most interesting and extensive in the principality. They consist chiefly of the walls, which are seventeen feet in thickness, and on the south side nearly entire; three of the round towers, of which one called Twr y Brenhin, or "the king's tower," is in tolerable preservation; the remains of various state apartments within the area, in one of which it is said the princess Eleanor was born; one of the square towers which defended the acclivity from the river, which is still entire; and the ruins of another, called "Twr y Silod." To the south of the castle there is an artificial mound, called Toothill, surrounded by a deep fosse, and once probably the site of the fort and palace built by Llewelyn ab Sytstyt, and destroyed by Harold; the fosse comprises a quadrilateral area, in which was also anciently included the priory of Rhuddlan.

The priory was founded in the year 1197, by Ranulph de Blundeville, Earl of Chester, for brethren of the Dominican order; and in 1268, Anian de Schonon, prior, was made Bishop of St. Asaph. The establishment suffered greatly during the wars of Edward I., but it still continued to flourish till the dissolution, when its revenue was estimated at £197. 19. 10.: the site and buildings were granted, in the 32nd of Henry VIII., to Harry ab Harry. The remains, now converted into a farm-house and stables, consist chiefly of some part of the dormitory and domestic apartments, which are tolerably perfect. Many stone coffins have been dug up on the site of the ancient buildings, which appear to have been very extensive; and among the monumental stones found near the spot is one to the memory of Anian de Schonon, on which is his effigy, holding the crosier in the left hand, the right hand raised as if in the act of benediction, and the head crowned with a mitre: this stone is now built up in the wall of a barn. In the cemetery many human skeletons have been discovered, and numbers of human bones are yet frequently thrown up by the spade. Not far distant from the priory stands a farm-house called

Spital, or "Ysputti," formerly a hospital belonging to the Knights Templar, founded by Edward I., in 1279; and near it is a fine spring, from which the priory was supplied with water conveyed to it by leaden pipes, which were taken up only a few years ago: from this spring the town of Rhuddlan is now supplied during seasons of drought. On the east side of the principal street is still remaining a portion of the house in which Edward I. sate in council, while superintending the building of the castle, and legislating for the future government of his Welsh subjects. In commemoration of this circumstance, a stone was placed in the building by the late very Rev. W. D. Shipley, M.A. Dean of St. Asaph, with the following inscription:—"This fragment is the remains of the building where King Edward I. held his parliament, A.D. 1283, in which was passed the statute of Rhuddlan, securing to the principality of Wales its judicial rights and independence." About a mile from the town, in the hamlet of Cricin, there is a large tumulus, heaped over the remains of St. Eurgain, or Cain, daughter of Maelgwyn, and niece of St. Asaph, founder of the see of that name: on the tumulus is the shaft of a cross, the head of which is now in a pool on the farm adjoining. Bôdryddan, in this parish, has been the property and residence of the family of Conway from the time of Edward III., by whom it was granted to John Coniers of Conway, at that time governor of Calais, and to whom also belong the castle and manor of Rhuddlan, by a grant from Edward the Black Prince. The mansion is spacious; and the grounds, which are very extensive, are enriched with some of the finest timber in North Wales. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £564. 13.

RHWNGDWY - CLYDACH (RHWNG - DWY GLYDACH), HIGHER, a hamlet in the parish and hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (N. by E.) from Swansea, containing 252 inhabitants. This place, the name of which denotes its situation between the Upper and Lower Clydach rivers, contains several respectable residences, in some instances embosomed in wood. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, at an average annual expense of £82. 12.

RHWNGDWY - CLYDACH (RHWNG - DWY GLYDACH), LOWER, a hamlet in the parish and hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N. by E.) from Swansea, containing 885 inhabitants. It is situated, as its name imports, between the Lower and Upper Clydach rivers. Here are coal-pits, with a railway to the Swansea canal, which here passes along the right bank of the river Tawy. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £186. 12.

RHÛDERIN (RHÛD-YR-HIN), a township in the parish of LLANEGRIN, hundred of TAL Y BONT, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (N. by W.) from Towyn, containing 475 inhabitants. The name is derived from a dangerous ford by which the Dysynni was crossed at this place. This hamlet comprises the western portion of the parish, having the sea on the west, and the river Dysynni on the east and south, so as to form a peninsula. It contains the church, which is seated on the declivity of a lofty



mountain near the Dysynni: several respectable residences, some of which command extensive views of the ocean, are scattered over it. A remarkable sand bank, studded with rocks, called Sarn y Bwch, stretches from the shore into the great bay of Cardigan, at the mouth of the river Dysynni.

RHYDGWERN, a hamlet in that part of the parish of MACHEN which is in the hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (E.) from Caerphilly, containing 184 inhabitants. It is bounded on the north and east by the river Romney, which here takes a wide sweep, and is crossed by a bridge on the road from Caerphilly to Newport. The principal part of the parish is in lower Wentloog hundred, county of Monmouth. There are several respectable residences in this hamlet, which is in general well wooded and has a diversified surface. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £36. 9.

RHYDONEN, a joint township with Trevechan, in that part of the parish of LLANYNYS which is in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES. The population is returned with the parish. It is situated near an ancient ford, where there is now a bridge, on the river Clwyd, from which circumstance it takes its name.

RHYD Y BOITHAN (RHYD Y VYDDIN), a hamlet in the parish of EGLWYSILAN, hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S. E.) from Newbridge, containing 805 inhabitants, the population having increased one-third since the census of 1821. The river Tâf forms the western boundary of this hamlet, which takes its name from a ford that anciently crossed a small stream running into that river, at a place where there is now a bridge. The Glamorganshire canal proceeds along the eastern bank of the river Tâf, and the high road from Cardiff to Merthyr-Tydvil takes its course between them, and within a few yards of each. The hamlet contains numerous respectable and pleasing residences, many of which are ornamented with surrounding plantations. The ruins of Castell Côch, supposed to have been erected by a celebrated chieftain named Ivor Bâch, occupy the brow of a perpendicular rock, near the left bank of the Tâf, at the south-western extremity of the hamlet, and exhibit, in combination with the well-wooded eminences contiguous, a picturesque and diversified scene. Another object of interest here is the tepid spring called Tâf's Well, on the banks of the river.

RHYL, a township in that part of the parish of RHUDDLAN which is in the hundred of PRESTATYN, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. N. W.) from the town of Rhuddlan. The population is returned with the parish. This place, which is situated at the northern extremity of the parish, and at the lower end of the fertile Vale of Clwyd, previously to the year 1820, consisted only of a few scattered dwellings; but since that time, from the pleasantness of its situation on the coast of the Irish sea, along the margin of which some fine smooth and firm sands here extend for several miles, it has become a place of favourite resort for sea-bathing, and is frequented by numerous visitors, for whose accommodation two respectable hotels have been established, and several private houses have been erected, in which lodging, with every accommoda-

tion, may be obtained. The sands, which project a considerable distance into the sea, besides being very convenient for bathing, afford an extensive and delightful marine promenade. The vicinity commands some fine views of the most picturesque portions of the Vale of Clwyd, the Clwydian range of mountains, Llandulas bay, Orme's Head, the Isle of Anglesey, and the mountains of Cumberland. Steam-vessels land passengers daily at the Vor-ryd pier, about a mile distant; and the various advantages of the place, combined with the retirement of its situation, render it desirable as a place of resort to families wishing to obtain the benefit of sea air and bathing, without the ordinary bustle and fatigue of more fashionable watering-places.

RHYWAEDOG (RHIWAEDOG), a township in the parish of LLANVAWR, hundred of PENLLŶN, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (E. S. E.) from Bala. The population is included in the return for the parish. The name signifies "the bloody brow," and refers to a battle fought here at some remote period, and the peculiar situation of the place on the ridge of a lofty eminence. Pwll y Gelanedd, or "the pool of the slain," is a small lake of stagnant water in a contiguous vale, where a severe contest was maintained between the Britons and the Saxons, in which the only surviving son of the aged Llywarch was slain.

RIDLEY, a township in the parochial chapelry of IS Y COED, hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E. by N.) from Wrexham, containing 42 inhabitants. It is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £39. 13.

ROATH (RH TH), a parish in the hundred of KIBBOR, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (N. E. by E.) from Cardiff, containing 272 inhabitants. Rhâth, the original name of this place, is a common Welsh designation for ancient earthworks, of which there are several in the immediate vicinity: the late Mr. Edward Williams, the Glamorganshire antiquary, supposed this name to be derived from the station *Ratostabius*, which he places at Cardiff. The parish is situated on the western bank of the river Romney, over which there is a bridge of one arch, and on the great western road through the county. Its surface, forming an extent of about one thousand five hundred acres, is nearly a perfect flat, except that to the north of the village there is a gentle rise. The Romney, which here separates the counties of Glamorgan and Monmouth, formerly inundated the moors to a great extent, but an embankment has been constructed within the last few years, which has confined it to its proper channel. The quality of the soil is various, the upper lands towards the north being a red stiff clay, and the flat ground being composed of sandy loam and gravel, which, towards the moors, become covered with tenacious clay, fit for making bricks. The parish contains several good gentlemen's houses, of which Plas Newydd, in the castellated style, the property of T. M. Richards, Esq., is the principal. It is divided into three lordships, namely, Roath Tewkesbury, Roath Dogfield, and Roath Keynsham: the manorial rights of the two former belong to the Marquis of Bute, and those of the latter to Sir C. Morgan, Bart. The living is a vicarage not in charge, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the



patronage of the Marquis of Bute. The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is a small neat structure: the chancel was rebuilt by the late Marquis of Bute, who also erected, on the northern side of it, a splendid mausoleum for his family, where he and the late Marchioness and Lord Mountstuart are interred. Near the centre of the rising ground to the north of the village is a spring of pure water, called Penylan Well, which has been enclosed, and is greatly resorted to by all classes on Easter Monday, when it is supposed that charms are wrought, fortunes foretold, and wishes registered at the mystic stream. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £233. 13.

ROBESTON WATHEN, or EAST, a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (W. by N.) from Narberth, containing 421 inhabitants. This parish is beautifully situated on the turnpike road leading from Narberth to Haverfordwest, and within a short distance from the Canaston or East Cleddy river, which is navigable to within a few hundred yards of its western boundary. It comprises but a moderate portion of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and cultivated: the soil is fertile, and the inhabitants are employed in agriculture, and in the procuring of limestone, which is found in some parts of the parish of a very excellent quality, resembling that of Aberthaw in Glamorganshire, and for the exportation of which the river Cleddy affords every facility. The village is seated on an eminence, and with the lofty tower of its church, rising above the thick foliage of the adjacent wood, forms an interesting and highly picturesque object, as seen from a distance. The surrounding scenery is beautifully and richly diversified, and the views over the adjacent country abound with interesting and romantic features. Robeston Wathen House, the seat of the Rev. J. W. James, is a pleasing residence, surrounded with thriving plantations, which, with some neighbouring woods, form one of the few well-timbered spots with which the prevailing nakedness of the county is richly contrasted. From the churchyard is obtained a highly picturesque and beautiful view of the opposite hill, crowned with the magnificent ruins of Lawhaden Castle, apparently on the brink of a richly wooded precipice, overhanging the river Cleddy, which flows at its base, and on the margin of which is seen the church of Lawhaden, in a romantic and sequestered spot. The living is consolidated with the rectory of Narberth, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's. The church, which is situated on elevated ground, is an ancient structure with a lofty square embattled tower. There are some trifling charitable benefactions for the poor, to whom also William Hawkins is said to have bequeathed an annuity of £11. 10., of which no account can at present be obtained. In this parish are the remains of a small encampment, popularly called a *Rhâth*, but nothing of its origin is known, neither do the remains possess any interest. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £78. 14.

ROBESTON (WEST), a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (N. N. W.) from Milford, containing 112 inhabitants. This place is situated a few miles to the north of Milford Haven, and on the old turnpike road leading to

Old Milford, or Haking. It comprises but a moderate tract of arable and pasture land, which is all enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. Robeston Hall, a seat belonging to William Henry Scourfield, Esq., of New Mote, is a good family mansion, pleasantly situated, and forming, with its grounds, which are well laid out, an ornamental object. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 6. 8., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £88. 8.

ROCH, a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (N. W. by W.) from Haverfordwest, containing 791 inhabitants. This place derives its name from a rocky mountainous ridge, rising abruptly from the plain, the summit of which is occupied by an ancient castle, which, from its situation near the extremity of the district of Rhôs, was probably erected as a border fortress by some of the earlier Norman invaders, or by the Flemings, who, in the reign of Henry I., settled in this part of the principality. The first possessor of the castle, of whom any thing is known, was Adam de Rupe, or de la Roche, who is by some writers supposed to have been the founder, and to whom also are attributed the foundation of the church, and of the priory of Hubberston Pill. Little is recorded of the history of the castle, which appears to have been constructed equally with a view to military and domestic purposes: it continued in the family of de la Roche till the reign of Henry VI., when the estates of that family, which were very extensive, were divided between two coheirresses, since which time it is supposed to have been abandoned as a residence. It was garrisoned for the king during the parliamentary war in the reign of Charles I., and in 1644 was besieged by the parliamentarians under the command of Captain Edwards, to whom, after a defence of two days, it was surrendered. The castle, with its demesnes, became the property of John Harries, Esq., from whom it passed by will to the late John Rhys Stokes, and is now the property of John Stokes Stokes, Esq., of Cyfern. The parish, which is situated on the eastern shore of St. Bride's bay, and on the turnpike road leading from Haverfordwest to St. David's, is of considerable extent, comprising a large tract of arable and pasture land, which, with the exception of Cyfern mountain, occupying only a small portion of it, and the cliffs to the west and south-west, bordering upon the bay, is enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. Cyfern, the seat of John S. Stokes, Esq., is a handsome residence occupying a pleasant situation.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 13. 9., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a plain neat edifice without a tower, consisting only of a nave and chancel: it contains a chaste monument to the memory of the Rev. John Grant, a former vicar of the parish. There were anciently two chapels of ease, both now in ruins: one of these was at Hilton, about a mile to the south of the church, and the other at Trêvran, about a mile and a half distant from it; the latter, situated on the margin of the bay, was called Caradoc's chapel, and was probably erected to commemorate the spot where the



corpse of St. Caradoc rested on its way for interment at St. David's. There are places of worship for Baptists and Wesleyan Methodists. Mr. Henry Grant, third son of the Rev. John Grant, bequeathed £500 for the endowment of a free school here, the interest of which sum is paid towards the support of a school, in which six boys and six girls are gratuitously instructed. Mrs. Fluerton, in 1700, bequeathed a rent-charge of £2 to the poor of this parish. The remains of the castle form an interesting and striking object: this structure originally consisted of one stately tower, divided into three stories, each composed of one large apartment, with an elegant smaller apartment, or retiring-room, having an arched roof and an oriel window, both enriched with tracery: the ruins consist of the shell of this tower, in a very perfect state. The rock on which it is built is, on the south side, incorporated with the building for nearly half the height, and a huge mass protrudes into the lower apartment. The prospect from the tower is very extensive, commanding the whole of St. Bride's bay, with a great part of the adjacent country, which, from the want of wood, with the exception only of two or three small patches, is generally destitute both of pleasing and of picturesque character. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £218.

RUABON (RHIW-ABON), a parish in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (S. W. by S.) from Wrexham, containing 8353 inhabitants. This place, which derives its name from its situation on the small river Avon, is distinguished in the Welsh annals on account of a fierce and obstinately contested battle fought in the vicinity, between the forces under Owain Cyveiliog, Prince of Powys, and the English, in which the former obtained a decisive victory. In commemoration of this event, the Welsh prince, who was eminent both as a warrior and a poet, composed a beautiful poem called *Hirlas Owain*, or "the Drinking Horn of Owain," of which an elegant translation by the Rev. Richard Williams is preserved in Pennant's *Tour in North Wales*. The parish is situated in a picturesque part of the county, within three miles of the great Holyhead road, and is bounded on the south by the river Dee. The village, which is of considerable size, and of prepossessing appearance, is situated on the road from Oswestry to Wrexham and Chester, and seems to have been indebted for its original prosperity to the noble mansion of Wynnstay, in the immediate vicinity, and for its present importance chiefly to the extensive mines of iron-stone and coal which abound, particularly in the southern and western parts of the parish. The extensive park of Wynnstay is entered from it by a plain but handsome gateway of modern erection, opening into a straight avenue, nearly a mile in length, composed of lofty trees of ancient growth, in which venerable oaks, stately elms, beeches and chestnuts are intermingled, and at the extremity of which is the mansion, the hospitable residence of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., beautifully situated on a fine and extensive lawn, having a noble artificial sheet of water in front, reflecting from its surface the foliage of some majestic trees near its margin. This spacious mansion, which has been erected at different periods, and in various styles of architecture, though wanting unity in its design, is, notwithstanding, a stately pile of

building, possessing, from its extent and substantial elevation, a striking character of simple and unostentatious grandeur. The older portion of the building contains the domestic offices and general apartments for the accommodation of the household. On the wall of a tower within the court of this portion of the house are the following Latin verses, allusive to the name of Wynnstay: "*Cui domus est victusque decens, et patria dulcis, sunt satis hæc vitæ, cætera cura labor. Struxit Johannes Wynn, Miles et baronetus, A.D. 1706.*" The more modern part of the building, erected by the first Sir Watkin, and enlarged and modernized by the present baronet, is a handsome substantial structure: the interior comprises several noble apartments, embellished with some excellent family portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds and some of the best masters, two full-length paintings of Charles II. and his Queen, and several other pictures of merit. Adjoining the house is a small handsome building, originally erected as a theatre, in which, during the festival of Christmas, dramatic performances were exhibited for the amusement of the nobility and gentry of the surrounding country, guests of the hospitable proprietor. The park, which is twelve miles in circumference, is enriched with fine timber, and comprehends much variety and beauty of scenery: there are handsome lodges, or entrances into it from various parts of the surrounding district; and a new drive, leading to the house from the lodge recently built on the London road, has added greatly not only to the convenience of access, but to the embellishment of the grounds on the south side. At a short distance from the hall is the cold bath, near which stands a handsome fluted column, erected after a design by the late Mr. James Wyatt, to the memory of the late Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., by his mother: the shaft of the column, which is one hundred feet high, rests upon a square pedestal, sixteen feet high, ornamented on the faces with festooned wreaths of oak leaves, and at the angles with eagles finely moulded in bronze; the capital is surmounted by an entablature supporting a circular platform surrounded with an iron balustrade, to which there is an ascent from within the column by a flight of spiral steps, and having in the centre a circular pedestal, twelve feet high, on which is placed a massive vase of bronze, enriched with goats' heads. Over the door leading to the ascent there is a tablet bearing the following inscription: "To the memory of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., who died the 29th day of July, MDCCLXXXIX., this column was erected by his affectionate mother, Frances Williams Wynn;" and on the north-east side, in letters of copper, is the inscription "*Filio optimo, Mater Eheu Superstes.*" Near this column is a fine sheet of water, bounded by Wat's Dyke, which here intersects the park, and from which the mansion originally derived the name of Wattstay, changed by Sir John Wynn to its present appellation. The dyke, which entered the park near its northern boundary, has been levelled in its course through the grounds, but is traced again on the south side, near Penylan, and crosses the river Dee at its junction with the Ceiriog. By the late improvements, part of Offa's Dyke is now within the limits of the park, which it enters at the second lodge from Ruabon, and leaves again near the Waterloo Tower. Near the south-western extremity of the woods there is a ceno-



taph, erected by Sir W. Williams Wynn, Bart., from a design by Sir Jeffrey Wyatville, to the memory of his brother officers and soldiers who were slain during the rebellion in Ireland, in 1798: it stands on an eminence overlooking a deep ravine, called Nant y Bele, "the dingle of the marten," through which the river Dee urges its rapid course along a narrow channel, richly fringed with impending woods: from this building there is a most extensive and magnificent prospect, embracing a vast extent of the counties of Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Chester, and Salop, Chirk Castle and its noble park, and the whole of the beautiful vale of Llangollen, including the stupendous aqueduct of Pont y Cyssylltau, and the majestic and elevated ruins of Castell Dinas Brân, with the fine range of mountains in the distance.

This parish comprises an important part of the Denbighshire coal tract, of which the principal seam of coal is here nine feet thick. Its mineral wealth in coal and iron-ore, particularly in the southern and western parts of it, has caused the establishment of numerous works, which till the year 1830 were in full operation, and extensive mines have been opened; so that a great part of the parish is now occupied by pits, charcoal hearths, and mineral works of various kinds, and is intersected in different directions by rail-roads. At Acrevair, within its limits, there are a very extensive iron-foundry and colliery, belonging to the British Iron Company, in which three hundred men were constantly employed. There are also numerous blast furnaces and forges in other parts of the parish, for the manufacture of iron; and at the Cevn, a large straggling village on the northern bank of the Dee, near a bridge over that river, called New-bridge, is a large establishment, in which are mills for rolling hoop and sheet iron: there are also considerable coal-works and a manufactory for coarse earthenware in this part of the parish. The Ellesmere canal, after passing over the Pont y Cyssylltau aqueduct, terminates in this parish: there is also a branch canal from the aqueduct, on the north bank of the river Dee, which passes by Trevor and Llangollen, and terminates at Llantysillio, where it receives from the Dee a supply of water for the whole line of the canal. It is in contemplation to construct a rail-road, to proceed directly from the Ellesmere canal to Chester, and to be continued thence to Liverpool: a railway, three miles and a quarter in length, already extends from the aqueduct through an extensive coal-field to Ruabon brook. Fairs are held annually on the last Friday in February, May 22nd, and November 20th; and a post-office has been established in the village.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £13. 6. 0½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The vicarage is endowed with a portion of the great tithes, consisting of one-fourth part of the tithe of corn throughout the whole parish, and the whole of the tithe of hay in several of the hamlets within its limits. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a spacious and venerable structure, containing some splendid monuments to the family of Wynn: the most ancient is one to the memory of Johannes ab Ellis Eyton, who joined the party of the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., and, in reward for his eminent services, received from that monarch an extensive grant of lands

in this part of the principality. In the same sepulchral chapel, on the south side of the chancel, are the monuments of Henry Wynn, Esq., tenth son of Sir John Wynn of Gwydir, ancestor of the present family: on this monument he is represented in a standing posture, and on one side is a kneeling figure of Sir John Wynn, and on the other of his wife Jane, daughter of Eyton Evans, by whom the Wynnstay estate was obtained. On the opposite side of the altar there is a beautiful monument, by Rysbrach, to the first Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, who was killed by a fall from his horse, in 1749: his effigy, in a graceful attitude, is finely sculptured, and his various virtues are recorded in an elegant Latin eulogium, written by Dr. King, of St. Mary's Hall, Oxford. There is also a fine monument, by Nollekins, to Lady Henrietta, first wife of the second Sir Watkin, who died only a few weeks after her marriage, in 1769: on the pedestal is an exquisitely sculptured figure of Hope, reclining on an urn, and on one side is an inscription enclosed within a serpent having the tail in its mouth, emblematical of eternity. The church was thoroughly repaired in 1772, at the expense of the late Sir Watkin, who presented an organ, and also, on the baptism of his eldest son, the present baronet, an elegant font of white marble, supported by a tripod of beautiful design. There are places of worship for General and Particular Baptists, Independents, and Primitive and Wesleyan Methodists.

The Rev. John Robinson, vicar of this parish, in 1703, bequeathed the whole of his estate, in the hamlet of Moreton, to his successors in the vicarage, in trust to receive out of the rents £12 per annum for preaching a sermon every Sunday afternoon in the parish church, and to appropriate the remainder to the support of a free school, to be open to all children of the parish, and under the care of a master appointed by the vicar: he also gave lands in the parish of Wrexham to the vicars, in trust, to pay sixpence per week to nine poor people of this parish, and one of the parish of Erbistock, with a gown or coat to each every Christmas, and also to clothe six poor children from six to twelve years of age; and by a codicil to his will he gave a house and garden, and £50 in money, towards the erection of almshouses for ten poor people, which he directed to be built near the church. The endowment of the school was augmented by Ellis Lloyd, in 1711, who bequeathed £200 for the support of the master, and for apprenticing poor boys: the school-room, which adjoins the churchyard, is open to all children of the parish for gratuitous instruction. The Rev. Richard Davies, vicar of the parish, in 1740, bequeathed an estate in the Vale of Clwyd for the erection and endowment of eight almshouses for so many poor men and women: the almshouses are now eighteen in number, and the inmates receive a weekly allowance of three shillings each. There are also four almshouses at Nant y Gwallia, in this parish, erected in 1782, by Mrs. Rowland, of Plâs Binnion, who vested the nomination of the almspeople in her heirs. Numerous other charitable donations and bequests have been at various times and by different benefactors made to the poor of the parish, amounting to more than £2000, of which a part has been vested in the purchase of estates, and the whole produces a very considerable annual income, which is regularly distributed among the poor. Offa's Dyke and Wat's Dyke both intersect the parish, and in their



courses approach within a quarter of a mile of each other, near the village, but diverge as they are traced either northward or southward, so as shortly to leave an interval of several miles. Various vegetable impressions, and a great variety of petrefactions are found in the mines, and also near the river Dee, in the southern portion of the parish. The Rev. Peter Roberts, A.M., M.P.S., the learned editor of the *Collectanea Cambrica*, and author of the "Early History of the Cymry, or Ancient Britons," and other works, resided in this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £1374. 1.

RUDBAXTON, a parish in the hundred of DUNGLEDY, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N.) from Haverfordwest, containing 621 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the turnpike road leading from Haverfordwest to Fishguard, is intersected by a stream which flows into the Western Cleddy, and is wholly enclosed and under cultivation. Its surface is enlivened by two gentlemen's seats of cheerful aspect, viz., Wythy Bush, the seat of the Rev. Thomas Martin, a good family mansion pleasantly situated; and Poyston, also the property of that gentleman. The petty sessions for the hundred were formerly held at this place, prior to their removal to Haverfordwest. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £15. 4. 2., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is not remarkable for any striking architectural details: opposite to the entrance of the churchyard is one of those large mounds so frequently found in this part of the principality, but of which the use has not been clearly ascertained. There were formerly two chapels of ease, one dedicated to St. Margaret, and the other to St. Catherine, but both are now in ruins. There is a place of worship for Baptists. Thomas Howard, by deed, gave a rent-charge of £2, which is annually paid by the corporation of Haverfordwest to poor housekeepers of this parish not receiving parochial relief. About three miles to the north-east of Haverfordwest, within the limits of this parish, there is a hill on which is an encampment, called by the country people "the Rhâth." Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Picton, G.C.B., who fell in the battle of Waterloo, was born at Poyston. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £245. 13.

RUDDRY (YR-YW-DRE), a parish in the hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (N. by E.) from Cardiff, containing 276 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the number of yew trees in the vicinity of the village, is pleasantly situated in a mountain valley in the eastern part of the county, and comprises but a small tract of land, of which a considerable portion is unenclosed and uncultivated. The inhabitants are chiefly engaged in agricultural pursuits. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and enlivened by the river Romney, which forms the eastern boundary of the parish; and from the higher grounds are some richly diversified views over the adjacent country, embracing a portion of the picturesque county of Monmouth. Lead-ore has been found in the white limestone of the parish. The living is consolidated with the rectory of Bedwas, in Monmouthshire, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf. The church, dedicated to St. James, is not remarkable for

any architectural details. C. Edward Edmond, in 1743, bequeathed £2 per annum to the poor of this parish, which is regularly paid. Here is a mineral spring, which is said to be highly efficacious in curing diseases of the eye, and is much resorted to for that purpose. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £140. 4.

RÛG, a chapelry, partly in the parish of CORWEN, and partly in that of GWYDDELWERN, in the hundred of EDEYRNION, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 1½ mile (W. by N.) from Corwen. The population is returned with Corwen. This place, which is situated on the turnpike road from Corwen to Ruthin, and between the beautiful vales of Edeyrnion and Glyn-dyrdwy, anciently formed a lordship, and is memorable for the treachery practised on Gruffydd ab Cynan, King of North Wales, who, after his victory at Carno, in the year 1077, was inveigled to this place by the artifices of Meirion Gôch, by whom he was betrayed into the power of Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, and Hugh Belesme, Earl of Shrewsbury. From this place Gruffydd was conveyed to the castle of Chester, in which he remained a prisoner for twelve years, but was at length released from confinement by the enterprising bravery of a young man of this neighbourhood, named Cynric Hir, who, going to Chester under pretence of purchasing goods, contrived, while the keepers were feasting, to carry away his prince, loaded with chains, upon his back, and convey him to a place of safety. The lordship afterwards came into the possession of Owain Brogyntyn, natural son of Madoc ab Meredydd, Prince of Powys, whose great merit procured for him an equal share in the inheritance of that prince with his legitimate brothers: it subsequently passed by marriage with the heiress of Ievan Hywel, one of his descendants, to Pyers Salusbury, of Bâchymbyd. After the attainder of Owain Glyndwr, in the reign of Henry IV., the lordship of Glyn-dyrdwy, or Glyn-dwrdwy, was purchased from that monarch by Robert, a descendant of this family, which existed in the male line till the last century. The house and demesnes are now the property of G. H. Vaughan, Esq., who, in 1807, succeeded his brother, Lieut.-Col. E. W. Vaughan, who had assumed the name of Salusbury, a distinguished officer in the Guards, who died in Sicily, and to whose memory a handsome monument was erected at Syracuse, by his brother officers. The ancient mansion was taken down and rebuilt by that gentleman, only a short time before his decease. The present house, which is a handsome structure, is pleasantly situated; and in the grounds there is an artificial mound, which was probably once the site of a small fortress. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Corwen, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph. The chapel, founded by Colonel William Salusbury, who was governor of Denbigh Castle during the parliamentary war, is a neat edifice, appropriately fitted up for the performance of divine service.

RULEN (RHULEN), a parochial chapelry in the hundred of COLWYN, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (E. by S.) from Builth, containing 119 inhabitants. Its surface is hilly, and its soil for the most part barren, the whole consisting of about five hundred acres of enclosed, and three hundred of unenclosed, land: it is skirted on the west by the river Edwy.



In civil matters it forms an independent parish, but is ecclesiastically regarded as a chapelry consolidated with the vicarage of Glâscomb, within the limits of which parish it was formerly included, the inhabitants having certain seats appropriated to their use in the mother church, to the repairs of which they still contribute. In the king's books it is described as a chapel to Glâscomb, of the certified value of £4. 13. 4. The chapel, dedicated to St. David, is a small plain structure, situated about three-quarters of a mile from the river Edwy. Ten shillings per annum have been left to the poor by some unknown benefactor. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £116. 5.



Corporate Seal.

**RUTHIN (RHUDD-DIN or RHUTHYN)**, a borough, market, and assize town, and a parish, in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (S. E. by S.) from Denbigh, and 210 (N. W. by W.) from London, containing 3376 inhabitants. The Welsh name of this place, "Castell Côch yn Gwernvor," has induced historians

to conclude that there was an ancient British fortress here, prior to the time of Edward I., who is said to have been the founder of the present castle, which, from the colour of the stone procured for that purpose, obtained the appellation of Rhudd-ddin, or "the red or brown fortress," from which the town also derived its present name, or rather from the stratum of red freestone pervading the parish. Edward granted this place, together with the cantrev of Dyfryn Clwyd, and some other lands now constituting the present lordship of Ruthin, to Reginald, second son of John de Grey, by whom some historians, and among them Camden, assert that the castle and the town were both originally founded, by permission of that monarch. The castle and lordship of Ruthin remained for several generations in the undisturbed possession of the family of De Grey; and the town, which, under their protection, continued to advance in prosperity, became at an early period a considerable place, and had one of the best markets in the Vale of Clwyd. Little, however, is recorded of the history of the castle, which appears to have been wholly unconnected with any of the political transactions of the conquest of Wales. Reginald de Grey was summoned to parliament in the 14th of Edward I., by the title of Lord Grey of Ruthin. In 1400, Owain Glyndwr, who, in resistance to the government of Henry IV., spread devastation through almost every part of the principality which acknowledged the authority of that monarch, made a sudden attack upon this place during the fair which was held here, and, after some fruitless attempts to take the castle, plundered the inhabitants, burnt the town, and retreated in safety to the mountains. The castle and the lordship continued in the possession of the lords de Grey, whom Edward IV. elevated to the earldom of Kent, till the reign of Henry VII., when they were sold by Richard Earl of Kent to that monarch, and became an appendage of the crown.

Henry VIII. granted the castle and its dependencies to his son Henry Fitzroy, Duke of Richmond, at whose death they again reverted to the crown, and were bestowed by Elizabeth on Ambrose Dudley, Earl of Warwick. After the death of the Earl of Warwick, these possessions, again reverting to the crown, were granted on lease by James I. to Sir Francis Crane, to whom they were afterwards sold in the reign of Charles I. During the parliamentary war in the reign of this monarch, the castle was garrisoned for the king, and in 1644 was besieged by Sir Thomas Myddelton and Colonel Mytton, but resolutely held out against the besiegers, who found themselves unable to reduce it. In the following year the king visited this place in person, attended by Prince Maurice, and, after remaining only for a short time, and inspecting the garrison, continued his route through North Wales to Chester. The castle was again besieged in February 1646, by Major-General Mytton, and a strong party of the parliamentary forces, to whom, after an obstinate defence, the garrison surrendered on honourable terms, in the month of April following, and the fortifications were soon afterwards demolished by order of the parliament. After the Restoration, the castle and its dependencies were purchased by Sir Richard Myddelton; and on the site of the former an elegant castellated mansion has lately been erected by the Hon. Frederick West; but the lordship and its other dependencies are the property of Sir Richard's descendant, Miss Myddelton.

The town is beautifully situated on the summit and acclivity of an eminence in the picturesque Vale of Clwyd, at the base of which, and partly through the town, flows the river from which the vale takes its name, at this place an inconsiderable stream, serving only to work some mills in the neighbourhood. The appearance of the town, which is well built, is pleasing; and the neighbourhood is embellished with numerous gentlemen's seats, and comprehends some pleasingly varied scenery. No particular trade or manufacture is carried on here, except what is necessary for the accommodation of the inhabitants, who are principally engaged in agriculture. It has been for some time in contemplation to make the river Clwyd navigable from this place to Rhuddlan, sixteen miles distant, a project which might be carried into effect at a comparatively inconsiderable expense, and would conduce materially to promote the prosperity of the town and neighbourhood. The market, which is abundantly supplied with corn, is on Monday, and a second market is also held on Saturday for provisions. Fairs are held annually on the first Monday after the 12th of January, March 19th and 20th, the Friday before Whit-Sunday, August 8th, September 30th, and November 10th. During the hay and corn harvests, the farmers of the Vale of Clwyd attend every morning at the market-place to hire labourers for the day, who assemble here for that purpose, with their scythes and reaping-hooks.

The government of the borough is vested by charter of incorporation, granted by Henry VII., in two aldermen, sixteen common-councilmen, and an indefinite number of burgesses: the aldermen are appointed annually at the court held for the lordship, at Michaelmas; and they, immediately on assuming office, appoint the common-councilmen. This place is one of the contributory



boroughs which, with Denbigh, return one member to parliament: the right of voting is vested in the resident burgesses, if duly qualified according to the provisions of the late act, in number at present three hundred and twenty-five, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act demands: the present number of tenements of this value, within the limits of the borough, is about one hundred and fifty, but they are not all now rated as of the requisite value. The exact limits of the borough are not clearly defined in the charter, but by prescription are held to comprise the whole of the parish of Ruthin, part of that of Llanvwrog, the hamlet of Llanrhudd Isav, in the parish of Llanrhudd, and part of the parishes of Llanynys and Llanvair-Dyfryn-Clwyd. The burgesses are elected by the aldermen and a majority of the common-councilmen. Formerly, the eldest sons of freemen, and apprentices who had served their time to a freeman, might demand the freedom of the borough, but no claim for admission, in those respects, has been made for many years. Ruthin has been made a polling-place in the election of knights for the shire; and, from its central situation, it has been selected, in preference to the town of Denbigh, for holding the assizes for the county; and the quarter-sessions are held alternately here and at Denbigh. A court leet for the lordship is held twice a year, namely, within one month after Easter and Michaelmas; and a court baron is held every alternate Saturday, at which the steward presides: the latter is also a court of record, taking cognizance of complaints and civil actions arising within the limits of the lordship; and the offices of steward and recorder of this court were formerly (when the lordship belonged to the Crown) patent offices. The town-hall, situated near the market-place, is a substantial building, but in no respect remarkable for its style of architecture. Prior to the erection of the county hall, in this town, it was used for holding occasionally the great and quarter sessions, but now solely for the meetings of the corporation, which take place in the long room, and the lordship's courts. This building has very recently been most handsomely repaired, at the expense of the lady of the manor. The county hall, in which the great sessions are held, and the quarter sessions alternately with Denbigh, is a beautiful modern structure, and, with the county gaol and house of correction, also situated here, is highly creditable to the talents of the architect, Mr. Turner. The gaol has recently been enlarged by the addition of a building for female prisoners, and comprises six distinct wards for male, and four wards for female prisoners, for whose classification it is thus well adapted: the male prisoners are employed on the tread-wheel, or in knitting worsted gloves, and the females in washing for themselves and the other prisoners: the former are allowed the whole of their earnings in knitting, and the females receive one shilling per week for washing, and fourpence in every shilling which they earn by sewing. There are two infirmaries in the prison; divine service is performed twice, and a sermon delivered once on every Sunday by the chaplain, and prayers are read daily by the gaoler to the prisoners, who are supplied gratuitously with bibles and religious tracts.

The living is a rectory consolidated with that of Llanrhudd, and forming jointly with it the endowment of Christ's Hospital in Ruthin, the warden of which establishment is the principal minister of both churches, appointing a curate to each, who is responsible to him for its spiritual care; and the prescribed duties of his office likewise require him occasionally to share in their holy labours: the patronage of the wardenship is in the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. This place, which is in the diocese of Bangor, forms the head of the rural deanery of Dyfryn Clwyd, and is not within the jurisdiction of any archdeaconry. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, was made collegiate and parochial about the year 1310, by John, son of Reginald de Grey, who endowed it for a prior, or warden, and a few regular priests, to perform mass at the mother church of Llanrhudd, the chapel at the castle, and this collegiate and parochial church; and it is still not unfrequently called "the Collegiate and Parochial church of St. Peter," retaining its name prior to its being re-founded by Dean Goodman. It is an ancient edifice in various styles of architecture, and appears to have been built at different periods, or to have undergone material alterations: the tower, and the south and west fronts, which are of the most modern date, are greatly inferior to the rest of the building: the interior is of better character, and the roof, which is of carved oak, panelled, richly sculptured, and apparently of the time of Henry VII., is supposed to have been constructed by that monarch after his purchase of the lordship from the Earl of Kent: on the panels are the inscriptions, in relief, "Jesus Mercy," "Lady help," and "*Mater Maria, ora pro nobis.*" One hundred and forty-four sittings have recently been added, towards defraying the expense of which the Incorporated Society for the erection and enlargement of churches and chapels granted the sum of £50, in consideration of which ninety sittings have been declared free and unappropriated. A vestry-room, with a library, has been added at the west end, at the expense of the present warden.

The free grammar school was founded in 1595, by Dr. Goodman, Dean of Westminster, who endowed it with one-half of the tithes of the parish of Llanelidan, for the support of a master and usher, for the gratuitous instruction of boys born in the town of Ruthin and parish of Llanelidan, the master to be appointed by the Bishop of Bangor, and the warden of Christ's hospital, in this town, and the usher to be appointed by the master: the master's house, school-room, dormitory and library above, were repaired and improved in 1831, by means of donations from the bishop, the warden, and the master, and other liberal contributions, which are recorded on a card in the school-room. This school has two exhibitions to either of the Universities, founded by Godfrey Goodman, Bishop of Gloucester, and nephew to the founder, and under the regulation of a decree of the court of Chancery, in 1824, which are in the gift of the warden of Christ's hospital, and other trustees; and also others founded by the Rev. Edward Lloyd, rector of the parish of Ripple, the number of which varies in proportion to the fluctuating income of the estate, situated in the county of Flint, which was purchased with his pecuniary bequest. The school has likewise a claim, in conjunction with that of Bangor, to a fellowship founded in St. John's College, Cambridge, by Dr.



John Gwyn, in the 13th of the reign of Elizabeth. Among the eminent men who have received the rudiments of their education in the free grammar school of Ruthin, may be noticed, Dr. John Davies, author of a Welsh grammar and dictionary; Dr. John Williams, Lord Keeper and Archbishop of York; Dr. John Wynne, Principal of Jesus' College, Oxford, and successively Bishop of St. Asaph, and of Bath and Wells; Dr. Tucker, Dean of Gloucester; the Right Hon. Lloyd Lord Kenyon; the Hon. Mr. Baron Perryn; Lord Chief Baron Richards; Dr. H. Owen, Rector of St. Olave, Hart-street, London; Dr. Edwards, Archdeacon of Brecknock; Dr. Cotton, Dean of Chester, and various others. The present warden is the Rev. R. Newcome, author of *Memoirs of Dr. Goodman*, Dean of Westminster, the founder, and Dr. Godfrey Goodman, Bishop of Gloucester, and author also of the histories of the castles and towns of Denbigh and Ruthin. A National school, erected by subscription among the principal inhabitants of the town of Ruthin, and the parishes of Llanrhudd and Llanvwrog, in which seventy boys and sixty girls of those places are gratuitously instructed, is also supported by subscription.

Christ's Hospital, in Ruthin, was founded by Dr. Gabriel Goodman, Dean of Westminster, under letters patent of the 32d of Elizabeth, for a priest and twelve poor persons, ten men, and two women to attend them, all unmarried and above fifty years of age. Dr. Goodman, prior to this time, had erected twelve almshouses for so many poor persons, and, by letters patent of the above date, he incorporated the society under the designation of the "President and Warden of Christ's Hospital in Ruthin," and endowed the same with the tithes of Ruthin and Llanrhudd; appointing the Bishop of Bangor for the time being president, and the priest, warden: these two have the entire government of the hospital, and also of the grammar school founded by the same benefactor. The houses, which are in good repair, are pleasantly situated on the east side of the churchyard, and the almspeople receive each three shillings every week, and £1 quarterly, with gowns and shoes every year. Dr. Godfrey Goodman, Bishop of Gloucester, in 1655, bequeathed lands in Yale and in the county of Carnarvon, the produce of the former, now £50 per annum, to be distributed weekly in bread to the poor of Ruthin, and the rents of those in Carnarvon to be appropriated in apprenticing two boys, and to the support of a traveller beyond the seas; the latter bequest was, by a decree of the court of Chancery, in 1824, converted into the two above-mentioned exhibitions for the free grammar school. There are also several other charitable donations and bequests, the produce of which is annually distributed among the poor.

The ancient castle occupied the declivity of a hill fronting the Vale of Clwyd towards the west, and, from the extensive foundations and remaining portions of the walls, appears to have been a structure of great strength and magnificence: the remains consist chiefly of a few fragments of the towers, and of ruined walls, nearly levelled with the foundation; and within the area of this once splendid pile are, a meadow, a fives'



Seal of the Hospital.

court, and a bowling-green. From various parts of the site are some rich and extensive prospects, embracing many interesting objects. Near the town-hall is a rude block of limestone, called Maen Huail, on which it is said the celebrated Prince Arthur beheaded his rival Huail, brother to Gildas, the historian. Ruthin mill, a curious ancient edifice, having on the apex of the eastern gable a red stone cross, is supposed to have been originally the chapel of the cell of White friars, mentioned by Leland as formerly existing here, but of which no records are preserved. Notice is also taken of a cell of Bonhommes, at this place, probably the original establishment for which John de Grey, with the consent of the bishop of Bangor and the rector of Llanrhudd, made the church collegiate: the apartments of the canons were connected with the church by a cloister, a remaining portion of which has been converted into a house for the warden of Christ's hospital: the parlours and hall are much admired for their beautifully groined roofs. The elegant castellated mansion erected by the Hon. F. West, on the site of the ancient castle, forms an interesting and beautiful feature in the prospect of the town. Dr. Gabriel Goodman, Dean of Westminster, one of the translators of Archbishop Parker's bible, and principal promoter of Bishop Morgan's Welsh translation; Edward Thelwall, tutor to Lord Herbert, of Chirbury; Dr. Parry, Bishop of St. Asaph; Dr. Goodman, Bishop of Gloucester; Sir Eubule Thelwall, Knt., principal, and second founder, of Jesus' College, Oxford; and Sir Thomas Exmewe, lord mayor of London in 1517, were all natives of this place. The barony of Grey de Ruthin is at present enjoyed by Barbara, daughter of Henry Edward Gould, Esq., who, as nineteenth baron, assumed the name and arms of Yelverton, and whose decease occurred in 1810. The poor are maintained by an average annual expenditure amounting to £659. 16.

RYTON, a township in that part of the parish of BANGOR which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (S. E. by S.) from Wrexham, containing 113 inhabitants. It is situated on the north-western side of the river Dee, and the population is exclusively agricultural. There is a separate assessment for the support of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £69. 14.

## S.

SALFORD, a joint township with Kennarton, in the parish of OLD RADNOR, within the liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, NORTH WALES. The population is returned with Kennarton.

SALTNEY, a township in the parish of HAWARDEN, hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 1½ mile (W.) from Chester, containing 172 inhabitants. This township, formerly a marshy waste, borders on the upper part of the æstuary of the Dee, on the confines of Cheshire. It is bounded on the north by the new channel formed for that river, over which at this place are two ferries, supported at the expense of the River Dee Company. The monks of Basingwerk formerly possessed this marsh for pasturage, it having been granted by Robert Lord of Mold, who bestowed on



them the like privilege in Hawarden, and also that of cutting rushes to thatch their buildings. This tract extended into Cheshire, and a stone near the east end marked the boundary in that county. It was here that Henry II. encamped with his army, in 1157, when he sent forward the division which was defeated in the woods of Euloe Castle by the sons of Owain Gwynedd, who pursued the fugitives to Henry's camp. Upwards of two thousand acres, forming the greater part of the township, was enclosed pursuant to an act obtained in 1778, and is now well cultivated. A manufactory for glauber salts, sal ammoniac, ivory black, &c., has been established here since 1781. Morva - Caer-Lleon, or "the Marsh of Caer Lleon," now Chester, was the ancient name of this place. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £63. 19.

SCYBOR Y COED (YSGUBOR Y COED), a hamlet in the parish of LLANVIHANGEL - GENEU 'R GLYN, hundred of GENEU 'R GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (N. E. by E.) from Aberystwith, containing 701 inhabitants. It is situated on the road from Aberystwith to Machynlleth, and on the eastern bank of the small river Einon, near its junction with the Dyvi or Dovey. The immediate neighbourhood is well wooded and agreeable, and some respectable residences are scattered over the hamlet, various parts of which command fine views of the estuary of the Dovey. The principal mansion is Glandyvi, the residence of George Jeffreys, Esq., which commands a fine view of the Vale of Dovey and of St. George's channel. In this hamlet were conveniently situated the smelting-houses and refining-mills, commonly called the "Silver Mills," belonging to the company that formerly worked the royal mines in Cardiganshire. In consequence of its contiguity to the river Dovey, which is navigable to Garreg for vessels of three hundred tons' burden, and by means of which it carries on a considerable trade in the exportation of lead-ore and bark, and the importation of timber, coal, and limestone, this place promises to increase in importance, though the population has somewhat declined since the census of 1821. It contains the chapel of Eglwys-Vâch, or Llanvihangel-Capel-Edwin, the living of which is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Mrs. Jane Davies. The chapel, dedicated to St. Michael, was erected early in the seventeenth century, and is now about to be taken down and rebuilt by subscription. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £314. 19.

SEALAND, a township in the parish of HAWARDEN, hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. by E.) from Hawarden, containing 290 inhabitants. It formerly constituted part of the extensive maritime waste called Saltney Marsh, which composed the upper part of the estuary of the river Dee, and extended between the counties of Flint and Chester; but in 1732, Nathaniel Kenderley and Co., subsequently constituted "the River Dee Company," obtained an act of parliament for cutting a canal from Chester through this marsh, thereby forming a new channel for that river, which object they accomplished in 1737, and

thus upwards of eight hundred acres were separated from the southern portion, and constituted a new township, under the name of "Sealand." At different subsequent periods three thousand acres have been enclosed and added by the same Company, and there still remains a considerable portion of marsh land exposed to inundation at high water. For the first part enclosed the Company were bound to pay £200 per annum to the lord of the manor of Hawarden and other trustees, who, or any five of them, were to apply that sum to such purposes as they might think necessary; the same Company also charged themselves with maintaining at all times two ferries across the new channel. The greater portion of the enclosed marsh is now fertile arable land.

SEGROIT, a joint township with Cader, in the parish of LLANRHAIDR IN KINMERCH, hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S.) from Denbigh. The population is included in the return for the parish. A stream which falls into the river Clwyd bounds it on the north. It was formerly assessed with the townships of Cader and Segroit Uchâv for the joint maintenance of their poor, but now there is a general assessment for the parish.

SENNI (SENNY), a hamlet in the parish and hundred of DEVYNOC, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (W. S. W.) from Brecknock, containing 303 inhabitants. It comprises the upper part of the vale through which the river Senni flows, and anciently formed a part of the Great Forest of Devynock, which contained twenty thousand acres, extending over the surrounding district. On the river Senni, which is crossed by several bridges, is one of the "Lord's Mills," to which the resident tenants of this hamlet are obliged to send their corn to be ground, an exaction of servitude formerly extorted by the lords of Brecknock, and still claimed by the lords of the manor of the Great Forest, but not rigidly enforced at present. The tenants, however, possess the privilege of grazing their cattle within that district, on the payment of a small regulated sum for each beast, which is called *Cymmorth*. On the attainder of Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, who was lord of Brecknock, this demand of *cymmorth* reverted to the crown, and these dues were assigned on lease, in the 10th of George I., to the ancestor of the present possessor. About fifty years ago the tenants disputed the claim, but it was established by a legal decision. The hamlet is highly cultivated, and presents many pleasing prospects. The parochial church, though situated at the lower end of the Vale of Senni, is included within the adjacent hamlet of Maescar: that of Senni, however, contains a place of worship for Independents. There are three almshouses, endowed by the bequest of David Walter, in 1723, who also left a small sum for the apprenticing of poor children. This hamlet is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, the average annual expenditure for which purpose is £175. 14.

SESSWICK, a township in that part of the parish of BANGOR which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S. E.) from Wrexham, containing 150 inhabitants. This hamlet is situated on the western side of the river Dee. It maintains its own poor by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £55. 8.



**SILIAN (SULIEN)**, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of **MOYTHEN**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 2 miles (N. by W.) from Lampeter, containing 327 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the south-eastern portion of the county, derives its name from the saint to whom its church is dedicated, who flourished during the earlier part of the sixth century. It comprises but a moderate extent of arable and pasture land, which is partly enclosed: the surface is varied, and the soil is in some parts tolerably fertile. The village is in some degree enlivened by its situation on the great turnpike roads leading from Aberystwith, in this county, and from Rhaiadr, in the county of Radnor, to Lampeter. The living is consolidated with the vicarage of Llanwnnen, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Sulien, and very romantically situated, is an ancient edifice, not distinguished by any architectural details of importance: it consists of a nave and chancel, and the font, which is circular, and of antique design, is ornamented with four human faces. In the churchyard there is a rudely sculptured monument of stone, now scarcely a foot above the surface of the ground, ornamented on one side with Runic knots, and on the other with zig-zag lines. A Sunday school, which is gratuitously superintended by some of the parishioners, is supported by subscription. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £89. 12.

**SKEIR**, an extra-parochial district, in the hundred of **NEWCASTLE**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 6 miles (W.) from Bridgend. It consists of only one large farm of several hundred acres, situated adjacent to Skeir Point, on the shore of the Bristol channel, and close to Kenwig common: it formerly belonged to the abbey of Neath, which accounts for its being unattached to any parish.

**SKOKHAM ISLE**, an extra-parochial district, in the hundred of **RHÔS**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 4 miles (W.) from Dale. It comprises about two hundred acres, and is situated about three miles from the main land, and five miles west by north from St. Anne's Point, at the mouth of Milford Haven. The shore on all sides is bold and in some places precipitous, except for a small space on the north side, where is the landing-place. The southern portion is based on red rab-stone, and the northern on limestone: it is chiefly valuable for the pasturage of sheep, and as a rabbit warren: a small turbary supplies fuel, and there is an abundance of fresh water. The channel between this island and that of Gresholm, extending in a line towards St. Anne's lighthouse, is called the Wild Goose Race.

**SKOMAR**, a small island forming a detached portion of the parish of **ST. MARTIN**, **HAVERFORDWEST**, situated off St. Bride's Point, from which it is separated by a strait called Jack Sound. It lies nearly due north of the islet of Skokham, from which it is separated by a strait, a mile and a half in breadth, called Broad Sound; and comprises about seven hundred acres, of which a considerable portion is under tillage. It abounds with rabbits, has an abundance of fresh water, and is based on limestone, of which there are various detached rocks on its shores, the principal of which is Midland Isle, lying in Jack Sound: the whole is let to a resident tenant.

**SLEBECH**, a parish in the hundred of **DUNGLEDY**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E.) from Haverfordwest, containing 353 inhabitants. This parish, which is delightfully situated on the banks of the Eastern Cleddy, and on the turnpike road from Haverfordwest to Narberth, comprises a large extent of arable and pasture land, which is all enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surface is pleasingly varied, and the soil generally fertile and productive: the rates are collected by the ploughland. The aspect is pleasing, and in some parts enlivened with gentlemen's seats, the grounds attached to which form a fine contrast to the want of variety and embellishment observed in other parts of the county. Slebech Hall, the property of the Baron de Rutzen, by marriage with the heiress of the late Nathaniel Philipps, Esq., is an elegant, substantial, and comparatively modern mansion, forming a quadrangle of noble elevation, with every appendage of luxury, and surrounded by beautiful pleasure grounds: it was erected by the late John Symmons, Esq., on the site of an ancient commandery of the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, which, at the dissolution, was purchased by Roger and Thomas Barlow, the last representative of which family conveyed it by marriage to the late Mr. Symmons, from whom it was purchased by the late Nathaniel Philipps, Esq., whose daughter is the present Baroness de Rutzen. Picton Castle, the seat of Sir Richard B. P. Philipps, Bart., partly in this parish and partly in that of Boulston, is a noble and spacious mansion of considerable antiquity; and though it has undergone some alterations and received several additions, to adapt it more for the purpose of modern residence, it still preserves much of its original character of a fortress. It was erected by William de Picton, one of the followers of Arnulph de Montgomery, and has been inhabited without intermission since that remote period. The greater portion of the building, to which the late Lord Milford made some splendid additions, is in the ancient style of baronial grandeur. During the parliamentary war, in the reign of Charles I., this castle was gallantly defended by Sir Richard Philipps for the king; but it had the good fortune to escape the destruction which so many other fortresses experienced. It came by marriage with a descendant of the Wogan family to Sir Thomas Philipps, of Cilsant, father of John, the first baronet, and, on the death of the late Lord Milford, descended to Sir R. B. P. Philipps, Bart., the present proprietor. A little above the village of Slebech the Eastern Cleddy river, on the northern bank of which it is situated, becomes navigable for vessels of considerable burden, and, about four miles below it, joins the Western Cleddy, these two then forming the magnificent haven of Milford. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Baron de Rutzen, who is impropiator of the tithes. The church, formerly the conventual church of the commandery, and the only remaining portion of that ancient establishment, is a venerable and ancient structure, in the Norman style of architecture, pleasantly situated near the bank of the river, and embosomed in the luxuriant groves which surrounded it. It contains some ancient monuments, and also a handsome one of modern erection to the memory of Sir William



Hamilton, and his first wife, who was one of the co-heiresses of the Wogans of Wiston. There is a place of worship for Baptists. The commandery of the knights

St. John of Jerusalem, according to Bishop Tanner, was established here prior to the year 1301, and endowed with lands by Wize and his son Walter: it flourished till the dissolution, when its revenue was estimated at £211. 9. 11. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £198. 19.

SNEAD (SNEYD, or IS NOWDD), a parish chiefly in the lower division of the hundred of MONTGOMERY, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N.) from Bishop's Castle, containing 57 inhabitants. This parish, of which a few fields are in the county of Salop, is about two miles in length and half a mile in breadth, and is watered by the river Camlet, which forms its northern boundary. The surface is undulated, rising in some parts into bold eminences, and the soil is in general fertile. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Salop, and diocese of Hereford, endowed with £450 from the tithes, £400 private benefaction, and £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Philip Morris, Esq. The church is an ancient edifice, in the early style of English architecture, and was formerly dependent on the priory of Chirbury: it is beautifully situated in a retired spot, and almost concealed from view by the numerous trees of lofty growth by which the churchyard is entirely surrounded: the west end is almost covered with ivy, and the venerable building has a strikingly picturesque appearance on entering the churchyard. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £42. 5.

SOLVA, a small sea-port in the parish of WHITCHURCH, hundred of DEWISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (N. W. by W.) from Haverfordwest. The population is returned with the parish. This place derives its name from its situation near the mouth of the small river Solva, which here discharges itself into the northern part of St. Bride's bay. From the great demand for shipping during the last war, and the convenience of its harbour, it first came into notice, and, from one of the poorest hamlets in this part of the principality, has, within the last forty years, risen into a flourishing little town. The houses, which are of very neat appearance, are built without any regard to regularity of plan, and only those which are situated in the lower part of the valley, in a direction parallel with the river, have the appearance of a street. Within a few hundred yards of the original buildings another town has been erected, occupying the height above the vale, and from that circumstance called Upper Solva. The appearance of the whole is highly interesting, the cottages being of a very neat and comfortable description, and the gardens, laid out in terraces on the acclivity of the hill, and commanding a fine view of the sea, have a very pleasing and picturesque appearance. The harbour is sheltered from the waves of St. Bride's bay by a singular bend at the mouth, and by a large pyramidal rock, which divides the entrance into two narrow passages: it is accessible to ships of five hundred tons' burden, and in cases of emergency ships of a thousand tons might anchor there; but the great rock at its mouth, and the high lands which surround it, appear at a distance as one entire cliff, and render the

approach somewhat dangerous, owing to the difficulty in discerning the entrance. Many nautical men are of opinion that, at a very small expense, such improvements might be made as would render it one of the safest and most commodious havens on the coast. There were formerly about thirty vessels of various descriptions belonging to this port, of from twenty to two hundred and fifty tons' burden; but that number is greatly reduced, and at present there are only four brigs, varying from one hundred and fifty to two hundred tons' burden, and a few small craft of from twenty to forty tons. The staple trade of the port is in corn, of which considerable quantities are shipped for the English markets; and in limestone and coal, which are brought from Milford Haven: the limestone is burnt into lime at some kilns near the entrance of the town, for the supply of the surrounding districts. The sand of the harbour, possessing saline properties, is raised in considerable quantity at low water, and landed on the quay, whence it is taken away by the farmers in the neighbourhood, and used as a manure. A small market, chiefly for provisions, is held weekly on Friday.

In this town is the establishment belonging to the lighthouse upon the "Smalls," a cluster of dangerous rocks, about eighteen miles from the Welsh coast, bearing from St. Anne's Point W. N. W., from St. David's W. S. W., and from Gresholm W.  $\frac{3}{4}$  N. These rocks form three distinct reefs, extending parallel to each other in a direction from north-east to south-west, for three-quarters of a mile: their entire breadth in a transverse direction is about a quarter of a mile. The greater number are above water, while others are visible only at half tide: on the largest of the former is the lighthouse, the plan of which was first suggested by Mr. Philipps of Liverpool, and the building erected by Mr. Whitesides, of the same place. It was completed in the year 1775, and its stability was proved by the architect himself, who, in company with two other persons, passed the following winter in it. The lighthouse is an octagonal building, resting upon eight strong oak piles at the angles, and one in the centre: the piles at the north and north-east angles are stayed, to resist the violence of the waves, which sometimes strike the edifice on the opposite side with the whole force of the Atlantic swell. The rock on which it is built is twelve feet above the level of the sea at high water, and the lantern has an elevation of seventy feet: it is lighted by eighteen argand lamps, and in clear weather the light, which is of a red colour, is seen at the distance of five or six leagues, having the appearance of a star of the first magnitude. Beneath the lantern are the store-room and the apartments for the men, who are always three in number, and are furnished with a supply of provisions and stores for six months, as it frequently happens that for many weeks together, during the winter, no boat can reach the rock. The erection of a lighthouse on these dangerous rocks has been attended with the greatest benefit to the navigation of the channel, many lives and much property having been saved since the design was carried into effect. The Smalls belong to no parish, nor are they within any county; but they are nearest to the Welsh coast, and the inhabitants of the lighthouse are considered as parishioners of Whitchurch. On the ridge called the Gribyn, which bounds



the valley of the Solva on the east, are traces of various intrenched encampments; and at the southern extremity, towards the sea, there is a circular intrenchment, surrounded by a rampart of loose stones, which is supposed to be of British origin.

**SONTLEY (SONLLI)**, a township in the parish of **MARCHWIEL**, hundred of **BROMFIELD**, county of **DENBIGH**, **NORTH WALES**,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (S.) from **Wrexham**, containing 340 inhabitants, the population having increased nearly fourfold since the census of 1821. The very ancient house of Sontley was possessed by a family of the same name, in old writings called Souilly or Sullie, a branch of the Eytons, of Eyton: it was afterwards inhabited by a younger branch of the Broughtons, but is now converted into a farm-house.

**SOUGHTON (SYCH-DIN)**, a township in the parish of **NORTHOP**, Northop division of the hundred of **COLESHILL**, county of **FLINT**, **NORTH WALES**, 1 mile (S.) from Northop, containing 421 inhabitants. Soughton Hall, a chaste and unique mansion, erected in 1714, by Dr. John Wynne, Bishop of Bath and Wells, is the residence of W. I. Bankes, Esq., and there are one or two other respectable seats in the vicinity. There is an extensive colliery, giving employment to several of the inhabitants. The Calvinistic Methodists have a place of worship here. An estate in this township was bequeathed by Owen Jones, in 1658, for the instruction and apprenticing of poor boys at Northop. Wat's Dyke enters the parish in this township, and crosses the Mold road at the Soughton toll-gate, taking a course nearly westward for some distance.

**SOUTHERNDOWN**, a hamlet in the parish of **St. BRIDE'S MAJOR**, hundred of **OGMORE**, county of **GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5 miles (S. by W.) from **Bridgend**, containing 340 inhabitants. This place is situated on the sea-coast, and comprises the southern declivity of a very extensive down. Close to it, on a small promontory, presenting rocky and lofty cliffs, stands **Dunraven Castle**, once the seat of **Thos. Wyndham, Esq.**, who erected the present spacious and elegant structure, in the early English style, on the site of a more ancient castle, said to have been the oldest in Wales, and once the residence of the celebrated **Caractacus**, as well as of his father, **Brân ab Llyr**. It continued occasionally to be the seat of the reguli of this district after the capture of the British hero, and until the Norman conquest of **Glamorgan**, in the time of **Iestyn ab Gwrgan**, when, on the partition of that territory by **Robert Fitz-Hamon**, the castle and manor were assigned to **William de Londres**, who bestowed them on his butler, afterwards **Sir Arnold Butler**, one of whose female descendants conveyed them by marriage into the family of the **Vaughans**, from whom they were purchased by an ancestor of the late **Mr. Wyndham**, whose only daughter and heiress conveyed them by marriage to **Windham Henry Wyndham Quin**, Earl of **Dunraven** and **Mountearl**: the castle is now the residence of **I. W. Bennett, Esq.** A lofty embankment across the peninsula, still traceable, protected the castle on the land side, while the bold cliffs rendered it inaccessible from the sea. About a mile westward from **Dunraven Castle** are three very extraordinary natural caverns, formed by the action of the sea on the projecting rocks. One, termed by pre-eminence "the Cave," is approached from the south by a rude piazza worn through the rock, the ap-

pearance of the sea and sky between the rough arches of which has a grand and singular effect. The next is a cavern called the "Wind hole," extending about twenty-seven yards, with two or three fissures in the roof, at a considerable distance from the edge of the cliff; and if a hat or any other light substance be placed on the opening on the top, it will be violently blown into the air. The third has received the name of the "Fairy Cove," from the number of petrefactions which it contains, and which have assumed such a variety of grotesque shapes as to be considered the most curious of the whole. At the western end of the down, which abuts on the **Ewenny river**, there is another singular object, consisting of a large body of water issuing from the bottom of the down, which foams and boils with much force, and forms two small streams.

**SPITTAL**, a parish in the hundred of **DUNGLEDDBY**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 5 miles (N. by E.) from **Haverfordwest**, containing 452 inhabitants. This parish, situated on the **Western Cleddy**, which forms its boundary on the west, and intersected by the turnpike roads leading from **Haverfordwest** to **Cardigan** and **Fishguard** respectively, comprises a considerable portion of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and cultivated. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of **St. David's**, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of **John Lort Philipps, Esq.**, and **William Edwards Tucker, Esq.**, the former of whom has two turns, and the latter one. The church, dedicated to **St. Mary**, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. There are places of worship for **Baptists**, **Wesleyan Methodists**, and **Presbyterians**. There are several remains of ancient encampments in the parish, which are here called "Rhâths:" of these, one occupies the summit of a conical hill which rises abruptly in the vale: the area, which is nearly circular, is enclosed by a single rampart. Near it was a chapel, dedicated to **St. Leonard**, which, together with the church of **Rudbaxton**, was granted by **Alexander Rudebac** to the commandery of the knights of **St. John of Jerusalem**, at **Slebech**. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £122. 15.

**SPITTY-YSTRAD-MEURIC**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**.—See **YSPITTY-YSTRAD-MEURIC**.

**SPITTY-YSTWITH**, county of **CARDIGAN**, **SOUTH WALES**.—See **YSPITTY-YSTWITH**.

**STACKPOOL-ELIDUR**, a parish in the hundred of **CASTLEMARTIN**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S.) from **Pembroke**, containing 348 inhabitants. The name of this place is derived from the **Stack rock** at the mouth of the **Broad Haven**, at the head of which it is situated, in the **Bristol channel**; and its adjunct from **St. Elidur**, to whom the original foundation of its church is attributed. The parish comprises an extensive tract of good arable and pasture land, in a high state of cultivation; and the scenery, enriched with the beautiful grounds and extensive plantations surrounding the mansion of **Stackpool Court**, is finely diversified and strikingly picturesque. **Stackpool Court**, the property and one of the seats of **Earl Cawdor**, is romantically situated in a deep and richly wooded valley, ornamented with a fine artificial lake, over which is an elegant stone bridge of eight arches.



The present noble mansion, which overlooks the lake, was erected by the great-grandfather of the present Earl Cawdor, the first of the family that settled in Wales, who, by marriage with Miss Lort, the heiress, became possessed of the estate. It is built of hewn limestone, and has an imposing grandeur of appearance, having two spacious and magnificent fronts: along the whole of that which faces the lake a wide terrace has been formed, from which there is a delightful and extensive prospect; and from the other front, in which is the entrance, there is a fine view of the pleasure grounds, which are disposed with great taste. The interior comprises a splendid suite of apartments, and a library containing an extensive collection of rare and valuable works in every department of literature: the gardens are laid out with great taste, and the greenhouses and hothouses are stored with every species of rare and valuable exotics. The park, which is well stocked with deer, is very extensive, and in the grounds there is a large conservatory. The whole of this splendid property has been greatly improved by the present noble proprietor; and the estate, which comprises not less than fifteen thousand acres of rich and valuable land, in the highest state of cultivation, with its luxuriant woods and plantations, forms a distinguished ornament to this part of the principality. The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's: the rectory, which is a sinecure, is rated in the king's books at £15.12.11., and the vicarage, which is rated at £3.18.4., and discharged, is endowed with £600 royal bounty: both are in the patronage of Earl Cawdor. The church, dedicated to St. Elidur, or, according to some authorities, to St. James, is an ancient structure, containing several monuments to different members of the family of Stackpool Court, among which is one, under a richly sculptured canopy of stone, bearing the effigy of a crusader, said to be that of Sir Elidur de Stackpool, the earliest known proprietor of that estate, and the reputed founder of the church. The interior was richly embellished by an ancestor of the present Earl Cawdor, in 1766. A school, for the gratuitous instruction of all the poor children of this and the adjoining parishes of St. Petrox and Bosheston, is supported by Earl Cawdor. On a tongue of land commanding a branch of the Stackpool æstuary there is a strong encampment, near which, in several places, have been found human bones, a brazen spear-head, and an ancient sword, probably memorials of some of those conflicts which frequently took place along this coast, between the natives and the invaders of their country. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £150.7.

STANAGE, a lordship in that part of the parish of BRAMPTON-BRYAN which is in the hundred of KNIGHTON, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (E.) from Knighton, containing 155 inhabitants. The remainder of the parish is situated in Wigmore hundred, county of Hereford. This lordship, the name of which signifies "the stony edge," forms the most easterly point of South Wales, and lies on the south bank of the river Teme, on the road from Knighton to Ludlow. Stanage Park occupies a fine and extensive eminence: it formerly belonged to the Cornewalls, barons of Burford, but is now the property of — Rogers, Esq. A separate assessment is made for the support

of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £92.17.

STANSTY, a township in that part of the parish of WREXHAM which is in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (N.) from Wrexham, containing 260 inhabitants. Wat's Dyke enters this township from the south, and, after passing through it to the river Alyn, is continued beyond that river, in the township of Gwersylt, in the parish of Gresford. This place maintains its poor separately, agreeably to an arrangement made in March 1830.

STEYNTON, or STAINTON, a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (N. N. E.) from Milford, containing 2984 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the turnpike road from Milford to Haverfordwest, extends to the shore of Milford Haven, by which it is bounded on the south; and Hubberston Pill, an inlet from the haven, is navigable for small craft, at high water, for a considerable distance within its limits. In the southern part of it is situated the borough, market, and sea-port town of Milford, described under its appropriate head, and comprising the chief portion of the population: in the western part of it is St. Botolph's, the seat of A. I. Stokes, Esq., by one of whose relatives it was purchased, in 1826, from the representatives of General le Hunt, who purchased it, in 1803, from the family of the Elliots, to whom it had belonged for many years. The present mansion was built in 1800, about a hundred yards to the west of the ancient edifice, and partly on the site of a monastery supposed to have been a cell to the priory of Pill, near the head of Hubberston Pill. In excavating the ground for the new building several stone coffins, containing bones, were dug up; and part of the walls of the ancient monastery, which are still remaining, have been incorporated with the out-buildings of the modern mansion. Bolton Hill, an ancient seat formerly belonging to a family of that name, is situated in the northern part of the parish, and near an abrupt and lofty eminence called Bolton Beacon. While Cromwell lay at Haverfordwest, two of his soldiers entered this mansion, with the intention of plundering it, and Bolton, who had concealed himself, was denied by his wife to the soldiers, who, nevertheless, suspecting that he was in the house, one of them took up his child, and pretended to throw it on the fire, on which the father rushed from his concealment, and killed the ruffian on the spot: his comrade escaped, and Bolton, on reflection, deemed it prudent to inform Cromwell of all that had occurred, observing to that general, that the man he had killed had only one eye: the latter replied, "The fellow was a great rascal, and you have saved me the trouble of having him executed." Castle Hall, the seat of the Hon. R. Fulke Greville, in the south-eastern part of the parish, was originally built by John Zephaniah Holwell, whose sufferings in the black hole at Calcutta are well known: it is a spacious mansion, and the grounds are extensive and well laid out. The parish is about six miles in length from north to south, and from a mile and a half to two miles in breadth from east to west, and is wholly enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. Culm is found within its limits, and a mine which had been worked for many years, for the supply of the neighbourhood, has been re-opened on Lord Kensington's estate. Great



facilities are afforded for the conveyance of the produce of the mine by the navigable creek called Hubberston Pill, and by the main haven. The small village of Pill, distant about a quarter of a mile from the town of Milford, is within the parish.

The living is a discharged vicarage, with the rectory of Johnston consolidated, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The vicarage is endowed with the whole of the great and small tithes of a portion of the parish: the remainder are appropriated to Mrs. Anne Wright, whose family, the Jordans, sold another portion, which now forms part of the income of the incumbent of St. Mary's, Haverfordwest. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, or, as it is stated in the Monasticon, to St. Kewel, and formerly dependent upon Pill priory, is an ancient and venerable structure, with a lofty tower, which, from its elevated situation, is seen from every part of the surrounding country: the interior consists of a nave, chancel, and two aisles, separated by series of massive columns and pointed arches. This edifice was garrisoned with a small number of troops during the parliamentary war in the reign of Charles I. There is a place of worship for Presbyterians. A school is about to be established at a place called Sodston, for children of either sex, with an endowment of £30 per annum by Mr. and Mrs. Devonald, chargeable on certain lands in this parish. Richard Budd, about the year 1633, in consideration of having been saved from shipwreck by taking refuge within Tenby pier, bequeathed to the churchwardens of Tenby the sum of £1. 6. 8. (two marks), to be distributed in bread to the poor of that parish: the payment of this sum is charged upon the estate of St. Botolph's, in this parish; but it does not appear that he was ever the owner of that property. At the head of Prix Pill stood Pill castle, the capture of which is recorded by Fenton: there are no remains of this fortress, but in digging near the site, about seventy years ago, at a place called Cwm, a human skull with an iron ball in it was found; and a tradition is extant that a pond near the spot, now called Deadman's Lake, derived that name from its having been deeply tinged with the blood of the slain on that occasion. Near the head of Hubberston Pill are the remains of Pill priory, founded in the year 1200 by Adam de Rupe, for monks of the order of Tyrone, who afterwards became Benedictines: the priory, which was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Budoc, flourished till the dissolution, at which time its revenue was estimated at £67. 15.: the site and buildings were granted, in the 38th of Henry VIII., to Roger and Thomas Barlow, and are now the property of the Hon. Fulke Greville. The ruins, which are very small, consist chiefly of some fragments of the walls: the low entrance gateway leading into the garden is still remaining, but the arch above it fell down in 1826. At Butter hill, formerly a grange belonging to the priory, there is a family of the name of Roch, who are said to be descended from Adam de Rupe, founder of the priory. There are in the parish several ancient encampments, here called Rhâths: one of these is near the priory; another near Thornton House, the neat residence of the Rev. A. Crymes; and a third, called Old Castle, near the town of Milford; but not one of them is of sufficient importance to require particular notice. Near the ruins of an ancient

chapel, dedicated to St. Catherine, a silver coin of Domitian was dug up, about thirty years ago. In 1818, a celt was dug up near St. Botolph's, where also there are some remains of a Druidical altar, called by the country people the Long Stone. Sir William James, Bart., the celebrated naval commander in the East India Company's service, in commemoration of whose achievements the ornamental tower on Shooter's Hill, near London, was erected by his widow, was born at Bolton Hill mill, in this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £461.

STRATA FLORIDA, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES.—See CARON UWCH CLAWDD.

STRETTON, a township in the parish of HAWARDEN, hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (N. W.) from Hawarden, containing 186 inhabitants.

SULLY (SULWY), a parish in the hundred of DINAS POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. S. W.) from Cardiff, containing 197 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the shore of the Bristol channel, by which it is bounded on the south, and nearly opposite to a small island of the same name. It is of very limited extent, comprising only a moderate portion of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and in good cultivation. The Scottish system of agriculture, introduced here by Mr. Thomas, of Sully House, who is regarded as one of the best agriculturists in South Wales, is generally adopted in the parish, and has succeeded well. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £11. 9. 9½., and in the patronage of Thomas Tyrwhitt Drake, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a neat edifice, and is kept in excellent repair: adjoining it is a handsome parsonage-house, occupied by the Rev. Mr. Conybeare, the present rector, who has greatly distinguished himself by his geological researches. Mr. John Howell, in 1775, bequeathed £10 to the poor of this parish not receiving parochial relief. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £92. 12.

SUTTON, a township in the parochial chapelry of IS Y COED, hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (E. by S.) from Wrexham, containing 230 inhabitants. It is situated on the left bank of the river Dee, near where it receives a stream from the westward. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £108.

SWANSEA, or EGLWYS - VAIR-ABER-TA-WY, a parish, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, and the Franchise of Swansea (which latter contains the important borough, market, and sea-port town of the same name), in the hundred of SWANSEA, and the hamlet of St. Thomas, in the hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 44 miles (W. by N.) from Cardiff, 68 (E. by S.) from Milford, and 209 (W.) from



Corporation Seal.



London, and containing 14,931 inhabitants, of which number, 13,256 are in the Franchise, 678 in the Higher, and 559 in the Lower, division of the parish, and 438 in the hamlet of St. Thomas. The town, called by the Welsh "Abertawy," from its situation at the mouth of the river Tawe or Tawy, which here discharges its waters into the great bay of Swansea, in the Bristol channel, derived the appellation of "Swinesea," or "Swinesey," according to Camden, from the number of porpoises with which this part of the channel abounded; and of this designation its present name is only a slight modification. After the defeat of Rhys ab Tewdwr by the united forces of Iestyn ab Gwrgan, Prince of Glamorgan, and the Normans under the command of Fitz-Hamon, Conan, natural son of Rhys, having escaped from the scene of carnage with some of his troops, was drowned in the lake of Cremlyn, now an extensive marsh between this place and Briton Ferry, in attempting to pass it in his flight towards Carmarthen. The castle of Swansea, or Abertawe, according to Caradoc of Llancarvan, was built in the year 1099, by Henry Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, with a view to secure possession of those territories, in the province of Gower, which he had wrested by force of arms from the sons of Caradoc ab Iestyn; and on the completion of that fortress, the town is said to have been built by the same nobleman, who, having subsequently reduced the whole province under his dominion, introduced into it colonies of English and Flemings, to garrison the various castles which he had erected for its defence. To these his dependents he gave a large portion of territory, and their descendants, who still retain possession of the ancient settlements, were, until of late years, distinguished by their language, manners, and customs, from the aboriginal inhabitants, with whom they seldom intermarried. The town, from the peculiar advantages of its situation, and its early maritime importance, soon became the capital of the province of Gower: its inhabitants enjoyed many valuable privileges, which were conferred by the early Norman lords, and for some time it continued to flourish with increasing prosperity.

Its importance, and its being regarded as the key to the English possessions in Glamorgan, exposed it to all the horrors of frequent warfare, and subjected it to repeated desolation and rapine. In 1113, this place was furiously assaulted by Rhys ab Gruffydd, who, after fruitless attempts to reduce the castle, which, from the strength of its fortifications and the number of its garrison, resisted all his efforts, set fire to the town, and laid waste the surrounding country. Early in the thirteenth century it was more successfully attacked by Rhys Vychan, who, being assisted by Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, finally succeeded in destroying all the fortresses which had been erected by the Normans within the province of Gower. In reference to the desolation which Swansea suffered upon these occasions, Llywarch ab Llewelyn, in a panegyric ode addressed to the victor, has these remarkable words: "In Swansea, that peaceless town, the towers are rent, and now peace prevails there: in strongly fortified Swansea, the key of England, all the women are widows." From this dreary state of devastation the town, however, soon recovered, and was again besieged, in the year 1260, by Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, the last prince of North Wales, who, coming against it

with a powerful army, entirely demolished the castle, which, according to the testimony of most historians, lay from that time in ruins till the prelate of Henry Gower, Bishop of St. David's, who restored it, besides building the palace of St. David's, and enlarging and embellishing the episcopal residence at Lamphey. A similar style of architecture and embellishment is observable in these three buildings, which are all distinguished by a beautiful open parapet, pierced alternately in pointed and circular Norman arches, a peculiarity of feature, which is characteristic of all the buildings erected by that munificent prelate. In 1331, Bishop Gower, who was a native of this province, founded an hospital at this place, in honour of St. David, which continued to flourish till the dissolution, at which time its revenue was estimated at £20. After the death of that prelate, Swansea, being so remote from the seat of the diocese, and there being not less than seven palaces in different places belonging to the see, the castle, during the prelate of his successor, was neglected, and went rapidly to decay. In the reign of Henry IV., the town suffered materially during the insurrection raised against that monarch by Owain Glyndwr, by whom it was burnt, and the neighbourhood reduced to a state of desolation. During the parliamentary war in the reign of Charles I., Oliver Cromwell visited this place, on his route to embark for Ireland, and is said to have taken up his abode in a house in the High-street, which, till very lately, was occupied as a place of worship by a congregation of Wesleyan Methodists.

The town is beautifully and advantageously situated in an angle between two lofty hills, on the western bank of the river Tawy, which is here navigable for ships of large burden, and at the head of a noble bay to which it gives name, extending for nearly nine miles in breadth from east to west, and sheltered by an amphitheatre of hills from the most unfavourable winds. The principal thoroughfare through it extends for more than a mile in a direction parallel with the river; and the streets diverging from it, which are numerous and in some instances spacious, are well paved, and lighted with gas, under the provisions of an act of parliament obtained for that purpose in 1809. The houses are neatly and substantially built, especially those in High-street, Castle-street, and Wind-street, which are the principal streets for business. From these numerous smaller streets branch off in various directions, some of them leading to a populous district towards the west, in the neighbourhood of the new market-place. Among the numerous ranges of building in the more retired parts of the town are, Belle Vue, an assemblage of detached houses of handsome elevation, with several pleasing villas, occupying a delightful eminence, and commanding a fine view of the sea and the distant coasts of Somerset and Devon; the Burrows, comprising several ranges of respectable houses of modern erection, inhabited by genteel families; and a continuation of handsome buildings, both in the upper and lower roads leading to the Mumbles, a pleasant village about five miles from the town, the road to which is, throughout the whole distance, under an elevated ridge, thickly studded with elegant seats and substantial dwellings. Considerable additions have been made to the town within the last few years, several new streets having been formed, and numerous detached residences erected:



a very considerable portion of land in the neighbourhood has also been appropriated as building ground, and some streets of neat houses and ornamental cottages upon it are already occupied. The beautiful situation of the town on the margin of a fine open bay, with extensive, firm, smooth, and level sands, presenting an interesting and pleasant marine promenade, the salubrity of the air, the beauty of the surrounding scenery, and the excellent accommodations which the town affords, have contributed to render it a favourite place of resort for sea-bathing; and the opportunities of aquatic excursions which the bay affords, and the numerous pleasant rides and walks in the immediate vicinity, extending through a tract of country abounding with picturesque scenery and romantic beauty, attract to this place, during the summer season, a numerous company of fashionable visitors, for whose accommodation and amusement adequate provision has been made in the erection of public rooms, and hot and cold sea water baths, furnished with every requisite appendage. The Cambrian Society, for the encouragement of researches in geology, mineralogy, and natural history, was established in 1821, under the patronage of the Duke of Beaufort, and the nobility and gentry of the neighbourhood, and contains a number of eminent scientific honorary members. A geological arrangement of the several rocks, according to the Wernerian system, and a geological map of England and Wales by Greenhow, were purchased for the use of the society, and deposited in a room at the infirmary, where they have remained for some years in disuse, the non-residence of most of the members, and a want of energy in the others, having retarded the progress of the society, which, though professedly existing, seldom holds any regular meetings, or makes any advances in the prosecution of the original design. A society for the cultivation of pure Welsh literature, and a critical study of the Welsh language, was established here some few years ago; but for want of sufficient encouragement it has been suffered to decline, and is at present but little regarded. A branch of the Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire Horticultural Society, for the encouragement of improvements in the growth of fruits, flowers, and vegetables, by a distribution of premiums among the most successful candidates, was established here some time since: this society held its last meeting about two years ago, but no further proceedings have taken place, and it appears, like the others, to be falling into disuse. A mechanics' institute, which was established within the last few years, is also on the decline; no meeting of its members having been held, nor any affairs transacted for some time. The assembly-rooms, in Cambrian-place, comprise a suite of five spacious and handsomely arranged apartments, consisting of a ball-room elegantly fitted up, in which concerts are also occasionally performed, and a card-room on the first floor, and having on the basement story, a reading-room, a billiard-room, and a club-room, which are well attended. The theatre, a neat and commodious structure, is entitled to rank among those of the second class out of the metropolis; it is opened during the season by a portion of the Bath and Bristol Company, and is occasionally visited by some of the principal London performers, who, during the recess of the winter theatres, attend here in their provincial tours. Races occasionally take place on the Cremlyn Burrows,

and are continued for two days: the time of the meeting is regulated by the English races, upon which they are in a great measure dependent. The principal prizes are, a tradesmen's plate, of which the value is uncertain, and a subscription purse, of which the amount necessarily fluctuates: the course, which is well adapted for two-mile heats, is upon these occasions numerously attended, but the races are so entirely dependent upon the influence and liberality of the stewards, that they cannot be considered as fixed either with respect to the period of being held, or to the stakes which may be run for. An annual regatta is celebrated, generally in August, and is continued for three days, during which, as also during the races, balls and concerts are held at the assembly-rooms, and dramatic performances are exhibited at the theatre.

This town has risen, with a rapidity unparalleled in the history of the principality, from a comparatively insignificant place to a degree of commercial and manufacturing importance which may well entitle it to be considered not only as the chief town in the county of Glamorgan, but as the metropolis of South Wales. About a century ago it had only a manufacture of straw plat, which was conducted upon a very limited scale; and its port, at that time a creek dependent on the port of Cardiff, was noted only for the exportation of coal, which was conveyed from the pits in the neighbourhood to the shipping-place by means of packhorses: and so deeply-rooted was the prejudice of the inhabitants, at this time, in favour of their accustomed mode of conveyance that, on the introduction of waggons by an ancestor of the present Sir John Morris, in the early part of the last century, they threatened to indict him for a nuisance, affirming that "the motion of his cumbrous machines disturbed the beer in their cellars." For its advancement and almost unprecedented commercial prosperity this place is not less indebted to the mineral treasures abounding in its neighbourhood, than to its highly advantageous maritime situation. The vast stores of coal, culm, ironstone, limestone, rotten-stone, flags, fire-clay, and other mineral productions throughout the district, combining with its local facilities of intercourse by sea, first attracted public attention, and led to the establishment of furnaces for the smelting of copper-ore, which were conducted with such complete success that Swansea soon became the principal seat of the copper trade of Great Britain. The whole annual produce of the copper mines of the United Kingdom is estimated at sixteen thousand tons of fine copper, of which the mines of Cornwall and Devonshire produce fourteen thousand, the remaining two thousand tons being the produce of the mines of Anglesey, Cumberland, and Ireland; and of this Anglesey furnishes by far the largest portion. The average richness of the ores is about  $8\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., and the number of tons of ore smelted annually, including the poor ores containing fluor spar, and smelted as a flux, is about two hundred thousand tons. Of the whole ore produced in Great Britain, nineteen-twentieths are smelted at Swansea, and at Llanelly, Neath, Aberavon, and Loughor, all within twelve miles of this town; and the other twentieth part is smelted in Anglesey, where there are furnaces for reducing the ores found in that island. With the exception of some recently erected near Liverpool, for smelting the ore from the Bolivian



mines in Columbia, there are no other copper smelting furnaces in the empire than those above enumerated; and of these so much more extensive are the works at this place than all the others taken collectively, that of the whole quantity of ore produced in Great Britain, five-sevenths are smelted in Swansea alone. Although it has been supposed that the art of manufacturing copper was known in this country at a very early period, and some old excavations for copper-ore in Anglesey have been attributed to the Romans, yet the practice was entirely neglected, and the art altogether lost, till within the last one hundred and sixty years, when it was restored by Sir Clement Clarke, who in 1670 first erected works for the smelting of copper-ore, in Cornwall; but, from the scarcity of fuel, they were soon after removed to the Hot Wells near Bristol. Other furnaces and smelting-works were soon after erected at Crew's-hole, near Bristol, and subsequently at Redbrook, on the river Wye, near Monmouth. At this time the Cornish miners were unacquainted with the true nature of the copper-ore, which they called "Poder," and when they met with it, in working for tin, it was thrown away as useless. To Mr. Coster, the agent and successor of Sir Clement Clarke, is ascribed the discovery of the value of the "Poder," or copper-ore, the promulgation of which has tended so greatly to increase the prosperity of the county of Cornwall, and of the copper-smelting districts of South Wales.

From such inconsiderable beginnings has the copper trade of the kingdom advanced to its present extent and importance; the annual produce of this trade, estimated at the present low price of copper, amounts to between a million and a quarter and a million and a half sterling, of which about £800,000 is received annually for what is exported to foreign countries, as Great Britain supplies at least one-half of the copper used in the known world. The first works for smelting copper-ore, established in South Wales, were erected in 1700, by Mr. Turner, near Neath Abbey; the next were built at Melingryddan, near Neath, by Sir Henry Mackworth and Co.; and the first which were erected in the immediate neighbourhood of this town were built on the site of the present Cambrian pottery, by Mr. Phillips, in 1719. To these succeeded the Landore works, on the site of the present Landore foundry, and afterwards were successively erected, the Forest, White Rock, Middle Bank, Upper Bank, Ynis, Rose, and Hâvod works. Villages have arisen in the vicinity of all these works, and the town of Swansea has, within the last thirty years, increased in population from 6099 to 13,694. At this place there are at present, in full operation, the following extensive smelting-works: *viz.*, the Forest works, belonging to the Forest Copper Company; the Ynis works, to the Birmingham Copper Company; the Rose works, to Messrs. Williams, Foster, and Company; the Landore works, to Messrs. Bath, Nevill, and Company; the Upper Bank works, to Owen Williams, Esq.; the Hâvod works, to Messrs. Vivian and Sons; the Middle Bank works, to Messrs. P. Grenfell and Company; and the White Rock works, to Messrs. Freeman and Company. There are also four very large rolling establishments on the Swansea river, for the manufacture of sheet copper. A very considerable number of vessels are constantly employed in conveying the ores from the different mines in England and

Ireland to the several smelting places in South Wales; and in transporting the copper, when smelted, to the different markets; and it is calculated that the average expense of conducting the entire copper trade, in South Wales, is at least £300,000 per annum, exclusively of purchasing the ores. The number of persons employed in all the copper mines of Great Britain is about ninety thousand. The ore raised in the greatest quantity is the pyrites of copper, or yellow copper-ore, which, upon analysis, is found to contain one-third part of copper, one-third part of iron, and one-third of sulphur. In separating the copper from this proportion of sulphur, which is effected by sublimation, sulphureous and other gases are evolved, and very large sums of money have been expended in repeated attempts to obviate this result, but only with a trifling degree of success, and experiments are still being made in the hope of ultimately accomplishing so desirable an object. Though the smoke emitted from the copper-works is injurious to vegetation, it has not been found prejudicial to health; but, on the contrary, it appears that agues and fevers, which were formerly endemic in the low and swampy grounds in the neighbourhoods where these works have been erected, have, since their establishment, materially decreased; and no situations have been found more generally favourable to health and longevity. The bituminous and stone coal of this district are peculiarly adapted to the purpose of smelting copper, and carrying on the numerous other works established here. In addition to the copper-works there are, the iron-works belonging to the Milbrook and Landore Iron Companies, two very extensive potteries, and other establishments, in which collectively not less than three thousand men are regularly employed, exclusively of those engaged in the mines and in the shipping. The adjacent district abounds with collieries, employing a very considerable number of men, though the continual fluctuation to which they are liable renders even a remote estimate of the exact number impracticable. The produce of these collieries gives rise to a trade of such extent as to afford business in the harbour for nine shippers of stone coal, seven of binding coal, and four of culm. Ship-building and the repairing of vessels are also carried on to a considerable extent; and commodious and spacious yards have been formed for these purposes, in which many persons are constantly employed. There are also extensive rope-yards, tanneries, breweries, limeworks, and numerous other establishments connected with the manufactures and general commerce of the town.

From these various sources arises the trade of the port of Swansea, which is consequently very extensive, and has been for several years rapidly increasing. The principal exports are, copper, iron, coal, culm, lime, and earthenware, which are shipped hence to various parts of the kingdom, but the copper chiefly to London: the chief imports are, copper-ore from Cornwall, Devonshire, Cumberland, and Ireland; timber, from America and the Baltic; hemp, tallow, flour, and miscellaneous goods from London, Liverpool, and Bristol; and also flour, grain, and provisions from the south of Ireland. The number of vessels belonging to the port is one hundred and twenty-two: according to the official returns for the year ending January 5th, 1831, three thousand five hundred and eighty-eight British (includ-



ing different arrivals of the same), and one hundred and sixteen foreign, vessels cleared outwards; and two thousand two hundred and thirty-four British (reckoning as above), and forty-three foreign, vessels entered inwards, at this port. During that year also one thousand six hundred and ten British (according to the same mode of calculation), and thirty-five foreign, vessels cleared outwards; and eight hundred and sixty-six British vessels, and one foreign, entered inwards, at the various creeks dependent upon the port of Swansea. The total amount of duties paid during the same year at the custom-house was £4,767. 18. 7. The situation of the port is in every respect admirably adapted for carrying on a very extensive commerce, and very considerable sums have been expended in its improvement. The first attempt of this kind was made under the authority of an act of parliament obtained in the year 1791, for "enlarging and preserving the harbour of Swansea," the original powers of which were extended by two additional statutes subsequently obtained. Under the provisions of these acts of parliament two massive stone piers were constructed at the mouth of the river; one on the western side, extending three hundred yards in length, and the other on the eastern, extending six hundred yards, leaving an entrance between them eighty yards in width. At the head of the western pier there is a lighthouse, which by night displays a light, and by day a black ball, as long as there is a depth of eight feet of water above the bar. At high water the harbour forms a noble and spacious basin, capable of containing a great number of vessels of large burden; but at low water, and for two hours before and after, it is nearly dry, the river during this time being fordable. Among other numerous and important improvements which have been undertaken to promote the commercial prosperity of the town, much has been done within the last century towards enlarging and deepening the harbour; and it is at present in contemplation to convert it into a floating haven, capable of receiving ships of greater burden: the execution of this design, however, has been suspended, owing to a misunderstanding between the shippers of coal and the provisional committee, with respect to the rate of tolls. Notwithstanding the vast expense which must necessarily attend this important undertaking, and the difficulties that have hitherto retarded its progress, there is very little doubt of its being ultimately carried into effect. Both the custom-house and the commercial rooms, though spacious, and internally well adapted to the purposes to which they are respectively applied, are not distinguished by their architecture from the private houses in the town.

On the north-east of the harbour is Port Tennant, so named from the gentleman by whom it was originally projected, and at whose expense it was constructed, in the year 1826: it contains two spacious docks, in which the water is of sufficient depth for vessels of two hundred tons' burden, opening on one side into the basin, and communicating on the other with the Swansea and Neath Junction canal, which is also the property of H. T. Tennant, Esq., of Cadoxton Lodge. The river Tawy is navigable, for vessels of three hundred tons' burden, for two miles from its mouth, and one mile farther for small sloops and barges. On the western bank of the river are spacious and commodious quays, wharfs, ware-

houses, stores for timber, a dry dock, and every accommodation requisite for the prompt despatch of business. Great facility of communication between the various works and the harbour is afforded by means of canals and tram-roads, by which the produce is conveyed to the port, in order to be shipped to its destination. The Swansea canal, constructed under the provisions of an act of parliament obtained in the year 1794, and completed in 1798, commences near the mouth of the Tawy, and extends up the valley of this river for seventeen miles, passing by Landore and the copper-works at Morriston, crossing the small river Twrch by an aqueduct of four arches, and terminating at Hên Noyadd, in the parish of Ystradgynlais, in the county of Brecknock. In the line of its course from Swansea to Pont ar Tawy, a distance of eight miles and a quarter, there is a rise of one hundred and five feet; and from that place to Pont Gwaynclawdd, a distance of eight miles, there is a rise of two hundred and thirty-seven feet, making, together with a rise of thirty-one feet in the remaining distance, a total rise in its whole length of three hundred and seventy-three feet. The Swansea and Neath Junction canal, constructed in 1789 by H. T. Tennant, Esq., originally formed a direct communication between Swansea and Briton-Ferry, falling into the Neath river at a short distance above that village: it was subsequently, however, diverted up Cwm Neath by an abrupt turn to the north-east, and now joins the Neath canal at a place called Aberdylais, about two miles above Neath, after crossing the Neath river by a magnificent stone aqueduct of thirteen arches, the only one on a line nine miles in length: this alteration was completed, and the new line opened, in 1824. Numerous rail-roads from the collieries in the neighbourhood of the canals and the river complete the extensive chain of inland communication, and afford a facility of conveying the produce of the various works in this extensive mineral and manufacturing district to the ports of Swansea and Neath: a tram-road has also been constructed from the lower extremity of the Swansea canal to the limestone quarries at Oystermouth, a distance of more than five miles.

The markets are held on Wednesday and Saturday; the latter is for corn, but is also abundantly supplied with provisions of every kind: fish is exposed for sale daily, but the fish here is not considered to be of so good a quality as on other parts of the coast, a circumstance which is attributed to the prevalence of sand in the neighbourhood of the shore. Fairs are held annually on May 2nd, July 2nd, August 15th, and October 30th. The new market-place, though not yet completed, was opened to the public in 1830: it occupies a plot of ground given for that purpose by Calvert Jones, Esq., and comprises a quadrilateral area, three hundred and twenty feet in length, and two hundred and twenty feet wide, enclosed by a lofty stone wall with spacious and convenient entrances: along the walls are ranged the shambles for butchers' meat, consisting of eighty-nine stalls. The central portion of the area is divided into compartments furnished with long tables, each sheltered by a penthouse roof, supported by cast iron pillars: in these compartments are exposed for sale fish, poultry, eggs, butter, fruit, vegetables, flannel, boots and shoes, and almost every other article of provisions, pedlery, and merchandise: the area is flagged,



and in the centre it is intended to erect a market-house containing a committee-room and other requisite apartments, which will be surmounted by a handsome turret, in which will be placed a clock. The whole expense of erecting this building, which is of such essential importance to so populous a town, is defrayed by the corporation, and is supposed, at a moderate estimate, to amount at least to the sum of £20,000.

Swansea is a borough by prescription, and the various privileges which it had acquired at different times have been confirmed and extended by successive charters, from the time of Henry III., by whom the first royal charter of incorporation was granted, to the reign of James II., by whose charter the government of the borough is vested in a portreeve, recorder, twelve aldermen, and an unlimited number of burgesses, assisted by a town-clerk, two common attorneys, who together act as chamberlain, two serjeants at mace, and other officers. The portreeve, who is also clerk of the market, is elected annually on the eve of the festival of St. Michael, by the steward of the lord of the manor, who appoints to that office one of two candidates presented to him by the burgesses at large, and selected by them from four individuals nominated for that purpose by the aldermen. The portreeve may, under the provisions of an act of parliament passed in the year 1791, for the improvement of the harbour, qualify as a magistrate within the borough; but he is not, *ex officio*, a justice of the peace. The corporation possess a considerable estate in land; they also claim all the waste lands within the limits of the borough, and a right to certain customary tolls and dues, sanctioned by immemorial usage, producing in general from £700 to £800 per annum, which is enjoyed by the portreeve for the time being, to defray the contingent expenses of his office. This borough, together with Aberavon, Cowbridge, Kenvig, Llantrissant, Loughor, and Neath, was made contributory to the borough of Cardiff, as the county town, in returning one member to parliament, by the 27th of Henry VIII., and the right of voting vested in the burgesses generally. During Cromwell's usurpation it sent one member to parliament independently of the other boroughs; as it appears that, in 1658-9, William Fox, one of Cromwell's judges of assize on the Brecknock circuit, was chosen representative for Swansea exclusively. After the Restoration it resumed its former character as a contributory borough, and has continued to participate with the other boroughs in the return of a member to parliament to the present time; the right of election having hitherto been in the burgesses generally, in number about one hundred and ten. By the recent act to amend the representation, Swansea has been made the head of a new district of boroughs, including those of Swansea, Aberavon, Kenvig, Loughor, and Neath; and the right of exercising the franchise is now vested in the resident burgesses only, in number about sixty, if duly registered according to the provisions of the act, and in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of at least ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act demands: the present number of tenements of this value, within the extended electoral limits of the borough, is about one thousand. The new limits, which are minutely detailed in the Appendix, include, on account of the

increased populousness of the vicinity, in addition to the ancient town and franchise of Swansea, the parish of St. John, the hamlet of St. Thomas, part of the parish of Lower Llansamlet, and the modern town of Morriston, in that of Llangyvelach. The freedom of the borough is inherited by all the sons of a freeman, born after his admission; obtained by marriage with a freeman's daughter; and acquired by a servitude of seven years' apprenticeship to a resident freeman, or by presentation of a jury of burgesses. The corporation hold a court of pleas by prescription, recognized by statute of the 34th and 35th of Henry VIII., every month, for the recovery of debts above the amount of forty shillings, in which the portreeve presides either in person or by deputy, together with the recorder, or the steward of the lord of the manor: this court has power to issue process to hold to bail in actions for debt, the amount to be not less than twenty pounds, as altered by statute of the 7th and 8th of George IV., and its jurisdiction extends over the town and franchise. The steward of the manor holds a court baron every three weeks, for the recovery of debts under forty shillings, the jurisdiction of which extends over the seignior of Gower and the manor of Kilvey. The town is under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, who hold a petty session for the hundred of Swansea, every Tuesday, in the town-hall, where also are held the Michaelmas quarter sessions for the county. Swansea is likewise one of the places at which, under the recent act, the poll is to be taken at the county elections. The town-hall, erected in 1827, at the expense of the burgesses, is a neat substantial building, with a front of freestone, ornamented with a receding portico of the Doric order: it contains a well-arranged suite of rooms for the holding of the several courts, and for the transaction of the public business of the corporation. The house of correction for the western part of the county, also erected in the year 1827, at an expense of £3750, defrayed by the county, and situated in a healthy spot on the shore, within a quarter of a mile of the town, is a substantial stone building, well adapted for the reception of fifty prisoners, for the proper classification of whom every facility has been provided: it comprises thirty-six sleeping-cells, four day-rooms, and six airing-yards, in one of which there is a tread-wheel.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 14. 4½., endowed with £200 private benefaction, £200 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Sir John Morris, Bart., who is the lay impropriator: the tithes formerly belonged to the hospital of St. David's, in this town, but in the reign of Edward VI. they were, together with the other possessions of that establishment, after its dissolution, granted to Sir George Herbert, and are now divided between the impropriator and the vicar, of whom the former has two-thirds, and the latter one-third. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, from which circumstance the parish derives its Welsh name of "Eglwys Vair Aber-Tawy," having become greatly dilapidated, fell down in the year 1739, and was then almost entirely rebuilt. The present is a plain neat structure, in the later style of English architecture: the interior is well arranged and appropriately embellished: in the chancel, which is the only remain-



ing portion of the old edifice, is an east window in the decorated style: the altar is ornamented with a valuable Madonna, presented to the parish by the late Thomas Bowdler, Esq., editor of the *Family Shakespeare*, and, according to a tablet recording the gift, supposed by the donor to have been an original painting by Sassaferrat, the companion picture of which was sold for £750; some connoisseurs, however, ascribe it to Ludovico Caracci. The internal arrangement is well adapted to the reception of a numerous congregation; but since the amazing increase in the population of the town, which has been progressive for some years, it is quite inadequate to the accommodation of the parishioners. The parish church of St. John juxta Swansea is also situated within the town, and, from the service being performed in it in the Welsh, as well as in the English, language, affords considerable accommodation to the inhabitants of this part of the town, who are mostly of the poorer class, and speak only the Welsh language, and also in a great degree compensates for the deficiency of accommodation in the parish church of St. Mary. There are two places of worship each for English and Welsh Baptists; two for English, and one for Welsh Independents; two each for the Society of Friends and the Welsh Calvinistic Methodists; one each for members of Lady Huntingdon's connexion, Unitarians, and Unitarian Baptists; a Roman Catholic chapel; and a Jews' synagogue.

The free grammar school was founded in 1682, by the Rev. Hugh Gore, D.D., Lord Bishop of Waterford and Lismore, who endowed it with lands in the parish of Llandyvodog, in this county, now producing £100 per annum, which endowment has been augmented with £40 per annum by the corporation. The bishop appointed Bussey Mansel, of Briton-Ferry, Esq., trustee and patron of the school, with power to appoint and remove the master, which power he made perpetual in the proprietors of that estate, and, during their minority, in the Bishop of St. David's: the master becomes ineligible as soon as he obtains a benefice. The school is open for the gratuitous instruction of twenty boys, sons of the poorest burgesses, and, in the event of a dissolution of the corporation, to sons of the poorest inhabitants of the town. National schools for the instruction of children of both sexes are supported by subscription. A school for the gratuitous instruction of girls of all religious denominations, on the plan of the British and Foreign schools in London, was established in 1820, by subscription among the Society of Friends, the funds and the superintendence being vested in trustees, members of that society: a commodious school-room has been built, capable of receiving from two hundred to three hundred children: there are at present one hundred and thirty girls in the school, who are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, plain needlework, and knitting, by a mistress who receives a salary of £40 per annum. An infants' school was established here in 1832, under the immediate patronage of the Duchess of Beaufort, and is conducted by a committee of ladies of the town and neighbourhood: a school-room, capable of receiving two hundred children, and a cottage for the master and mistress, have been erected, at an expense, including the fitting up, of £420, on a site granted on lease for sixty years, at a nominal rent, by the Duke of Beaufort. This institu-

tion will be open to the children of parents of all religious denominations; and a man and his wife are at present in course of preparation at the school patronized by the Rev. F. Close, at Cheltenham, to qualify them to perform the duties of master and mistress, for which, in addition to the cottage, rent free, they will receive a salary of £60 per annum. Sunday schools also, in connexion with the established church and the several dissenting congregations, are supported by subscription. An infirmary for the relief of the sick and lame poor from every part of the kingdom, whose cases might require the aid of warm or cold sea-bathing, was established here in 1817, and is principally supported by subscriptions, amounting at present only to £500 per annum, a sum very inadequate to the accomplishment of the object it had in view, upon a scale commensurate with its importance, as the only establishment of the kind in the principality. The affairs of the institution are under the management of a committee, and the medical department comprises the gratuitous attendance of two physicians and two surgeons, exclusively of a resident surgeon, who receives a regular stipend. The funds have not yet been sufficient to warrant the erection of a separate building for its use, and the business of the infirmary is at present conducted in a part of the house of industry. There are also other benevolent institutions established in the town, among which are the Infants' Friend Society, instituted some years since for the relief of distressed women during their confinement, and for supplying infant apparel; and the Dorcas Society, for the gratuitous clothing of the destitute poor. Among the religious benevolent associations are, the Bible Society, the Religious Tract Society, the Seamen's Bethel Union, and the Association in aid of the Irish Sunday schools. Gabriel Powell, in 1733, bequeathed a rent-charge of £5, to be distributed among twenty-five poor persons of the parish; Captain John Price bequeathed £200 for apprenticing poor children; Dr. Miller left a rent-charge of £1. 4., and there are several other charitable donations and bequests, the produce of which is annually distributed among the poor, according to the intention of the several benefactors.

The remains of the ancient castle, situated on an eminence now nearly in the centre of the town, are so surrounded with buildings, that little more of them can be seen, to any advantage, than a lofty circular tower, from the summit of which a beautiful and extensive view is obtained over the bay of Swansea and the adjacent country: to the east of this tower are extensive remains of the ancient state apartments, distinguished by the elegant open parapet said to be the work of Bishop Gower: the apartments, which are still habitable, are appropriated to the confinement of debtors. Near the castle are the ruins of the ancient mansion of the lords of Gower, formerly occupying a spacious quadrangular area, through which a street has been carried, leaving now but few remains by which any thing more than the extent of the buildings can be traced. Here was formerly an ancient hospital, dedicated to St. David, and endowed for twelve poor people, the original foundation of which is by some writers attributed to Bishop Gower, and by others to Elinor de Breos, in the reign of Edward II.: it was endowed with the tithes of the parish, with the lordship of Brinavel, and with



lands and tenements in the hamlet of Sketty, in the parish of Swansea, and also in the environs of the town, and at the dissolution had a revenue estimated at £20. There are numerous gentlemen's seats and elegant villas in the immediate vicinity of the town: Singleton, the seat of I. H. Vivian, Esq., situated at the distance of two miles, on the road to the Mumbles, is an elegant and spacious mansion, in the later style of English architecture, erected at different periods by the present proprietor, and is now one of the most complete and best built houses in the county. The grounds, which are very extensive, are laid out with great taste, and embellished with some beautiful cottages after Swiss and Italian designs: the variety and beauty of the scenery within the limits of the demesne are judiciously displayed in the construction of the walks through the pleasure grounds, and the distant views obtained from several points are finely diversified and strikingly picturesque. Sketty Park, the seat of Sir John Morris, Bart., is a handsome and substantially built mansion, situated in finely varied grounds of considerable extent. Sketty Hall, the seat of L. W. Dilwyn, Esq., and Veranda, the residence of Ireland Jones, Esq., are both elegant residences pleasingly situated amidst flourishing plantations; and among various others, which constitute a rich assemblage in the vicinity, too numerous for a detailed description, are, Park Wern, the seat of Captain Hickey, R. N.; Bryn y Môr, that of Robert Eaton, Esq.; St. Helen's, that of Mrs. Jones; Upland Villa, the residence of Henry Lucas, Esq.; Pant y Gwydir, belonging to David Tennant, Esq.; and Hill House, the property of J. W. Wheatly, Esq. All these are situated on the road between Swansea and the beautiful village of Oystermouth, in which is Woodlands Castle, the seat of J. Berrington, Esq.

Near the town there is a chalybeate spring, called Swansea Spa, which was formerly much resorted to for the highly medicinal properties of the water, though at present it is not much frequented, having almost fallen into disuse. In the Caswell rocks upon the coast, and within six miles of the town, there is a remarkably fine spring, which, though always overflowed by the sea at high water, retains not, on its retiring, the slightest saline admixture. In the parish of Swansea, and the lordship of Gower, within which it is included, many eminent and highly distinguished individuals have been born. Henry Gower, D. D., Bishop of St. David's, celebrated not less for the elegance of his taste than for his munificent patronage of the fine arts, was a native of one of them, as also was probably John Gower, the poet, who flourished towards the close of the fourteenth century. Both these distinguished characters were descendants of Gruffydd de Gower, a Welsh chieftain of one of the ancient royal houses, and founder of a family in Gower, distinguished alike for opulence and power, in the beginning of the thirteenth century. Henry de Swinesey, abbot of Glastonbury, whose epitaph on the tomb of the renowned Arthur, at Glastonbury, is noticed by Leland, was born in this town. Richard Nash, more generally known by the appellation of Beau Nash, was born at a house in Goat-street, in the year 1673: his mother was niece of the unfortunate Colonel Poyer, who, after the taking of Penbroke castle by the parliamentarians, during the civil war in the reign of Charles I., was shot at Covent Garden in

London. Mr. Nash acquired his celebrity at Bath, where for many years he filled the office of master of the ceremonies with so much dignified urbanity and scrupulous impartiality, that he gained the esteem and respect of all ranks: he died at Bath, in the year 1760, and was honoured with a public funeral in the abbey church of that city. Hugh Gore, D. D., founder of the grammar school, was rector of the parish of Oxwich, in the lordship of Gower: being ejected from his living during the usurpation of Cromwell, he retired to Swansea, where he for some time kept a school. After the Restoration he was advanced to the see of Waterford and Lismore, which he held till the reign of James II., when he retired from his bishoprick, and settled at this town, where he died, and was buried in the parish church. Each of the divisions of the parish separately maintains its own poor; the town and franchise at an average annual expenditure of £2258. 8.; the upper and lower divisions by a similar expenditure of £314; and the hamlet of St. Thomas, by that of £43. 6.; making a total, for the whole parish, of £2615. 14. The poor of the franchise are maintained in a commodious house of industry by the sea side, in which they are all classed according to their ages, and employed according to their abilities, the produce of their labour being appropriated towards defraying the expense of their maintenance; and the establishment, which is regularly conducted under the provisions of an act of parliament, called Gilbert's Act, has been productive of benefit, both to the poor and to the rate-payers.

SWYDD, a joint township with Graig, in the parish of LLANDEGLAY, hundred of KEVENLLEECE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (E. N. E.) from Penybont, containing, with Graig, 227 inhabitants. It forms the northern portion of the parish, which borders on the ancient forest of Radnor, and lies between the left bank of the Cymaron brook and the lofty and mountainous range of that district. Within a recess of these mountains are the Llandeglay wells, once highly esteemed for their medicinal efficacy, but not much frequented at present.

## T.

TACH-LLENAN (TACHLEIAN), a joint hamlet with Rhiw-Llâs, in that part of the parish of LLANDILO-VAWR which is in the lower division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 2½ miles (N.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 221 inhabitants. The name implies "a spreading to the westward," being descriptive of the situation of this hamlet in the parish. It is assessed with Rhiw-Llâs for the joint maintenance of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £97. 1.

TÂF, a joint hamlet with Cynon, in the parish of MERTHYR-TYDVIL, hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S.) from Merthyr-Tydvil. The population is included in the return for the entire parish. In this hamlet the Glamorganshire canal proceeds along the vale of the Tâf, to Merthyr-Tydvil; and from this, immediately below it, branches the Aberdare canal, through the valley of the Cy-



non, to Aberdare. To connect these lines of navigation with the main trunk from Cardiff there is a fine aqueduct over the river Tâf, near where it is crossed by a bridge on the road to those places. The banks of the Tâf are here finely wooded, presenting some beautiful views and several agreeable residences, especially in the vale of the Cynon. A portion of this hamlet is included within the limits of the new borough of Merthyr-Tydvil.

**TALACHDDŪ (TĀL-ACHDDŪ)**, a parish in the hundred of **PENCELLY**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. E.) from Brecknock, on the road to Hay, containing 177 inhabitants. This parish, which comprises about one thousand five hundred and fifty acres of land, derives its name from its situation at the head of a small rivulet called the Achddŭ, from the black colour of its water, and is separated from the adjacent parish of Llandeulley by the river Dulais, which, at the little village of Velin-Vâch, is crossed by a neat bridge. The soil is various, and in some parts extremely fertile; and the surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified. Copper-ore has been found in the parish, and, about eight or nine years since, a mine was opened on a farm belonging to Samuel Church, Esq.: the vein extends to the depth of sixty yards, and the ore, which is supposed to be very rich, in some parts lies within a foot of the surface, but no progress has yet been made in working the mine. In descending the hill from Brecknock to this place, the village and church have a beautifully picturesque appearance, being pleasantly situated on rising ground, and form an interesting feature in the superb view which is obtained from the hill: in front is an extensive common, overlooking a fertile and rich tract of country, bounded by swelling hills, which are cultivated to the very summit; beneath is a pleasingly wooded dingle, through which the river Dulais takes its course: on the left the fine range of the Black Mountains is seen extending for several miles, and on the right is the more magnificent chain of the Brecknockshire Beacons. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 12. 1., and in the patronage of the Rev. Charles Griffith: attached to the rectory is a good parsonage-house, with a garden of about half an acre, and forty-seven acres of good glebe land. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small ancient building with a low tower: part of the ancient rood-loft is remaining, and has been recently converted into a gallery. The register contains entries of marriages celebrated, during the protectorate of Cromwell, before the bailiff of Brecknock; and, during the same period, the births and not the baptisms are registered. There is a place of worship for Anabaptists. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £84. 6.

**TALGARTH**, a parish, partly in the hundred of **TALGARTH**, in which it comprises the decayed borough of Talgarth, and the hamlets of Gryne Vawr and Gryne Vâch, each of which separately maintains its own poor, and partly in the hundred of **PENCELLY**, county of **BRECKNOCK**, **SOUTH WALES**, 9 miles (E. N. E.) from Brecknock, containing 1473 inhabitants, of which number, 741 are in the borough. This place derives its name from its situation in front of the chain of lofty

hills called the Black Mountains, which are partly included within the limits of the parish. It formerly comprised three inferior lordships marcher, called respectively English Talgarth, Welsh Talgarth, and Dinas: and the village was anciently a borough and market town, and had numerous privileged fairs, which last are all that remain of its former distinctions. The parish is very extensive, comprising, according to a survey made in 1801, which is quoted by Mr. Jones, in his history of Brecknockshire, no less than ninety thousand one hundred and forty-five acres. The surface is mountainous, and the soil extremely various, being in some parts fertile and productive, and in others affording only scanty herbage for sheep and young cattle. The scenery is much varied, but it is characterized more by features of rugged boldness than of picturesque beauty, even in some parts bordering upon the romantic. Though no longer a market-town, nor retaining any of its ancient municipal privileges, Talgarth is, notwithstanding, a large and well-built place, occupying an eminence rising gently from the river Ennig, which is here crossed by a neat stone bridge of one arch, and, after precipitating itself over several successive ledges of rock, falls into the river Llynvi. There were formerly in the parish many ancient seats, the residences of genteel families, which, having in course of time been abandoned by their proprietors, have fallen into neglect, and are now become comparatively insignificant. Among these is Porthaml, noticed by Leland, who derives its name from the hospitality and affluence of the proprietors, the Vaughans, of whom Sir William Vaughan was first high sheriff of Brecknockshire: it is now the property of the Earl of Ashburnham, by the marriage of one of his ancestors with the heiress of that family: part of the embattled wall of the old mansion, and one of the towers, are at present remaining. Tregunter, an ancient seat of the family of Gunter, from whom it derives its name, was originally granted by Bernard Newmarch to Sir Peter Gunter, in reward for his services, and continued in that family for many years: the estate was subsequently purchased by the late Thomas Harris, Esq., who erected the present mansion: it is now the property and residence of Mrs. Madocks, and is a handsome mansion, surrounded by fine grounds, and commanding a pleasing view of the adjacent country, which is richly wooded, of the lofty hill called Mynydd Troed, near Talgarth, and of part of the range of the Black Mountains. Tredustan, a pleasant and commodious mansion, was for many years the seat of Selina, late Countess of Huntingdon, and, after her death, was converted into an academy for young men intended for the ministry among her ladyship's connexion. The Hermitage, the seat of Arthur Macnamara, Esq., is beautifully situated in a retired spot. The village lies within a mile of the turnpike road leading from London to Brecknock through Hay; and the Brecknock and Hay tram-road, in its course through the parish, passes close to it, from which a new turnpike road through Talgarth forest to Crickhowel and Abergavenny has just been completed, diminishing by three miles the distance between Talgarth and those two places. The various bridges in the parish are kept in repair by the inhabitants, with the exception only of Pont y Twr, or "the Tower bridge," over the river Llynvi, in the



village, which is repaired by the county: this bridge takes its name from a square tower, forming at present part of a small farm-house, noticed by Leland, who supposes it to have been the ancient borough gaol. Fairs, which are numerously attended by dealers from all parts of the country, and at which great numbers of horses and cattle are sold, are held on February 2nd, March 12th, May 31st, July 10th, September 23rd, November 2nd, and December 3rd.

The living is a vicarage not in charge, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, and in the patronage of the Dean and Canons of Windsor, to whom, after the dissolution of the priory of St. John at Brecknock, the advowson and tithes, which had previously belonged to that establishment, were granted by Henry VIII. The whole of the great tithes of the borough hamlet, comprising about three hundred acres, commonly called "the Demesne," now belong to the Bishop of Gloucester, and one-third of the small tithes of that division belong to the vicar: the rectorial glebe, consisting of about twenty-seven acres, having formerly belonged to the priory, is still called *Tŷ y Prior*, or "the Prior's land:" twenty-four acres of glebe, together with a small house just above the village, belong to the vicar. The church, which stands in the higher part of the village, and from all parts of the surrounding country presents a very respectable appearance, is dedicated to St. Gwendeline, or *Gwenvrewi*, and is a spacious and ancient structure, with a handsome square embattled tower surmounted with turrets: the interior consists of a nave and south aisle, separated by a series of five obtusely pointed arches, springing from octagonal columns, with plain capitals: the windows at the east end are in the later English style. From the churchyard, which is ornamented with numerous yew trees, there is a delightful prospect over a richly cultivated tract of country, embracing a great portion of the counties of Hereford and Radnor. The Independents and Calvinistic Methodists have each two places of worship: one belonging to the former, at *Tredustan*, has a small endowment, arising from the sum of £170, raised, as is supposed, by subscription, and secured on a bond of the late Lewis Williams, of *Pentwyn*, in the parish of *Gwenddwr*, bearing interest  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., and dated January 1st, 1797.

*Trevecca House*, in the hamlet of *Trevecca*, in this parish, was built by *Howel Harris*, the friend and disciple of the *Rev. George Whitfield*, whose tenets he adopted; and it became the seat of a religious community founded by this gentleman, to whose zeal may be ascribed the prevalence of Calvinistic doctrines among the Protestant dissenters in Wales. He was born at this place in 1714, and entered as a student at *St. Mary's Hall*, Oxford, in 1735: after continuing there only one term, he quitted the university, and entered immediately on his ministerial functions, as an itinerant preacher. After experiencing considerable persecution, he settled in his native place, where he was highly respected, and laid the foundation of a religious community, similar in some respects to those of the *Moravians*. For this purpose he built the house of *Trevecca*, and enclosed a sufficient quantity of garden ground and land, for the accommodation of a large number of inhabitants, whom he invited to invest their property in one common fund, for the equal benefit of all. A considerable portion of

the day was spent in religious exercises at the chapel, in which service was performed three times in the day, and, during the intervals, the members were employed in cultivating the land belonging to the institution, the produce of which, after supplying the wants of the society, was sent to market, and the money added to the general fund. A woollen manufacture was also carried on by the members, who thus supplied the adjacent country, and even distant places, with some of the finest flannel made in the principality. The establishment flourished greatly, and at one time consisted of one hundred and fifty efficient members, exclusively of children; but after the death of *Mr. Harris*, who was both chaplain and treasurer, the number declined considerably, and the establishment is now rapidly hastening to decay. *Mr. Harris*, a short time prior to his death, settled the house and grounds, together with several leasehold farms, in trust for the use of the community, of whom at present only three of the original members, now more than eighty-eight years of age, survive, and, together with four members admitted after the death of *Mr. Harris*, two of whom, both advanced in years, are the only surviving trustees, constitute the present establishment. There have been few applications for admission within the last forty years, and it is considered that, should the present members become incapable of labour, the trustees have the power to dispose of the property for their support. The leasehold property has long since fallen in, and there remains at present only the house, with about seven acres of ground. The house is of singular appearance, combining the Grecian, early English, castellated, and Elizabethan styles of architecture; and being much too large for the present number of inmates on the establishment, it is let in tenements to different families: the chapel is opened regularly every alternate Sunday for public worship.

A Sunday school, in which about seventy children are instructed, is supported by subscription. *Walter Williams*, of *Noyadd-Vâch*, bequeathed £10, the interest of which he appropriated to the instruction of one poor boy of the parish. Near the church are four almshouses, with a garden to each, erected at the expense of the late *John Gunter, Esq.*, for the use of four poor persons; they have no endowment, and are kept in repair by the parish. *Thomas Harris, Esq.*, of *Tregunter*, bequeathed a sum of money for clothing ten poor men of the parish yearly. *Thomas Bennet*, of *Pen yr wrlodd*, in 1727, bequeathed a house and garden, called *Tŷ bâch*, in this parish, the rent of which he directed to be distributed among the poor. *Mrs. Sybil Williams*, of *Trêvithel*, bequeathed £20 in money, now secured on *Capel y fin*, in the parish of *Llanigon*; and *Thomas Watkin Probert, Esq.*, by deed in 1663, gave to the poor of this parish £10 per annum, charged on estates in *Tâlgarth* and *Llangorse*. On the Black Mountains there are some imperfect Druidical remains, and vestiges of some military works of ancient British origin. On a farm called *Pendre*, about half a mile from the village, there is a very perfect earthwork, forming the segment of a circle, and extending for about two hundred yards: it appears to have been thrown up to cover the retreat of the natives to the mountains, or may probably have been an outpost of the fortified station of *Dinas*, which lies directly in its rear, at the distance



of two miles. This last fortress, which was anciently a place of great strength, occupies the summit of a conical hill, commanding the mountain pass to Crickhowel, and the eastern parts of the Vale of Usk: it was formerly a place of great importance, and constituted the head of a lordship marcher, conferring upon its possessor the dignity of a baron of parliament. It is said by most writers to have been built by one of the lords marcher; but Camden is of opinion that it had been previously occupied by the Britons, and identifies it with the fortress of Breccanmere, which was attacked by Ethelfleda, daughter of Alfred the Great, and Countess of Mercia, who, after defeating Hwgan, Prince of Brecknock, here took his wife with thirty of her attendants prisoners, and sent them into England. According to Leland, in whose time it was in ruins, Dinas was destroyed by the inhabitants of this part of the principality, during the reign of Henry IV., to prevent it falling into the hands of Owain Glyndwr. Near this place is a sulphureous spring, called Dinas Well. Thomas Harris, who purchased the estate of Tregunter, and was an elder brother of Howel Harris, above noticed, was a native of this parish: in early life he settled in London, where he realized an ample fortune, with which he retired to his native place. The eldest of the brothers, Joseph Harris, according to a tablet in the church, distinguished himself by his scientific researches; he held a respectable situation in the Mint, and was the author of several astronomical and mathematical treatises, which were highly appreciated. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor in the whole parish amounts to £802.2., of which sum, £761.2. is paid by the borough of Talgarth.

**TALIARIS**, a chapelry in that part of the parish of **LLANDILO-VAWR** which is in the lower division of the hundred of **PERVETH**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**, 4 miles (N. by E.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 207 inhabitants. This place is situated near the right bank of the Dulas river, over which here is a bridge, and to the left of the road leading from Llandilo-Vawr to Llanbedr. Taliaris Park, the seat of the late Lord Robert Seymour, occupies an elevated and extensive range of ground, reaching nearly to the banks of the Dulas, and is overspread with a profusion of full-grown timber trees: it was at one time the residence of a branch of the Gwynn family. Besides Taliaris, the chapelry likewise contains several other respectable residences. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £200 private benefaction, and £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the proprietor of the Taliaris estate. The chapel, a neat structure, erected by Lord Robert Seymour, is dedicated to the Holy Trinity. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £67. 10.

**TALLEY**, otherwise **TAL Y LLYCHAU**, a parish, composed of the Lower and Upper divisions, each of which maintains its own poor separately, in the lower division of the hundred of **CAYO**, county of **CARMARTHEN**, **SOUTH WALES**,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 1058 inhabitants, of which number, 427 are in the Lower, and 631 in the Upper division. This place, of which the name, signifying "the head of the lakes," is derived from two large pools near the church, was originally of much greater importance than at present, and was the

seat of one of the most extensive and venerable ecclesiastical establishments in this part of the principality. The parish is situated near the river Cothi, and on the turnpike road from Llandilo-Vawr to Lampeter: it comprises a large tract of good arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and cultivated, and a considerable portion of mountainous common land, affording pasturage to sheep and young cattle. The surrounding country is strikingly diversified, and presents in some points pleasing features of picturesque beauty, and in others a wide display of mountain scenery. Glenyran-nel, the seat of Lewis Price Jones, Esq., is pleasantly situated in the parish, and the grounds are well laid out. Fairs are held on June 22nd and September 20th. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and £1000 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Venerable Thomas Beynon, Archdeacon of Carmarthen, who purchased the tithes of the parish, and the advowson of the living, from the ancient family of Albermarle. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, having fallen into decay, was rebuilt, about the close of the last century, at the expense of the inhabitants, out of the ruins of the ancient abbey, to which the former church belonged, and of which there are still some remains within the churchyard: it is a neat edifice, and contains some monumental inscriptions, among which is a mural tablet to the memory of the father of Sir J. Hamlyn Williams, Bart., the present lord of the manor. There were formerly five chapels of ease within the parish, but of none of them are there at present any remains: memorials of two of them are preserved in the names of two small patches of ground, of which one is called Mynwent Capel Llanvihangel, "the churchyard of St. Michael's chapel," and the other, Mynwent Capel Mair, "the churchyard of St. Mary's chapel." There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A parochial school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported by subscription. An abbey was founded here prior to the year 1197, by Rhys ab Gruffydd, for Premonstratensian canons, and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and St. John the Baptist; it flourished till the dissolution, at which time it had eight canons, and its revenue was estimated at £153. 1. 4. The remains, having been much diminished by the appropriation of materials for the rebuilding of the church, are now very inconsiderable: they consist of little more than a building which appears to have been a chapel, now converted into a barn, and a high wall, which formed one side of a tower: they are all within the churchyard, and are the property of the impropiator of the tithes. The situation of this religious establishment, in a luxuriant vale embosomed among lofty hills, was peculiarly adapted for devotional retirement and contemplation. From the richness of its endowment, its abbots were little inferior in power to the bishops of the diocese; and to the influence of one of them, who was confessor and secretary to Rhys ab Thomas, has been attributed the active part which that chieftain took in favour of the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £299. 6., of which sum, £140. 11. are assessed on the Lower, and £158. 15. on the Upper, division of the parish.



**TÀL Y CAVN**, a township in the parish of **LLANBEDR**, hundred of **LLÊCHWEDD ISÂV**, county of **CARNARVON**, **NORTH WALES**,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.) from **Llanrwst**, containing, with the township of **Llanbedr**, 318 inhabitants. This isolated spot, though forming part of the parish of **Llanbedr**, is entirely surrounded by that of **Caerhên**, and is situated upon the western bank of the river **Conway**, which is here navigable, and across which there is a public ferry to **Eglwys-Bâch**, in the county of **Denbigh**. This is the only ferry between the bridges of **Aberconway** and **Llanrwst**, and near the approach to it there is a small artificial mount, on which was once a tower, or castle, erected to defend the pass, but of which building there are not now the slightest vestiges: it is said by **Camden** to have been called **Brÿn-Castell**, and to have served as an exploratory tower forming an outpost of the Roman station *Conovium*.

**TÀLYLLÛN (TÀL Y LLÛN)**, a parochial chapelry in the parish of **LLANBEULAN**, hundred of **LLYVON**, county of **ANGLESEY**, **NORTH WALES**, 8 miles (W. S. W.) from **Llangevni**. The population is returned with the parish of **Llanbeulan**. This chapelry is situated in the south-western part of the island, and on the river **Fraw**, which falls into the small bay of **Aberfraw**, in the bay of **Carnarvon**. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of **Llanbeulan**, in the archdeaconry of **Anglesey**, and diocese of **Bangor**, endowed with £800 royal bounty. The chapel, dedicated to **St. Mary**, is a small neat edifice.

**TÀLYLLÛN (TÀL Y LLÛN)**, a parish in the hundred of **ESTIMANER**, county of **MERIONETH**, **NORTH WALES**, 8 miles (S. by W.) from **Dôlgeley**, containing 767 inhabitants. This place derives its name from the situation of its church at the head of a beautiful lake, called **Llÿn Mwyngil**. The parish, which extends eight miles in length and four miles in breadth, includes a large portion of the lofty mountain **Cader Idris**, and is intersected by the turnpike road from **Dôlgeley** to **Towyn**: it comprises about thirty-six thousand acres, of which only about six thousand are under cultivation, the remainder consisting chiefly of barren rugged hills, affording only pasturage to sheep and goats. The soil in the lower grounds, though shallow, is enriched by several small rivers, which descend from the hills in various parts of the parish. The scenery is strikingly romantic, and derives much beauty from the lakes, of which there are two within the limits of the parish; one, called **Llÿncae**, at the foot of **Cader Idris**, is about a quarter of a mile long and nearly of equal breadth; and the other, called **Mwyngil**, which is the principal lake, is more than a mile in length, and something less than half a mile broad. The latter abounds with excellent trout and eels: the vale in which it is situated is so contracted as to leave, for a considerable part of its length, only a very narrow road on each side of the lake, from the clear surface of which are reflected its precipitous declivities. Towards the extremity of the vale the lake contracts gradually into the form of a river, rushing with rapidity through a stone arch into a very narrow pass, having on one side the church, and on the other the small cluster of houses which form the village, embosomed in trees, and assuming a romantically beautiful appearance. At the distance of a mile or two beyond the church, the hills almost meet, and present a sterile and rugged aspect;

they are broken into numberless crags, of which some are vertical and sharply pointed, but the greater number project horizontally, and impend with threatening gloom over the vale beneath. One of these precipices, from its resemblance in form to a harp, has been called **Pen y Delyn**; and another, from a tradition that it was formerly the practice to throw thieves from its summit, has been denominated **Llam y Lladron**, or "the thieves' leap." There were formerly some ancient seats in the parish, of which the principal were **Aberleven** and **Maes y pandy**; but they have been abandoned by their proprietors, and are now occupied by tenants. Slate is found in the parish, and some quarries are now worked. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of **Merioneth**, and diocese of **Bangor**, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £1400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of **Lichfield** and **Coventry**. The church, dedicated to **St. Mary**, and beautifully situated within a few yards of the lake, is an ancient building in the early style of English architecture. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A mineral spring, called the **Bishop's Well**, was formerly much resorted to for its efficacy in the cure of rheumatism. At a place called **Llwyn Dôl Ithel** was found, in 1684, while digging for turf, a coffin made of deal, seven feet in length, and carved and gilt at both ends: two skeletons were deposited in it, the feet of the one lying by the head of the other: they were of uncommon size, and the bones moist and tough. Within a few yards of the coffin were found two other skeletons of the same size, lying on the clay, and near them a grave in which was a skeleton of the ordinary size; along the grave and coffin were laid hazel rods, with the bark remaining, and perfectly pliable. The high state of preservation in which these relics were found is attributed to the bituminous quality of the turbary in which they were deposited. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £445. 6.

**TAVOLOG**, a joint township with **Brÿn-Uchel**, in the parish of **CEMMES**, hundred of **MACHYNLLETH**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. E. by E.) from **Machynlleth**. The population is returned with that of **Brÿn-Uchel**. It is situated on the right bank of the river **Tavolog**, which falls into the river **Dovey** near **Mallwyd**; and it forms the northern portion of the parish, which borders on **Merionethshire**.

**TELBENNY**, a parish in the hundred of **Rhôs**, county of **PEMBROKE**, **SOUTH WALES**, 6 miles (W. S. W.) from **Haverfordwest**, containing 222 inhabitants. It is situated on the south side of **St. Bride's bay**, on a ridge overlooking which the village is chiefly built. **Goldtop Road**, off the coast of this parish, forming the south-westernmost recess of the bay, and affording safe anchorage for vessels during gales from certain quarters, might, according to **Mr. Morris'** account, in his survey of the **Welsh coast**, be made a very safe roadstead, in three or four fathoms water, by the construction of a pier on **Burrow Head**, in the erection of which the beach might be cleared of the large stones which now encumber it. This improvement of the haven, it is thought, would make it a place of great trade, as there are several mines of stone coal in the neighbourhood. At the western extremity of the parish is the small inlet of **Mill Haven**,



and at the eastern that of Little Haven. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 12. 6., and in the patronage of Sir John Owen, Bart. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is situated near the coast, below the village. The average annual expenditure for the relief of the poor is £99. 14.

TELYCH, a hamlet in that part of the parish of LLANDINGAT which is in the higher division of the hundred of PERVETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (E. by S.) from Llandovery, containing 270 inhabitants. It comprises a district through part of which flow the rivers Brân and Gwdderig, and exhibits some well-wooded enclosures, occupying the vales and sides of the hills.

TENBY (DYNBYCH Y PYSCOED), a parish, including the In-Liberty and the Out-Liberty (each of which separately maintains its own poor), the former constituting the borough, and comprising the sea-port and market town of Tenby, and having exclusive jurisdiction, though locally in the hundred of Narberth, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (E.) from Pembroke, 20 (S. E.) from Haverfordwest, and 245 (W.) from London, containing 2128 inhabitants, of which number, 1942 are within the limits of the borough. This place was at a very remote period occupied by the ancient Britons as a fishing town, for which its situation on the coast rendered it extremely favourable; and from this circumstance it obtained its Welsh name, of the first part of which its present appellation is an obvious modification. According to George Owen, an eminent antiquary of the reign of Elizabeth, whose manuscript history of Pembrokeshire is now in the library of the British Museum, the origin of the present town is attributable to the settlement of the Flemings in this part of the principality by Henry I., who placed them under the protection and control of Gerald de Windsor, governor of Pembroke castle, whom he ordered to provide them with habitations, on condition of their garrisoning the castles which the king then had in Wales, and which were erected by the Normans for the security of the territories which they had usurped by conquest. In order to protect themselves from the repeated attacks of the native Welsh, and to maintain possession of the lands which had been assigned to them, they soon found it necessary to build the towns of Tenby, Pembroke, and Haverfordwest, which they fortified with strong and lofty walls; and from that time Tenby began to assume a high degree of importance as a strongly fortified military post, and progressively to enjoy, from its advantageous situation, considerable prosperity as a maritime and commercial town. In the year 1150, Cadell, eldest son of Rhys ab Gruffydd, Prince of South Wales, being on a hunting excursion in the neighbourhood, was suddenly attacked by a party of the inhabitants of Tenby, who lay in ambush for that purpose, and who, rushing from their concealment, soon put to flight the unarmed retinue by which he was attended: but Cadell resolutely defended himself against the assailants, of whom he killed several, and, though severely wounded in the conflict, ultimately effected his escape. Two years after this event Meredydd and Rhys, brothers of Cadell, in order to avenge this outrage, assembled all their forces, and, advancing to Tenby, scaled the walls of the town, surprised the

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castle, and put most of the garrison to the sword. During the minority of Isabel, Countess of Pembroke, the several castles in her earldom were entirely neglected, and the castle of Tenby, being unprovided with a sufficient garrison, was attacked by Maelgwyn and Hywel, sons of Rhys ab Gruffydd, who, coming against it with an overwhelming force, destroyed the fortress, burned the town, and put many of the inhabitants to the sword. It was a considerable time before Tenby recovered from the devastation it suffered upon this occasion: the castle was repaired, and its fortifications strengthened, by William Marshall, who, espousing Isabel, was created Earl of Pembroke; but the town remained for a much longer time in ruins. William had five sons, who all succeeded in turn to the palatinate: of these, Walter, the fourth son, gave orders for restoring the town and building a church and an almshouse; but dying before his intentions were carried into effect, Warren de Mountchensy, who married his sister, and succeeded in her right to the earldom, completed the plans of his predecessor, and made to the church a valuable present of plate and jewels.

During the wars of the houses of York and Lancaster, the fortifications were repaired and strengthened by Jasper Earl of Pembroke, who, in the 36th of Henry VI., caused the platform along the summit of the walls to be widened for the greater facility of posting soldiers on the battlements, and the moat by which they were surrounded to be much increased in depth and breadth. Henry Earl of Richmond, and his mother, sought shelter in the castle of this place, to which they were brought by David ab Thomas, one of the brothers of Sir Rhys, a zealous adherent of the House of Lancaster, from Pembroke castle, where they had been besieged. Here they received due attention from the mayor of the town, and embarked for Brittany under the protection of Jasper Earl of Pembroke, and uncle of Henry, who accompanied them to the continent. In the reign of Elizabeth, a memorial was presented by the Bishop of St. David's, and the principal persons of the county, praying that fit persons might be sent to inspect the castle and fortifications of Tenby, preparatory to putting them into a state of defence against the threatened invasion of the Invincible Armada of Spain. The walls were consequently restored by order of the queen, whose initials, with the date 1588, are still visible. At the commencement of the civil war in the reign of Charles I., the castle and the town were garrisoned for the king; but in 1644, Colonel Laugharne, with a strong body of parliamentary forces, laid siege to the place, which was resolutely defended by Colonel Gwyn, the governor, for three days, when a breach being made in the walls, it was taken by storm, and the governor, the high sheriff, and three hundred men were made prisoners. In 1647, the castle and town were seized for the king by the same Colonel Laugharne, who, in conjunction with Colonel Poyer, who had been made governor of Tenby by the parliament, and Colonel Powell, had abandoned the parliamentary cause, and embraced the royal interests; and from the strength of the garrison, composed of three hundred men, with twenty-five pieces of ordnance, and the abundant store of provisions and ammunition with which it was supplied, it proved a formidable obstacle to the entire subjugation of the country to the authority of



the parliament. Cromwell, who was soon after despatched into South Wales with an army of eight thousand men, sent a detachment of twelve hundred, under the command of Colonel Read, to besiege this place. For five days it held out against all the efforts of the united forces of Colonel Read and Colonel Constable, by whom the former had been joined, until, the suburbs having been taken by storm, and a breach made in the walls, the garrison was compelled to surrender at discretion, and among the prisoners were numerous gentlemen of the surrounding country.

The town is romantically situated on the eastern and southern sides of a rocky peninsula stretching out into the Bristol channel, and rising to an elevation of one hundred feet above the level of high water: it consists of one principal street, and several smaller ones diverging from it, which latter are, in some instances, inconveniently narrow. The houses are in general well built and of respectable appearance, and several of recent erection command some fine views over the sea. Considerable improvement has been made of late years, among which may be noticed the erection of a new market-house by the corporation, and the formation of a new line of road, by which the approach to the town has been greatly facilitated, by avoiding a steep and dangerous descent from Narberth and the eastern parts of the adjacent country, and which was opened to the public in 1831. The principal street is well paved, but not lighted, and the inhabitants are provided with water from conduits in the town, supplied by pipes from a reservoir, into which it is conveyed from springs in the neighbourhood: these works were constructed at the expense of the corporation, on a plan recommended to their adoption by Sir William Paxton, who, having purchased a considerable portion of land in the borough, caused a survey of the adjacent country to be made, with a view to supply this desirable and important accommodation, from the want of which the inhabitants had previously suffered great inconvenience. The reservoir, however, fails to afford a sufficient supply once in about every ten years, for five or six weeks together, during which time the inhabitants are obliged to supply themselves from a brook at nearly the same distance as the reservoir. The surrounding scenery is romantically beautiful and picturesque: the majestic masses of rock, of various forms and hues, which line the coast; the numerous bays and distant promontories stretching into the sea; the receding coasts of Carmarthenshire, with the projecting headland of Gower, enclosing the great bay of Carmarthen, on the western boundary of which the town is situated; the small islands of Caldey and Lundy, with the distant shores of Somersetshire and Devonshire, combine to impart a high degree of interest, variety, and beauty to the sea view, which is pleasingly enlivened by the frequent passing and repassing of vessels navigating the Bristol channel. On one side of the town there is a drive of eleven miles to the ancient town of Pembroke, through a fine champaign country, studded with churches, villages, and gentlemen's seats surrounded with plantations and pleasure grounds; and on the other the country is agreeably diversified with swelling eminences, clothed with verdure, and small valleys richly wooded. The beautiful situation of the town, the fine beach and firm and smooth sands, the transparency of the sea-water, and the plea-

sant walks and extensive drives in the vicinity, have rendered it a fashionable place of resort for sea-bathing, and, since the close of the last century, raised it from the decline into which it had for many years previously fallen, to a high rank among the most favourite watering-places on the coast. Many good lodging-houses have been built for the accommodation of visitors, and several respectable private houses are appropriated, during the season, to the reception of families. Baths, provided with every convenience, were erected by Sir William Paxton under the castle hill, and are supplied from a capacious reservoir filled from the sea at every tide: this establishment comprises two spacious pleasure baths, one for gentlemen and one for ladies, four small cold baths, and also warm sea-water and vapour baths, with apparatus for heating them to any degree of temperature required. The same building contains also lodging-rooms for the accommodation of such invalids as may find it inconvenient to be at a distance from the baths, and a general room as a promenade, and for the purpose of taking refreshments. The exterior of the building is neat, but without any pretension to architectural style, and an excellent carriage road has been made to the house, which commands a fine view over the sea, on one side, and, on the other, of the shipping in the bay. A neat small theatre was erected about the year 1810; but dramatic performances not being much encouraged here, it has never been made an architectural ornament to the place. A private reading-room and subscription library are in general well attended, and balls and concerts occasionally take place under the direction of a master of the ceremonies. The sands afford delightful promenades, and abound also with shells of various descriptions, not less than one-half of the British collection of six hundred varieties having been found on this coast, on which many valuable shells, commonly esteemed foreign, have also been found.

Soon after the settlement of the Flemings at this place, the small harbour of Tenby was greatly improved for the convenience of the shipping employed at the port, the trade of which, from that time, progressively increased; and a very considerable part of its population was employed in carrying on the woollen manufacture, which was introduced by these settlers, and continued to flourish here for many years. From what cause the commercial and manufacturing importance of the town first began to decline has not been clearly ascertained, but its manufactures have been discontinued for a great length of time, and the only trade at present consists in exporting to the western and southern coasts of England the coal, culm, and limestone raised in the Out-Liberty of the parish, and which are chiefly shipped from Saunder's Foot, three miles to the north, to which place a tram-road from the different works is now in progress; and in the importation of shop goods from Bristol, between which place and Tenby a regular communication is maintained by means of a steam-packet, which conveys goods and passengers twice in the week during the season. The harbour, which, according to the custom-house regulations, is a creek to the port of Milford, is dry at low water, and is sheltered from the south and west winds by the lofty peninsula on which the town is situated; while on the east it is protected by the castle hill, and on the north by a small but handsome pier



of ancient erection, which, stretching north-westward from the castle hill, in an irregular curve, terminates in a kind of circular bastion, the whole forming a remarkably picturesque object: the mouth of the harbour is daily cleared by a body of water retained each tide by flood-gates: the coal is never shipped here except when the weather will not permit vessels to receive it at Saunder's Foot, at which place a pier is now in progress of erection, and is almost completed, which will afford increased facilities for shipping coal and culm. The adjacent bay of Carmarthen abounds with almost every species of fish, and is frequented by vessels from all the neighbouring and opposite coasts, which frequently put into this harbour, as being the nearest place of safety to the fishing stations. The market days are Wednesday and Saturday, and the fish market, which is plentifully supplied with excellent fish, is opened daily. Fairs are held annually on May 4th, Whit-Tuesday, July 1st, October 2nd, and December 4th: that called St. Margaret's fair may, by charter, continue for three days; but since the establishment of the fair at Narberth, in the reign of Charles II., in consequence of the more central situation of that place, the fairs of this town have been on the decline, and are now but very thinly attended. A new market-place, as noticed above, was constructed in the High-street, at the expense of the corporation, in 1829: it is commodiously arranged, and has a handsome façade, with the arms of the borough sculptured in relief, on a shield of white marble, in the tympanum of the pediment above the entrance.

The inhabitants were first incorporated by William de Valence, with the consent of his consort Johanna, by whose right he had succeeded to the palatinate: this nobleman's charter, ordaining that the burgesses should choose annually from among themselves two portreeves, and that they should have free common over all his lands from mowing and reaping times until the Feast of the Purification, is still extant, and was confirmed and enlarged by his son, Aymer de Valence, and by Laurence de Hastings, successive Earls of Pembroke. Under the charter of these noblemen the government of the borough was vested in two equal provosts. Humphrey Duke of Gloucester and Earl of Pembroke extended the privileges of the burgesses; and all the charters granted by the earls, as well as those granted by the reigning sovereigns, were confirmed by their successors from the time of Edward II. to the reign of Elizabeth. Henry IV., by charter granted in the year 1402, first vested the government in a mayor and two bailiffs, to be elected annually. Elizabeth, in the 23rd of her reign, confirmed all preceding charters, and incorporated the inhabitants under the designation of "the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of the borough of Tenby," granting them power to elect a second justice of the peace from among the aldermen, who, with the mayor, should hold courts of quarter session, with authority to punish for all felonies, trespasses, and misdemeanours, not affecting life or limb. Charles I., by charter, added a third justice of the peace, and two serjeants at mace, one to be nominated by the mayor, and the other by the bailiffs, whom he made keepers of the common gaol and house of correction, and also charged with the execution of all writs. Under these charters the government of the borough is vested in

a mayor (who is also coroner), two bailiffs, two justices, and an indefinite number of common-councilmen and burgesses, assisted by a town-clerk, two serjeants at mace, and other officers. The mayor and bailiffs are annually elected by the existing mayor and the common council, and submitted to the approval of the burgesses in common hall assembled. The justices, who are styled aldermen, and, with the mayor, exercise exclusive magisterial authority within the borough, are elected by the mayor and common-councilmen alone: the common-councilmen are elected by the mayor and a majority of their own body from among the burgesses, and the burgesses are chosen by the mayor and a majority of the common-councilmen. This borough, with Wiston, was, by the 27th of Henry VIII., made contributory to Pembroke, in the return of one parliamentary representative: by the recent act to amend the representation, Milford is added to that district of boroughs, while Tenby retains its ancient right with unaltered limits. The elective franchise has heretofore been vested in the burgesses at large, in number nearly four hundred, of whom about one hundred and thirty are resident; and by such of these latter alone, and of the £10 householders, as are duly registered, will the right of voting now be exercised: the present number of houses within the limits of the borough, of value sufficient to qualify their tenants, is two hundred and twenty-two. Tenby is one of the places at which the poll is appointed to be taken at county elections. The corporation hold quarterly courts of session for the borough, on the Friday after the county sessions are held, in which the mayor and the two justices preside, for the trial of all offenders, of whom the punishment does not affect life or limb; a court of record for the recovery of debts to any amount above the sum of forty shillings, called the monthly court, which is held before the mayor on the first Thursday in every month, and has power to issue process to hold to bail in actions for debt; and a court every fortnight, on Monday, in which the mayor presides, for the recovery of debts under the amount of forty shillings. The jurisdiction of these courts extends over the entire In-Liberty of the parish, constituting the borough, in which neither the county magistrates nor the sheriff have any authority. The borough prison is a neat edifice, consisting of two wards, one called the common gaol, and the other the house of correction, both under the jurisdiction of the bailiffs, and the superintendence of the gaoler, who is appointed by the mayor: it is used only as a place of temporary confinement, prior to the committal of prisoners to the county gaol at Haverfordwest.

The living consists of a consolidated rectory and vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's: the rectory is rated in the king's books at £26. 10. 10., and the vicarage, which is discharged, at £13. 6. 8.: the benefice is in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a venerable and spacious structure, principally in the early style of English architecture, with a square embattled tower surmounted by a lofty spire, one hundred and fifty-two feet in height: being situated in the centre of the town, it forms a prominent feature in the view of it from the sea and the surrounding country. It was erected in the year 1250, by Warren de Mount-



chensy, Earl of Pembroke, after the destruction of the town by the sons of Rhys ab Gruffydd: the body consists of a nave, north and south aisles, and a chancel, and is richer in sepulchral monuments than any church in South Wales, excepting the cathedrals. Of these, the most remarkable are the monuments of John and Thomas White, brothers, and eminent merchants of this place, which are sumptuously embellished and elaborately sculptured: each has the effigy of the deceased, in the costume of the time, and in each also are four compartments, containing those of other members of the family, of whom was Griffith White, mayor of the borough when Henry Earl of Richmond embarked at this port for the continent, and to whom, after his accession to the throne, that monarch, in recompense for his services, granted a lease of all the crown lands in the vicinity of the town. The western entrance to the church is beneath an arch surmounted with the inscription, in characters of the thirteenth or fourteenth century, "*Benedictus Dominus in Domis Suis.*" The ceiling of the nave is of neatly carved wainscot, and that of the chancel is of wainscot much more richly ornamented. According to Mr. Fenton, three chantry priests were appointed to officiate in this church, one at the altar of Jesus, another at that of St. Anne, and a third at the "Rood of Grace;" for these services lands producing at that time £13. 3. per annum, together with thirteen shillings and fourpence for lamps, were settled on the church. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists; and a building on the pier, said to have been dedicated to St. Julian, and used as an oratory, in Roman Catholic times, by seamen, prior to their setting out on a voyage, is occasionally used by the Dissenters as a marine chapel. A Sunday school is supported by subscription; and it is in contemplation to establish a National school, under the patronage of the principal residents, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children.

A hospital in this town, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, was founded at a very early period, but by whom is unknown: about the year 1236, it was endowed by Gilbert Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, with lands for the relief of the lepers therein, and its revenue at the dissolution was valued at £3. 5. Queen Elizabeth, in the 23rd year of her reign, vested them in the corporation, in trust for the benefit of the poor; and in the 43rd of the same reign, by an act of parliament for the better regulation and support of the poor, these estates were transferred from the former trustees to the overseers and churchwardens of the parish of St. Mary, Tenby. The present annual income arising therefrom is about £50 per annum; but, on the expiration of the present leases, which were granted many years ago, the annual income will be much increased. The corporation are trustees for seventeen twenty-seventh parts of a farm bequeathed to the poor of this parish, by Mrs. Bowen, the rents of which she appropriated for distribution, in equal shares, among three aged and decayed housekeepers of this parish, each of whom now receives £5. 13. 4. per annum: this farm was let about sixty years ago, upon a lease for lives, on the falling in of which the property will be greatly increased in value. Two marks, or £1. 6. 8. per annum, are paid to the poor by the proprietor of the estate of St.

Botolph's, in the parish of Steynton; being a bequest made about the year 1633, by Richard Budd, in consideration of his having been saved from shipwreck by taking refuge within Tenby pier. William Risam, in 1633, bequeathed the sums of £50 and £200, to be lent without interest to young tradesmen, which are now lost, having been improvidently lent. Anne Lloyd, in 1619, bequeathed £40, and Thomas Barret, in 1623, left £10, to the poor. Dr. John Jones left in trust to his brother, the Rev. William Jones, certain property, to be applied to such charitable uses as he might think proper; and, in 1703, the latter gentleman appropriated £413, to be vested in the purchase of land, now producing £63. 1. per annum, for apprenticing poor children, and towards the maintenance of such poor persons as cannot support their families by their own labour. Elizabeth Pict, in 1639, bequeathed £10; Thomas Wyat, in 1657, bequeathed £60; and Richard Gethin and nine other benefactors left various small sums, now producing together £6. 12. per annum, to the poor of this parish.

The remains of the ancient castle are very considerable, though mostly in a dilapidated condition: this fortress formerly comprised within its defences the whole of the little rocky peninsula which, projecting eastward from the eastern extremity of the town, forms the southern limit of the small bay of Tenby. The only portions now sufficiently entire to convey any idea of its original strength and importance are, a bastion and a square tower, which are in tolerable preservation, some portions of the walls, and the principal gateway entrance. The state apartments may still be traced among the ruins, and they exhibit the appearance of a splendid baronial residence, rather than the features of a military fortress. On the north of the grand entrance are the ruins of a once stately hall, one hundred feet in length, and twenty feet wide; and near the gateway are the remains of another apartment, eighty feet long and thirty feet wide: attached to this are smaller rooms, which appear to have been offices and barracks for the garrison: a portion of the keep still remains, occupying the most elevated part of the castle hill, and has an appearance of great antiquity. The ancient walls by which the town was surrounded are still in some places entire: the path along their summit, from the northern extremity of the fortifications to the south gate, may be traced; and the pointed arches by which the platform for manning the battlements was supported are still discernible: there yet remain two of the towers by which they were defended, the battlements of which are supported by corbels; and likewise the south gate, surmounted by a low semi-circular bastion of great strength: besides these, some other towers of smaller dimensions, chiefly circular, and a square turret near the eastern extremity, are in tolerable preservation. Several of these towers are richly mantled with ivy, and the whole convey an imposing idea of the ancient strength and importance of this fortress. Numerous specimens of ancient domestic architecture, formerly existing in the town, have been removed within the last few years, for the purpose of widening the streets, and otherwise improving the town; but there are sufficient remaining to give some idea of the style of architecture prevailing in it during its occupation by the Flemings. Several beau-



tiful engravings of remains of ancient military and domestic architecture, now entirely destroyed, are preserved in the "Etchings of Tenby," by C. Norris, Esq., published in 1812. Among the ecclesiastical establishments formerly existing at this place were, an hospital or free chapel, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, founded by William de Valence, which, at the dissolution, had an endowment of £9. 3. 2. for an officiating priest; and a convent founded by John de Swinemor, in 1399, for Carmelite friars, and dedicated to St. Mary. Near the coast to the east of the town are several gentlemen's seats, some of them of very ancient date: among these are, Cilgetty, the residence of the ancient family of Canon; Hên Castle, the seat of Thomas Stokes, Esq.; Merrixtion, belonging to Charles Swan, Esq.; and Bonville Court, the seat of the family of Bonville. To seaward are some insulated rocks of romantic appearance, in which some curious natural caverns have been excavated by the action of the winds and tides: some of these are accessible on foot at low water, and one, off the castle point, called St. Catherine's island, has been completely perforated by the action of the waves, and presents a curious and interesting appearance; and about two miles from the main land is Caldey island, which is described under its own head. Robert Loughor, L.L.D., distinguished by his literary attainments, and by the offices which he filled in the university of Oxford, was a native of this town, in which he died in 1585. Robert Record, M. D., also a native of Tenby, is mentioned by George Owen as having been greatly renowned for his works on cosmography, arithmetic, and geometry: he died in the reign of Queen Mary. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor in the entire parish amounts to £212. 18., of which sum, £193. 8. is assessed on the In-Liberty, and £19. 10. on the Out-Liberty.

THOMAS' (ST.), a hamlet forming that part of the parish of SWANSEA which is in the hundred of LLANGYVELACH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile (E.) from Swansea, containing 438 inhabitants. This place, which within the last few years has greatly increased in population and importance, is situated on the left bank, and near the mouth, of the river Tawy, across which there is a ferry to the town of Swansea, on the opposite bank. During the whole of the interval from two hours before till two hours after the time of low water the river is fordable. Within the last few years considerable alterations have been made at this place, under the provisions of an act of parliament for improving the harbour of Swansea. Of these the principal are, the construction of the eastern pier, extending six hundred yards across the mouth of the Tawy, and enclosing a capacious basin, which at high water has a noble appearance; and the formation of Port Tennant, the private property of H. T. Tennant, Esq., by whom it was projected, and at whose sole expense it was completed: it consists of a dock capable of receiving vessels of two hundred tons' burden, communicating with the Swansea and Neath Junction canal, formed by the same gentleman, which extends hence to the village of Cadoxton, about a mile above Neath, where it joins the Neath canal, thus opening a communication between Port Tennant and an extensive district abounding with coal and culm, which are brought down the canal and here shipped. This hamlet

includes a portion of the Cremlyn Burrows, an extensive marsh stretching along the coast, and bounded on the south by Swansea bay. It formerly contained a chapel of ease to the mother church of St. Mary in Swansea, but, from the encroachment of the sea on this part of the coast, the site cannot now be distinguished. Dan y graig, the seat of Colonel Cameron, is pleasantly situated within its limits; and it is included within the electoral limits of the borough of Swansea, as extended by the recent act to amend the representation. The average annual expenditure for the relief of the poor amounts to £43. 6.

THOMAS' (ST.), a hamlet in that part of the parish of ST. THOMAS HAVERFORDWEST which is in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (S. W.) from Haverfordwest, containing 109 inhabitants. The road to Herbrandston passes through it; and on the west it is bounded by a stream that flows into the Western Cleddy river.

THREAP-WOOD, an extra-parochial district, said to be partly included in the hundred of BROXTON, county of CHESTER, but chiefly in that of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (W. S. W.) from Malpas, containing 477 inhabitants. It is surrounded by the parishes of Malpas, Hanmer, and Worthenbury, and, until of late years, formed a tract of waste common, which, on account of its extra-parochial exemption from all local jurisdiction, was long the resort of abandoned characters of every description, and especially of women of loose or blemished morals, who made a transient abode here, to be freed clandestinely from the consequences of illicit amours. For the purposes of the militia act it was annexed to Worthenbury, and by the mutiny act was connected with Malpas; but the inhabitants, considering themselves beyond the reach of all legal authority, opposed, even with force, the execution of the assize and other laws within their precinct. Some years ago, however, a chapel was erected here, which being endowed, in 1817, with £1800 parliamentary grant, the living is now a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Chester, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Chester.

TÎR-ESGOB (TÎR YR ESGOB), a joint hamlet with Rhôs-maen, in that part of the parish of LLANDILO-VAWR which is in the lower division of the hundred of PERVETH, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (N. by E.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing, with Rhôs-maen, 636 inhabitants, the population having increased about one-fourth since the census of 1821. It is situated on the right bank of the river Towy, and the road from Llandilo-Vawr to Llangadock passes through it, in a direction parallel with that river. A separate assessment is made for the support of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £244. 15.

TÎR-IVAN (TÎR-IEUAN), a township in that part of the parish of YSPITTY-IVAN which is in the hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (S. S. W.) from Pentre Voelas, containing 279 inhabitants. It is situated near the source of the river Conway, on the borders of Carnarvonshire and Merionethshire, where the mountains form elevated and extensive wastes, from which descend numerous streams. The name signifies the ground or territory of Ieuan, and is derived from the circumstance of the knights of



St. John of Jerusalem having anciently had a *Hospitium* here. It maintains its own poor conjointly with the township of Trèbrys, the average annual expenditure amounting to £155. 12.

**TÍRMYNCH (TÍR Y MYNEICH)**, a township in the parish of LLANVIHANGEL-GENEU 'R GLYN, upper division of the hundred of GENEU 'R GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, containing 171 inhabitants, who are exclusively employed in agriculture. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £51. 17.

**TÍR-ROSSER (TÍR RHÔS HÎR)**, a joint hamlet with Blaenau, in the parish of LLANDEBIE, hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish. The name signifies "the long marshy ground," and is descriptive of the situation of this hamlet among the streams which unite to form the Loughor river.

**TÍRYMYNACH (TÍR Y MYNEICH)**, a township in the parish of GUILSFIELD, hundred of POOL, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (E.) from Welshpool. The population is included in the return for the parish. The name signifies "the Monks' Ground," and is derived from the circumstance of the township having at one time formed a part of the possessions of the abbey of Strata Marcella, in the neighbouring parish of Welshpool; a portion of it, amounting to about five hundred acres, is at the present period tithe-free. The surrounding country is well cultivated and productive.

**TÍR YR BRENKEN (TÍR Y BRENIN)**, a joint hamlet with Briskedwin, in the parish of LLANDEILO, hundred of SWANSEA, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N. N. W.) from Swansea, containing, with Briskedwin, 460 inhabitants. The road from Swansea to Carmarthen passes through this hamlet, in which there are a few respectable residences.

**TOWYN (TYWYN - MEIRIONYDD)**, a market town and parish in the hundred of ESTIMANER, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 16 miles (S. W.) from Dôlgeley, and 221 (W. N. W.) from London, containing 2694 inhabitants. The parish, which comprises a wide tract of about thirty thousand acres, is bounded on the north by the river Dysynni, on the south by the Dovey, on the west by Cardigan bay, and on the east by the parishes of Talyllyn and Pennal. The town is beautifully situated at the distance of about a mile from the sea-coast, near the mouth of the river Dysynni, in a small and pleasant vale, watered by that stream, and on the verge of a tract which once formed a very extensive morass, but which has lately been secured by an embankment from the inundation of the tide. The surrounding scenery, which is strikingly diversified, combines features of romantic grandeur with picturesque beauty: the town is sheltered in the rear by a distant chain of lofty mountains, among which the summits of Cader Idris appear with majestic grandeur; and in front it commands a fine expansive view over the bay of Cardigan. The houses, which are of respectable appearance, are built principally of the coarse grey stone which is found in the neighbourhood; and the general appearance of the place is neat and prepossessing. The fine beach in front of the town, being remarkably convenient for sea-bathing, has made it the resort during the summer of numerous visitors, chiefly from Llan-

idloes, Newtown, Montgomery, &c. Valetudinarians are also attracted hither by a well, called St. Cadvan's, situated in a field below the church, and much celebrated for the cure of rheumatic, scrofulous, and cutaneous disorders. Formerly it was quite open, but for the better accommodation of the public it has been enclosed, and formed into two baths, each about six feet square, with four dressing-rooms attached: the whole is under the care of a person appointed for the purpose. Several improvements have taken place in the town within the last few years; some new houses have been erected, and a new line of road has been constructed, forming an easier approach: it is in contemplation also to form a road from this place to Barmouth, which would be productive of great advantage to the town. The sands are firm and smooth, and the ride or drive over them to Aberdovey, a rising place about four miles distant, especially at low water, is very pleasant. A beautiful line of road to that interesting village has been constructed under the auspices of Athelstan Corbet, Esq., whose seat is near the town, and is continued from that place to Pennal, affording an extensive ride through a tract of country abounding with picturesque and beautiful scenery, and commanding views of Snowdon, Aran Mowddwy, Cader Idris, and Plinlimmon. Races are held on the marsh below the town, near the mouth of the river Dysynni, on the 6th and 7th of September, and are in general well attended by the gentry of the neighbourhood, and by visitors at the watering-places on this part of the coast. The parish extends eight or nine miles in length, and from five to six in breadth, including, besides the vale of Dysynni, a large tract of land on the banks of the river Dovey, and reaching to within a very short distance of the church of Pennal. The surface is greatly diversified, and the high grounds above Talgarth, Penmaen Dovey, and the town, command fine views of the vales of Dovey, Pennal, and Dysynni, with the surrounding hills and Cardigan bay: the soil is various. Some copper and lead mines, within its limits, have been let by their proprietor, Mr. Corbet, to a company in London, but they are not at present worked. There are slate quarries near the port of Aberdovey, which is described under its appropriate head, and where it is in contemplation to build a chapel of ease, as that place is four miles distant from the parish church. Towyn is one of the places at which the poll is appointed to be taken in the election of the parliamentary representative of the county. Webs and flannels are manufactured in various parts of the parish, affording employment to a portion of the inhabitants. The market is on Friday; and fairs are held annually on March 16th, May 14th, September 17th, and November 18th.

The living consists of a rectory and a vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor: the rectory, which is an impropriation annexed to the bishoprick of Lichfield and Coventry, by a forced exchange in the reign of Edward VI., is rated in the king's books at £60. 13. 4.; the vicarage, which is discharged, is rated at £6. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Cadvan, a native of Armorica, who came to Britain, with other religious missionaries, about the commencement of the sixth century, and is said to have been afterwards abbot of Bardsey, is a spacious and ancient



cruciform structure, in the Norman style of architecture : it contains some very old monuments, and on the north side of the chancel, under arched canopies, are the effigies of two persons, of whom one, wrapped in a winding sheet, is supposed to be St. Cadvan, and the other, in armour, is said to be that of Gruffydd ab Adda, of Dôlgoch, in this parish. There is also a stone, seven feet and a half long, having sculptured upon it a cross and an inscription on each side, in very ancient characters, and so mutilated as to be illegible : it is called St. Cadvan's Stone, and formerly stood erect against a tomb in the churchyard, said to cover the remains of that saint. In the cemetery was also another upright stone rudely carved, which commemorated some warrior. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Lady Mayor, in 1717, gave £400 three and a half per cent. consols., for the foundation and endowment of a school, which was further endowed, in the same year, by Athelstan Owen, Esq., with £4 per annum : in this school twenty-one children are at present gratuitously instructed. A Sunday school belonging to the church is supported by subscription, and affords instruction to two hundred children ; and there are also Sunday schools in connexion with the several dissenting congregations. Almshouses for five poor widows were founded and endowed with lands now producing £20 per annum, by Mrs. Anne Owen. An ancestor of the Vaughans, of Penmaen Dovey, bequeathed £25 per annum, issuing from a farm and lands in this parish, called Bwlch Llanerchydol and Abergroes, to the resident poor in the immediate vicinity of Penmaen Dovey, the proprietor of which estate was appointed trustee by John Vaughan, Esq., who proved the will of the testator in 1692.

On the contracted summit of an immense rock, rising to a considerable elevation from the vale in which the town is situated, are some remains of an ancient castle of great strength, the fortifications of which comprehended the entire summit of the eminence : one of the apartments, thirty-six feet in diameter, was hewn out of the solid rock. This fortification, which is called Tebeni, Mr. Pennant conjectures to have been the strong castle of Bere, fortified by Davydd ab Gruffydd, which was taken, in 1283, by William de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, a short time prior to the entire subjugation of the principality by Edward I., by which monarch it was committed to the custody of Robert Fitz-Walter, who at the same time obtained the privilege of hunting in the circumjacent country. The Roman road from Cevn Caer, a Roman station in the parish of Pennal, to the village of Carreg, on the opposite bank of the river Dovey, passes through this parish, near Talgarth. Near this place a battle was fought between the Welsh partisans of the house of Lancaster, under the command of Thomas ab Gruffydd ab Nicholas, of Dynevor, and those of the house of York, under Henry ab Gwilym, of Court Henry, one of the Earl of Pembroke's captains, in which the former gained a decisive victory. Here also the same Thomas ab Gruffydd encountered in single combat David Gough, a near kinsman of Matthew Gough, a celebrated warrior in the reigns of Henry V. and VI., whom he slew. A tumulus in the grounds of Talgarth is said to have been raised over the body of Thomas ab Gruffydd, and some of his followers, who were murdered while asleep

on the spot, by a party of the adherents of the vanquished. At a small distance from the town is Ynys-ymaengwyn, the seat of A. Corbet, Esq., a noble mansion pleasantly situated in grounds tastefully laid out, comprehending much beautiful scenery, and embellished with flourishing plantations and timber of ancient growth, among which is an evergreen oak, considered to be the finest tree of its kind in the kingdom. The gardens rank among the first in the principality, being very extensive, and containing numerous very curious rare trees and plants. This ancient seat, during the parliamentary war, was burnt to the ground, to prevent its affording any shelter to the parliament's forces ; and on a farm in the immediate vicinity, called Bryn Castell, there is a circular mound of earth, near which, a few years since, the half of a cannon ball, weighing seven lb., was found : this is now in the possession of Mr. Corbet. At Dôlgoch there is a small but very picturesque waterfall. Craig y Deryn, or "the Rock of Birds," about four miles from Towyn, up the vale of Dysynni, derives its name from the number of birds which shelter in its crevices during the night : the scenery around it is extremely wild and romantic, and the discordant clamour which announces their retreat to this sequestered spot adds greatly to the effect of the scene. Its summit was once occupied by an ancient fortress or strong hold, of which there are some vestiges ; and several others of the same kind, occupying similar situations, are found near this part of the coast. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £1466. 9.

TRAIAN-GLÂS, a hamlet in the parish of LLYWEL, hundred of DEVYNOK, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (W. N. W.) from Brecknock, containing 703 inhabitants. On the west it is bounded by the Black Mountains on the border of Carmarthenshire, across which the road from Llandovery to Trêcastle passes, and thence descends into a rich vale near the head of the river Usk, which rises not far distant, and flows through the hamlet. There are some agreeable residences in the vale. A separate assessment is made for the maintenance of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £359. 3.

TRAIAN-MAWR, a hamlet in the parish of LLYWEL, hundred of DEVYNOK, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 14 miles (N. W. by W.) from Brecknock, containing 634 inhabitants. A separate assessment is made for the maintenance of its poor, the average annual expenditure being £210. 17.

TRALLONG (TRALLWNG), a parish in the hundred of MERTHYR-CYNOG, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 5½ miles (W. by N.) from Brecknock, containing 314 inhabitants. This parish is bounded on the south by the river Usk, and on the east by the small river Brân, which separates it from the adjacent parish of Aberyscir, and is also watered by the little river Cilieni. It is said, at an early period, to have been entirely covered with woods, which were frequented by wild boars. The surface is undulating, and in some parts hilly, and the soil, especially in the lower grounds, is fertile and productive : by far the greater portion of the lands is enclosed and cultivated. The great road from London through Brecknock to Milford passes within half a mile to the south of the parish. Trallong constitutes a prebend in the collegiate church of Breck-



nock, rated in the king's books at £7. 0. 7., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the lessee of the great tithes under the prebendary: the lease of these tithes is renewable on every expiring life, by payment of a fine of £100. The church, dedicated to St. David, is a plain ancient edifice. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. The Rev. Mr. Williams, of Abercamlais, allows £5, and Penry Williams, Esq., of Penpont, £6, per annum towards the salary of a master, for instructing the children of their labourers; and a room under the belfry of the church is appropriated to the use of the school. On a hill at the eastern extremity of the parish are the remains of a British fortification, called Twyn y gaer, overlooking the river Usk, on the other side of which is another of the same name, crowning the summit of a hill in the parish of Llanspythid, directly opposite to the former, from which it is about a mile and a half distant. The celebrated Owain Iolo Goch is said to have been buried in a field in this parish, which still retains his name. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £208. 4.

TRANE, a hamlet in the parish of LLANTRISSENT, hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish.

TRAWSCOED, a township in the parish of CARNO, lower division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish. The name of this place implies that it was formerly well wooded, but the mountains now afford only herbage for sheep, and the valleys are chiefly under tillage.

TRAWSCOED, a township in the parish of LLANYRE, hundred of RHAADR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N.) from Builth. The population is included in the return for the parish. It takes its name, which signifies "the cross wood," from having formerly abounded with timber, and is situated between the rivers Wye and Ithon, near where the latter flows into the former. These rivers are crossed by two bridges, that over the Ithon being on the line of road between Builth and Rhaiadr, which passes through the township along the banks of the Wye, and is remarkable for its picturesque views.

TRAWSVYNYDD (TRAWS-VYNYDD), a parish in the hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, 12 miles (N. by W.) from Dôlgelley, containing 1450 inhabitants. This parish, the village of which is situated on an eminence in an exposed and open mountainous district, on the turnpike road from Tan y bwch to Dôlgelley, is more than ten miles in length and eight in breadth, and more than one-half, consisting of barren hills, is uncultivated, affording only scanty pasturage for sheep and young cattle. The surrounding country is strikingly varied, presenting in some parts the dreary wildness of rugged mountain scenery, in others the softer features of rural beauty, combined with objects of picturesque and romantic grandeur. The lake called Llŷn Rathlyn is a fine sheet of water, noted for a peculiar species of perch, having the lower extremity of the back bone strangely distorted:

the interesting waterfalls of Pistyll Cain and Pistyll Mawddach, in this parish, have been described in the article on DÔLGELLEY. Fairs, which are in general well attended, are held here on April 23rd and September 29th, for horses, cattle, and pedlery; and at Penystyrd, in this parish, others are held on August 17th and September 21st. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £8. 12. 1., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Madryn, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, with Sunday schools attached to each. David Lloyd, in 1686, bequeathed £20 to the poor; Robert Roberts, in 1756, gave £12 to be distributed in bread; and Mrs. Jones, near Corwen, and her daughter-in-law, bequeathed £180, directing that the interest should be appropriated to the annual distribution of £4, in sums of five shillings each, to sixteen poor women, and the remaining £4. 10. to the apprenticing of a poor boy once in two years. There are some remains of an ancient fortress called Castell Prysor, the name of which implies its hasty erection: it is of small extent, and occupied a situation in a pass between the hills on the left of the road from Trawsvynydd to Bala. The origin of this fortress, which is built of stone without any cement, is not precisely known; but, from the discovery of several urns and coins near the site, it is supposed to have been either built or occupied by the Romans; and part of a Roman road, now called "the Sarn Helen," which is still visible at no great distance, in some degree corroborates this opinion. On a farm in this parish, called Llêch Idris, is Bedd Porus, or "the grave of Porus," over which is a flat stone with the inscription "*Porus hic in tumulo jacit, homo — pianus fuit.*" The word *pianus* has been thought to have been originally *Christianus*; but although the letter *p* has by some been considered an *r*, it does not appear ever to have been read *t*, and the interval between it and *homo* is insufficient for the five preceding letters. Near this spot is an upright stone, called Llêch Idris, from which the farm takes its name, and concerning which there is a legend stating it to have derived that appellation from a giant named Idris; but it appears to be simply one of those monumental stones so frequently found in this country. Near the Sarn Helen are several tumuli, in one of which were found five urns, and several fragments of bricks, which had been placed round them to protect them from injury: there is also a tumulus on a farm called Gwŷnionydd. Humphrey Lloyd, Bishop of Bangor, was born at Bôdyvudda, in this parish, about the year 1600; and Sion and Rhŷs Cain, both eminent bards, were also natives of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £552.

TRÊBRY (TRÊV-BRYS), a township in that part of the parish of YSPYTTY IVAN which is in the hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, containing 174 inhabitants. This township, which is sometimes called Prees Uchâ, lies near the head of the river Clettwr, on the border of Merionethshire, in a mountainous district, and on the road from Corwen to Llanrwst. It supports its poor in conjunction with Tŷr Ivan, the average annual expenditure of both amounting to £155. 12.



**TRÊ-CASTELL**, a joint hamlet with Llanlluan, in the parish of LLANARTHNEY, hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (E.) from Carmarthen. The population is included in the return for the parish. It is situated on the left bank of the river Towy, and the road from Llandilo-Vawr to Carmarthen passes through it. At Capel Dewi there was anciently a chapel.

**TRÊCASTLE**, a detached ward of the borough of BRECKNOCK, locally in the parish of Llywel, hundred of DEVYNOK, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 11 miles (W. by N.) from Brecknock. The population is included in the return for the parish. This place derives its name from an ancient castle, which is said to have formerly existed here; but by whom it was erected, or at what time, cannot be clearly ascertained, neither are there at present any vestiges of it, except an artificial mound or tumulus on the northern side of the turnpike road, which is supposed to have been its site. Its origin is involved in great obscurity, nor has it been satisfactorily shewn by what means it became a part of the borough of Brecknock: it is conjectured that, having formed part of the possessions of Idio Wyllt, son-in-law of Bleddyn ab Maenarch, it fell, with the other territories belonging to that family, to Bernard Newmarch, and thus becoming connected with the town of Brecknock, the head of that baron's possessions, it continued to form part of the great lordship of Brecknock, from which it was not even separated when, in the reign of Henry VIII., Brecknock first became shire ground. The present small village of Trêcastle seems to have formed the old town of Lluel or Llywel, under which name it is frequently mentioned in the charter of Brecknock. It is situated on the northern bank of the Usk, on the high road from Brecknock to Llandovery and Milford, and consists of a cluster of several houses, among which is a good inn and posting-house, from which it derives all the little importance it possesses. The principal proprietor has a design to establish a market here, by which it may probably be increased. As forming part of the borough of Brecknock, this place is subject to the jurisdiction of the corporation of that town: the boundary of the ward includes little more than the site of the village, and even excludes a few small houses forming its north-western extremity. Fairs are held on January 17th, April 5th, May 21st, August 14th, November 13th, and December 14th.

**TRÊ-CASTLE**, a hamlet in that part of the parish of LLANDILO-VAWR which is in the hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S. E.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 377 inhabitants. In this hamlet, about two miles and a half to the east of the turnpike road from Llandilo-Vawr to Swansea, stand the picturesque and romantic remains of Carreg Cennen castle, on a perpendicular isolated rock, rising nearly three hundred feet above the river Cennen, which flows at its base. The whole summit is covered by the buildings, which occupy about an acre, and can only be approached on one side, and with some difficulty. The principal entrance is at the north-east angle, where there is an octagonal tower, which is protected by two square towers on the same side, and at the north-west angle there is a round tower. In the interior is a quadrilateral court, measuring thirty yards by twenty-five.

The east end still exhibits the ruins of several apartments, while the south side seems to have been occupied by the offices. But the most singular portion is the well, which is supposed to have supplied the garrison with water: the entrance to it is under a narrow arched way at the northern edge of the cliff, which leads to a gradually descending passage of unequal height and breadth, lighted at intervals by apertures cut outward through the rock: at the distance of about fifty yards is the well, consisting of a basin excavated in the rock, into which the water drips, but it is not capable of containing more than a few gallons. The situation of this castle is peculiarly interesting: though surrounded by lofty hills, the views from it, especially on the right, where the vale of the Towy presents itself, in front that of Llangendeirn, and on the left the vale of Llandeibie, with a part of that of Loughor, are rich and varied. The castle is said to have been erected by Urien, lord of Iscennen, a knight of King Arthur's round table: the chief circumstance in its authentic history is its capture from the English by Rhys Vychan, whose mother had delivered it to them out of dislike to him. Some coins of the Emperor Domitian were found here a few years ago, and an ancient British celt was discovered in the immediate vicinity. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £72. 18.

**TRÊ-CEVEL (TRÊV-GEVAIL)**, a township in the parish of TRÊGARON, lower division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile (S. W.) from Trêgaron, containing 125 inhabitants, who are wholly employed in agriculture. It is situated on the road to Lampeter, which passes along the right bank of the Teivy, over which there is a bridge at this place.

**TRECH-GWINNON**, a joint hamlet with Mlawst, in the parish of LLANARTHNEY, hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES. The population is included in the return made for the whole parish. It is situated near the head of the Gwendraeth Vâch river.

**TRÊ-CLÂS**, a joint hamlet with Myddvay, in the parish of LLANARTHNEY, hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles (E.) from Carmarthen. The population is included in the return for the whole parish. This hamlet is situated on the left bank of the Towy, and contains the parochial church, which stands within a short distance of that river, the views of which from this place are extremely beautiful and picturesque.

**TREDDERWEN-VAWR (TREDDERWEN-VÔR)**, a township in that part of the parish of LLANSANTFRAID YN MECHAN which is in the upper division of the hundred of DEYTHUR, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 9 miles (N. N. E.) from Welshpool, containing 153 inhabitants.

**TREFGARN (GREAT)**, a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (N.) from Haverfordwest, containing 112 inhabitants. It is intersected from north to south by the Western Cleddy river, up the valley of which passes the turnpike road from Haverfordwest to Fishguard. The north-western part of it is composed chiefly of the Trefgarn and Leweston mountains, which form an elevated, heathy, and barren tract, unfit for cultivation. The most remarkable natural feature of its surface is that



from which it derives its name, signifying "the town of the rock," and which consists of two rocks of striking aspect, rising abruptly to a considerable height above the moor, and presenting the appearance of ruined castles, an idea which seems confirmed to the eye by their being situated so as to command the narrow pass of the mountain through which the Western Cleddy here flows, and which, on the opposite eastern side, presents a fine grove feathering down to the water's edge. The portion of the parish lying to the east of the Cleddy is called Little Trefgarn. Trefgarn Hall, situated a little to the west of the village, is a modern seat, erected in 1824, by the present proprietor, Dr. Evans, and commands a fine and extensive view over the district of Rhôs. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £1. 13. 9., and in the patronage of Dr. Evans, who is proprietor of the whole parish. Some old encampments were formerly traceable here, but their defences have been levelled. The average annual expenditure for the relief of the poor amounts to £35. 10.

TRÊGARON (CARON, or TRÊV-GARON), a market-town and parish (formerly a borough), partly in the hundred of LLAR, but chiefly in the lower and upper divisions of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 39 miles (E. by N.) from Cardigan, and 202 (W. by N.) from London, comprising the chapelry of Caron-Uwch-Clawdd, or Strata Florida, and containing 2282 inhabitants. This place is said to derive its name from being the burial-place of Caron, a Welsh king, who, from a low situation in life, raised himself, by his bravery and generous deportment, to the sovereignty, which he held for seven years: after his death, in the year 219, he was canonized, and became the tutelar saint of the church. The town, which is small and indifferently built, presenting only the appearance of a village, is situated on the high road from Lampeter to Rhaiadr, at the south-eastern extremity of the parish, and on the small river Berwyn, within a short distance of its conflux with the Teivy, which runs about half a mile to the west: a new bridge of stone is in progress of erection over the former, at an estimated expense of £120, to be defrayed partly by subscription, and partly from the county rate. In the vicinity are two small lakes, one called Berwyn, about a mile and a half in circumference, which contains abundance of trout, and the other called Maes Llyn, "the Lake of the Field," where tradition reports the town to have once stood: the latter is situated about two miles to the east, is one mile in circumference, and produces trout and eels. Silver and lead ore are stated to exist in small quantities in Cwm y Graig Gôch, but the mines have not been worked for many years. The market is on Tuesday, for the sale of provisions, stockings, flannel, &c.; and one annual fair is held on March 15th, 16th, and 17th, and another on the first Tuesday in May, chiefly for the sale of pedlery, home-spun cloth, hose, horses, pigs, &c. Trêgaron was formerly incorporated, and its burgesses, in common with those of Aberystwith, Atpar, and Lampeter, had the privilege of voting in the election of a parliamentary representative for the county town; but, in consequence of some acts of corruption at an election, it was deprived of that right by a committee of the House of Commons, on the 7th of May, 1730; and the only elec-

toral right now exercised by the inhabitants is that of the freeholders in the election of a county member, for which this town, by the recent act to amend the representation, is constituted a polling-place. It is under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates. A court leet is held twice a year by the lord of the manor, W. E. Powell, Esq.

The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's: the prebend of Trêgaron, an impropriation formerly attached to the college of Llandewy-Brevi, is rated at £13. 6. 8. The church, dedicated to St. Caron, is a neat structure, agreeably situated on a rocky elevation in the middle of the town, and consists of a nave, chancel, and an embattled tower sixty feet in height, in the later style of English architecture: the churchyard contains four ancient monumental stones, supposed to have been set up in the sixth century, two of which have inscriptions. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. At the distance of three miles northward from the town there is a large encampment, called Castell Flemys, forming the greater segment of a circle, and defended on three sides by an impassable morass, supposed to have been constructed by a body of the Flemish invaders of South Wales; and there is another, called Castell Sunnyhill, from its proximity to a farm of that name. In this parish also are several sepulchral heaps of stones, denominated *carneddau*; a curious bank of earth, extending several miles in length, called *Cwys Ychain Banawg*, or "the furrow of the Bannog oxen," supposed by Dr. Meyrick to be the remains of an ancient British road; and an artificial mound, encompassed by a moat, called *Tommen Llanio*, but by whom or for what purpose erected is uncertain. Thomas Jones, a Welsh antiquary and poet, who flourished about the commencement of the seventeenth century, was born at a house called *Porth Fynnon*, a little to the east of Trêgaron: in addition to his literary reputation, he enjoyed, according to tradition, a less enviable distinction, from his practice of plundering his neighbours, being represented, under the name of *Twm Sion Catti*, as an expert and dexterous robber: he acquired a considerable fortune by marrying the heiress of *Ystrad-fin* by an ingenious stratagem, and was subsequently appointed sheriff of the county. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £235. 19.

TRÊGAYAN (TRÊV GIÂN, or TRÊV GAIAN), a parish partly in the hundred of MENAI, partly in that of TYNDAETHWY, and partly in that of MALLTRAETH, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N. N. W.) from Llangevni, containing 179 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Caian, is situated nearly in the centre of the island, and upon the turnpike road from Beaumaris to Llanerchymedd. It comprises a considerable tract of arable and pasture land, which is, with the exception of a small portion, enclosed and in a good state of cultivation. The surface is boldly undulated, rising in some parts into abrupt eminences, and has a greater proportion of woodland than is generally found in this part of the principality. Trêgayan Hall, the seat of Rear-Admiral Lloyd, is a handsome mansion, pleasantly seated in the centre of some flourishing plantations, and



forming a prominent object in the scenery of the place. The living is annexed to the rectory of Llangenni, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church is a small but well built edifice, having a fine south door and a handsome east window. The parish register contains an entry recording the death of William ab Howel, in the year 1587, at the advanced age of one hundred and five years: he is said to have been the father of forty-two children, of whom the eldest, at the time of his decease, was eighty-nine, and the youngest eight, years of age. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £75. 11.

TREGIB (TRE-GIB), a hamlet in that part of the parish of LLANDILO-VAWR which is in the upper division of the hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (S. E.) from Llandilo-Vawr, containing 372 inhabitants. The river Towy runs on the northern side of this hamlet, where it receives the small tributary stream called the Cennen: the road from Llandilo-Vawr to Swansea passes through it, and it is also crossed by an ancient Roman road. It is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £100. 9.

TRÊGOED, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES.—See VELINDRE.

TRÊGORN (TRÊ GÂR), a joint hamlet with Kilay, in the parish of LLANDAROG, upper division of the hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (E. by S.) from Carmarthen. The population is included in the return for the parish.

TRÊGYNON (TRÊV-GYNON), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of NEWTOWN, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. by W.) from Newtown, containing 740 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the left of the turnpike road from Newtown to Llanvair, comprises about five thousand acres of arable and pasture land, which is principally in old enclosures, and about thirteen hundred acres of other land, of which the greater part has been allotted, and about five hundred acres enclosed, under an act of parliament obtained in 1794; the remainder being incapable of cultivation, and affording only pastureage for sheep and young cattle. The soil in the lower grounds is rich; and there are some good turbaries in various parts of the parish, affording fuel to the inhabitants. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and enriched with wood; and the views from the higher grounds embrace a well-cultivated tract of country. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £200 private benefaction, £400 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Charles Hanbury Tracey, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Cynon, is an ancient edifice, in the early style of English architecture, and contains some neat monuments, among which is one of white marble to the memory of the late benevolent Arthur Blayney, Esq., at whose expense the church was new pewed and embellished. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, to each of which is attached a Sunday school, supported by subscription. Four poor persons are nominated from this parish as inmates of the almshouses founded, in 1709, by Arthur Weaver, Esq., in the parish of Bettws. Andrew Blayney, and Joyous

Blayney, in 1774, bequeathed money secured on the turnpike trust, producing £1. 10. per annum, which is annually distributed among the poor. The Roman *Via Devana* passed across this parish, and some remains of it were here visible until of late years. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £317. 5.

TRELÊCH-AR-BETTWS (TRÊV-LLECH-A'R-BETTWS), a parish in the higher division of the hundred of ELVET, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (N. W. by W.) from Carmarthen, containing 1565 inhabitants. This parish comprises a large extent of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed; and a very extensive tract of uncultivated land, consisting chiefly of heath and turbaries, from which latter the inhabitants principally obtain their fuel, and which also afford a supply to the neighbouring parishes. The surface is uneven, and in some parts hilly. The petty sessions for the hundred are held here every month. It formerly constituted a prebend in the college of Llandewy-Brevi, rated in the king's books at £16, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of Carmarthen, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6. 13. 4., endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £1200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Teilo, and situated within two miles of the turnpike road from Carmarthen to Cardigan, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. Capel Bettws is a chapel of ease to the mother church of this parish. There are two places of worship each for Independents and Methodists, and one for Baptists. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children was founded in 1804, by Mr. William Davies, formerly of Plâs y parke, in this parish, and afterwards citizen of London, who endowed it with £4563. 15. 5., in the three per cent. consols., directing the dividends to be appropriated to the education, clothing, and apprenticing of children of this parish. Mrs. Elizabeth Lewis, of Blaendewi, in this parish, also bequeathed £100 in money, of the interest of which sum she directed £1 per annum to be paid to the support of a meeting-house in the parish, and the remainder to be distributed among the poor. In this parish there is a remarkable barrow, called Cryg y deirn, or the "King's Barrow," about sixty paces in circumference at the base, and rising with a gradual slope to the height of six yards: on the summit is a cavity, in the centre of which there is a large stone of elliptical shape, three yards in length, five feet broad in the widest part, and about ten or twelve inches in thickness. On searching underneath it was found to cover a kistvaen, about four feet and a half in length, and three feet broad, within and around which were found rude fragments of brick, and some pieces of bone, which latter are supposed to have been brought there by foxes. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £417. 12.

TRÊLLAN (TRÊ-LLAN), a township in the parish of KILKEN, North division of the hundred of COLESHILL, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W. N. W.) from Mold, containing 49 inhabitants.

TRÊLLAN (TRÊ-LLAN), a township in the parish of LLANDEGLAY, hundred of KEVENLEECE, county of



**RADNOR, SOUTH WALES**,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (E. by S.) from Penybont, containing 128 inhabitants. The road from New Radnor to Rhaiadr passes through this township, which contains the parish church; and a branch of the Cymaron river flows through it, near the northern base of a lofty and barren mountain which occupies a great portion of the district. The manorial rights of this township and that of Graig are vested in the crown.

**TRÊLYDAN**, a township in the parish of **GUILSFIELD**, hundred of **POOL**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**, 2 miles (N. by E.) from Welshpool, containing 74 inhabitants. It is within the liberties of the borough of Welshpool.

**TRÊLYSTAN (TRÊ'-ELYSTAN)**, a township forming part of the chapelry of Wolston, or Weston-ny-End, in that part of the parish of **WORTHEN** which is in the lower division of the hundred of **CAWRSE**, county of **MONTGOMERY**, **NORTH WALES**,  $3\frac{3}{4}$  miles (S. E.) from Welshpool, containing 106 inhabitants. This township is situated nearly at the southern extremity of the Long Mountain, on the border of Shropshire, and, with the township of **Rhôsgôch**, forms the entire chapelry of Weston-ny-End, which is attached to the rectory of Worthen, in Shropshire, in which county the principal part of the parish is included. It forms one of several parishes and townships which are incorporated, by an act of parliament, for the support of their poor in the house of industry at Forden, its average annual expenditure for this purpose amounting to £45. 5.

**TRÊMADOC**, a market-town and small sea-port, in the parish of **YNYSYNNHAIARN**, hundred of **EIVIONYDD**, county of **CARNARVON**, **NORTH WALES**, 20 miles (S. by E.) from Carnarvon. The population is returned with the parish. This place, which is of very recent origin, and a signal instance of the triumph of public-spirited perseverance over accumulated and apparently insurmountable local difficulties, derives its name from its patriotic and enterprising founder, the late William Alexander Madocks, Esq. This gentleman, having projected a plan for regaining from the sea a portion of land on the western side of the wide sandy estuary called the "Traeth Mawr," purchased the estate of Tan yr Allt, in the immediate vicinity, in 1798, and in 1800 succeeded in recovering a tract of nearly two thousand acres of rich land, then forming Penmorva marsh, which now produces excellent crops of wheat, barley, and clover, to which he gave the appropriate name of Glândwr. Encouraged by the success of his first attempt, Mr. Madocks was induced to undertake the more arduous enterprise of reclaiming the whole of the Traeth Mawr, and for this purpose he obtained, in 1808, an act of parliament vesting in him and in his heirs the whole extent of these sands, from Pont Aber Glâslyn, at their head, to the point at Gêst, at their lower extremity. According to the provisions of this act, Mr. Madocks received a grant of two thousand acres in fee, and was to receive one-fifth part of the land recovered from the sea, or secured from injury by the floods, the remainder to go to the freeholders who claimed right of common on the adjoining marshes. Notwithstanding the numerous unforeseen obstacles which threatened to frustrate the undertaking, Mr. Madocks succeeded in constructing across the mouth of the Traeth Mawr, at the eastern extremity

of Cardigan bay, an embankment of earth and stones, nearly one mile in length, from north to south, varying from one hundred to four hundred feet in breadth at the base, and diminishing gradually to a breadth of thirty feet at the summit, which is one hundred feet high from the foundation. By means of this embankment, which, having an excellent road along its summit, forms a line of communication between the counties of Carnarvon and Merioneth, a tract of more than two thousand seven hundred acres of land was recovered from the sea, besides a vast extent of adjoining land, which was before overflowed by the tides, but is now, by draining, rendered susceptible of cultivation. This arduous enterprise was completed in 1811, at an expense of more than £100,000; and, including the lands previously recovered, not less than seven thousand acres have been gained, of which six thousand are now cultivated.

The town is situated on a portion of the tract first recovered from the sea, and is built on the sides of a spacious quadrangular area, having in the centre a lofty column, round the pedestal of which there is a flight of twelve steps. The houses are of handsome appearance, and the town promises, when the plan is fully completed, to be a great ornament to this part of the coast. Tan yr Allt, the seat of the late W. A. Madocks, Esq., is a spacious modern mansion of elegant design, situated on an elevated rock overlooking the town: it is surrounded with thriving plantations, and presents, with its entrance lodge of neat and appropriate design, a pleasing and picturesque appearance. Morva Lodge, and Twntir-bwlch, erected also by that gentleman, are handsome villas in the immediate vicinity of the town. With a view to promote the commercial interests of the town which he had founded, Mr. Madocks, in 1821, obtained an act of parliament for improving the navigation of this part of the bay, on which it is situated, under the provisions of which he rendered it accessible to vessels of three hundred tons' burden, which can now lie here in safety, and constructed commodious quays and wharfs for the landing and shipping of goods. The last improvement carried into effect was the erection of Port Madoc, about one mile from the town, where many good houses have been built, and a considerable trade is now carried on. The principal exports are slates, which are brought from the Festiniog quarries, and of which about twelve thousand tons are shipped annually from this place; and copper-ore, which is brought from the neighbouring mines: the chief imports are timber, coal, and lime. A rail-road from the Festiniog quarries, and the mines in the neighbourhood, to this place, has been for some time in contemplation, and a company has been formed under an act recently passed for that purpose. Lead-ore has been discovered at Gêst, near this town; and an excellent road has been constructed by Mr. Madocks from Aberglâslyn, through Trêmadoc, to Nevin on the western coast of Carnarvonshire. Fairs are held here annually on Easter-Monday, March 6th, May 14th, August 20th, September 25th, and November 12th. On the east side of the area a commodious market-house has been erected, above which is a handsome assembly-room. Mr. Madocks also built, at his own expense, a handsome small church, in the later style of English architecture, with a lofty spire, which forms an interesting object as seen from the



coast: divine service is regularly performed in the English language, every Sunday, which is a great accommodation to families residing in the neighbourhood, as there is no other church within twenty miles, in which the service is performed in the English language. The road from Trêmadoc to Bethgelart, along the northern side of the Traeth Mawr, passes for some distance under perpendicular cliffs of great height, in which are numerous chasms and fissures. After heavy rains, or long-continued frosts, immense masses are sometimes detached from the impending precipices, and fall with a tremendous crash, bestrewing the way with fragments, sometimes of sufficient magnitude to obstruct the passage. This road commands to great advantage the scenery of the Merionethshire side of the Traeth, and affords a delightful ride to Pont Aber-glâslyn and its vicinity.

TREMAEN (TRE-MAEN), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (E. N. E.) from Cardigan, containing 241 inhabitants. This place is supposed to derive its name, signifying "the town of the stone," from the vast rude stone called Llêch yr Ast, and the adjacent kistvaens, situated near the village, though within the limits of Llangoedmore parish, and, together with a large tumulus on a farm in this parish, called Canllevarvaes, supposed to commemorate a decisive battle that took place here between the Welsh and the Flemings, soon after a body of the latter had effected a landing at a place called Mount, about three miles distant, on the sea-shore. The parish is situated on the summit and declivities of a hill, called, from the stone above noticed, Llêch yr Ast, and comprises about nine hundred acres of arable and pasture land, with a small tract of marshy ground: the soil is principally light, except in the lowest part of the parish. The river Arberth runs through the parish, and, after turning four or five grist-mills, falls into the Teivy. The neighbourhood is enlivened with some gentlemen's seats, among which are, Tre Prior, the ancient occasional residence of the prior of Cardigan; and Trêv Wttial Vawr, now the residence of Miss Vaughan. The turn-pike road from Cardigan to Aberystwith passes through the parish, and within a short distance of the church. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £1200 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of Philip John Miles, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, was, with the exception of the chancel, rebuilt in the year 1810, and is now a long plain edifice, composed only of a nave and chancel. There is a place of worship for Methodists. In this parish there is a ford called Rhÿdwenwynvarch, supposed to have derived that name from the circumstance of the water having been poisoned to destroy the army of an invading enemy. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £81. 12.

TREMERCHION, or DYMEIRCHYON (TRÊ MEIRCHION), a parish in the Rhuddlan division of the hundred of RHUDDLAN, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 3½ miles (E. S. E.) from St. Asaph, containing 646 inhabitants. The village of Tremerschion is delightfully situated on the brow of a hill, under the Clwydian range of mountains, and commands a rich and luxuriant prospect of the sublime features of that unrivalled

vale, the mountains forming its western boundary, and the lofty chain of Snowdon. Lead-ore has been found in the parish, but the works are now discontinued. A little below the church stands the mansion of Brÿnbella, formerly called Bâcheagraig, embosomed in woods, and once the property and residence of Seignior and Mrs. Piozzi, formerly Mrs. Thrale, widow of Henry Thrale, Esq., and daughter and heiress of John Salusbury, Esq., to an ancestor of whom, Roger Salusbury, the ancient house and certain tithes in Llëyn were given, as a marriage portion with one of his daughters, by Sir Richard Clough, an eminent merchant in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by whom it was erected in the year 1567: this ancient edifice enclosed a quadrangular area, and consisted of a curious brick mansion, with three sides composed of different buildings, the former six stories high, including the cupola, and forming from the second floor the figure of a pyramid, having probably been erected from the model of buildings in Flanders: the bricks were of a very superior kind, and are supposed to have been made either in Holland, or by a Dutchman on the spot: this edifice was taken down, and the present house erected, about the end of the last century, by Mrs. Thrale. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £5, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is a small neat edifice, and contains an organ, which is an unusual appendage to country churches in Wales. Under a finely ornamented arch lies the effigy of Davydd Dû, or "the Black," of Hiraddug, in ecclesiastical robes: he was incumbent of this parish about the middle of the fourteenth century, and is celebrated throughout Wales for his poetry and prophecies; he translated the Psalms of David into Welsh metre, and assisted greatly in regulating the Welsh prosody: beneath the figure is inscribed *Hic jacit DAFID AP RODERIC AP MADOG*. Here is also a mutilated effigy of Sir Robert Pounderling, once constable of Dyserth castle, represented as a Knight Templar, cross-legged. The church anciently contained a cross (long since demolished), once in great fame for the miracles reputed to have been performed at it, which are described in a poem published about the year 1500, by Gruffydd ab Ivan ab Llewelyn Vychan. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. Margaret Vaughan, in 1728, gave land for the instruction of twelve poor children, and the sum of £100, directing that one-sixth part of the interest should be annually distributed among the poor, and the remainder appropriated in apprenticing one poor child: a school-room was built contiguous to the churchyard, about the year 1765. Divers small sums have been given for the benefit of the poor, by grant of Edward Mostyn, by Elizabeth Williams, in 1730, and by Caleb Hughes, in 1740. Sir Richard Clough, the founder of the mansion of Bâcheagraig, was the son of poor parents at Denbigh, and became a chorister in Chester cathedral, whence he was removed to London, and apprenticed to Sir Thomas Gresham, with whom he afterwards became a partner, and is even said to have contributed a few thousand pounds towards founding the Royal Exchange. He resided chiefly at Antwerp, and amassed so much wealth in mercantile pursuits as to render his name proverbial, on the attainment of riches by any person. His descendants are



stated to have been deprived of the bulk of his immense estate by virtue of an agreement between him and Sir Thomas Gresham, to the effect that, on the decease of either, the survivor should inherit the whole of his property. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £242. 14.

TRE'RCOED, a township in the parish of DISSERTH, hundred of COLWYN, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. N. E.) from Builth, containing 276 inhabitants. This township is bounded on the north by a stream which falls into the river Ithon, and near which is Maes Madoc, celebrated as the scene of one of the last engagements between Prince Llewelyn ab Gruffydd and the English. On an elevated common are some square fortifications, conjectured to have been British, notwithstanding their form. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £185. 6.

TRÊTOWER (TRÊV Y TWR), a chapelry in the parish of LLANVIHANGEL CWM DŴ, hundred of CRICKHOWEL, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (N. by W.) from Crickhowel, containing 318 inhabitants. This place derives its name, signifying "the township of the tower," from its castle, supposed by some to have been originally the residence of one of the native lords of Brycheiniog, but by whom or when it was founded has not been distinctly ascertained. It was probably built by Pycard, a Norman knight, to whom Bernard Newmarch gave the manor, to be held by knight's service, as of the paramount lordship of Blaenllynvi. From the Pycards the manor and castle descended, by marriage, to the Bloets of Raglan Castle, in Monmouthshire, in whose possession it remained till the reign of Richard II., when, by the marriage of Isabel, or Elizabeth, only daughter and heiress of Sir John Bloet, it passed to Sir James Berkeley, second son of Lord Berkeley, of Berkeley Castle, in Gloucestershire. In 1403, Sir James Berkeley was commanded by Henry IV. to fortify his castle of Trêtower against Owain Glyndwr, by whom it was, notwithstanding, partially demolished, and was never afterwards rebuilt. The manor and the remains of the castle were given by Edward IV. to the family of the Herberts, from whom the property descended by inheritance to the Duke of Beaufort, in whose possession there is a sketch of the castle, as it appeared in the reign of Elizabeth. The village is pleasantly situated on the left bank of the river Rhiangoll, which, after flowing through the beautiful vale of Cwm Dŵ, falls into the Usk within a short distance of it, between the lofty mountains near the entrance of the vale, through which the road from Crickhowel to Brecknock is carried. It contains but few houses, and, independently of its situation and the remains of the ancient castle, possesses scarcely any objects of interest. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty: it was formerly endowed with fifty shillings per annum, chargeable on a certain portion of the tithes of the parish, given by Pycard, the Norman, to the priory of St. John the Evangelist at Brecknock, and thence called the priory tithes: these tithes, since the dissolution of the priory, have fallen into lay hands, and the right of presentation to the curacy, which was claimed by the Vaughans, was, in 1786, sold by Sir Charles Vaughan to the Rev. John Jones, whose nephew

is the present curate. The chapel is dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, but whether it was founded by the monks of the priory, or, as is more probable, by Pycard, as an appendage to the castle, has not been satisfactorily ascertained: it was rebuilt in 1776, the expense being defrayed by a rate to which the parishioners of Llanvihangel contributed. A round tower, and some ruined walls mantled with ivy, are all that remain of the ancient castle, which was situated in a very low and damp spot, on the bank of the Rhiangoll, to the south-west of the village. Adjoining the castle grounds is the "fair place of Henry Vehan, Esq.," noticed by Leland, which is now only a farm-house. Among the descendants of this ancient family, many of whom represented the county in parliament, and were high sheriffs of it, may be noticed the gallant Sir Roger Vaughan, who, in the agonies of death, was knighted on the field of Agincourt, together with Sir David Gam and others of his brave countrymen, who saved their sovereign's life by the sacrifice of their own; Thomas Vaughan, who, in the reign of Henry VI., was attainted for his attachment to the house of York; Sir Roger Vaughan, who, fighting in the same cause, was killed in the great battle of Danesmoor, near Banbury; and Sir Thomas Vaughan, chamberlain to the young Edward V., who, with the Lords Grey and Rivers, was beheaded at Pontefract by Richard III. The ancient mansion, with the demesne of Trêtower Court, were sold by Charles Vaughan, Esq., about forty-five years ago, to Mr. William Parry, the father of the present proprietor.

TRÊVDRAETH (TRÊV-DRAETH), a parish in the hundred of MALLTRAETH, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (S. W.) from Llangevni, containing 835 inhabitants. This place, the name of which signifies "the town on the sands," is situated between the Malldraeth marsh, by which it is bounded on the south-east, and St. George's channel, on the south-west. It comprises a tract of enclosed and cultivated land, extending more than three miles in length and two miles and a half in breadth, and about one thousand acres of land which, since the enclosure of the marsh in 1818, has been recovered from the sea. On this land a colliery has been opened, which is now being worked with success, and though the coal which has hitherto been raised is inferior in quality to that found in Flintshire and Denbighshire, it has been highly advantageous to the inhabitants of this part of the island, who would otherwise be compelled to derive their supply of fuel from those counties. The strata through which the pits are sunk consist, first of sand, to the depth of five feet; secondly of freestone, to a further depth of sixty-six feet; thirdly of black shale, for a depth of six feet; fourthly of good coal, to the further depth of three feet and a half; fifthly of indurated clunch, for two feet; and lastly of freestone, to an unknown depth. The dip of these strata is reported to be only one yard in ten, towards the east by south. Since the enclosure of the marsh, and the opening of the colliery, the parish has increased in population, and many new buildings have been erected; and its situation on the road from Holyhead to Moel y don ferry affords facility of conveyance for the produce of the colliery, and of intercourse with the neighbouring districts. Fairs are held on May 1st and November 1st. The living is a rectory, with



Llangwyvan annexed, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £14. 8. 11½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Beuno, and supposed to have been originally built in the year 616, is a small plain edifice, situated at the extreme border of the parish, and has an east window of modern date and of good design. The parish register, which is quite legible from the year 1550, is the oldest in North Wales, with the exception of that of Gwaenyscor. The rectory-house, called Siamber Wen, and situated about two miles from the church, on the margin of Llŷn Goron, was erected in 1819: it is a spacious and handsome building, surrounded with pleasant grounds, and commanding a view over the most beautiful and picturesque portion of the parish. There are places of worship for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school was founded here in 1828, by subscription, aided by a grant of £35 from the parent institution, and a suitable building has been erected, in which seventy children of both sexes receive gratuitous instruction: the school is open to children of this parish and that of Llangadwaladr. A small farm in the parish of Newborough was bequeathed, many years ago, to the poor of this parish; but the sea having made great encroachment upon one part of it, and the remainder being partly covered with drifting sands, it produces but a very small income, which is applied to the diminution of the poor's rates. John Pugh Gwilim, in 1633, bequeathed to the poor £46. 13. 4., and Ellen Griffith a small portion of land. Owen Williams left some land, of which the rent is appropriated to the apprenticing of poor children, and there are some other small donations for charitable purposes. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £300. 17.

TRÈVECCA, a hamlet in the parish and hundred of TALGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S. S. W.) from Hay, containing 282 inhabitants. This hamlet is situated on the road from Crickhowel to Hay, at the foot of the Black Mountains, and near the right bank of the river Llynvi: it contains a remarkable religious establishment founded by Mr. Harris, and described in the article on the parish. The railway from Brecknock to Hay passes along the right bank of the Llynvi, near the village.

TRÈVECHAN, a joint township with Rhŷdonen, in that part of the parish of LLANYNYS which is in the hundred of RUTHIN, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish.

TRÈVEGLWYS (TRÈV-EGLWYS), a parish in the upper division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 3½ miles (N.) from Llanidloes, containing 1820 inhabitants. This parish is situated in the pleasant vale of Llanidloes, and is intersected by the small river Taraunon, which flows into the Severn near Caer-Sws. The surrounding scenery is richly varied, and in some parts beautifully picturesque: the village, which is small, and surrounded by sheltering hills, is seen with beautiful effect from the road to Llanidloes, at the distance of a mile from which it is situated. The inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture, and in the manufacture of flannel. The living is a discharged vicarage, within the

jurisdiction of the Consistorial Court of the Bishop of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £5. 8. 4., and in the patronage of Lord Mostyn. The church, dedicated, according to some authorities, to St. Luke, but according to others to St. Michael, is an ancient structure, in the early style of English architecture, and contains some remains of ancient carved oak of elegant design. In the churchyard are some fine yew trees of luxuriant growth. There are places of worship for Baptists and Welsh Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, to each of which a Sunday school is attached. Ursula Evans bequeathed to the poor of this parish a rent-charge of £1, the payment of which has been discontinued for some years, from neglect of the parishioners in enforcing it; Mrs. Pugh gave £10; Richard Baxter bequeathed £100, and Hugh Baxter £50, both which sums have been vested in land producing £8 per annum; and John Swancoat bequeathed land producing £6 per annum, to the poor of the parish, for whose relief there are also some smaller charitable bequests and donations. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is no less than £1530. 2.

TRÈV-HELYG, a township in that part of the parish of CASTLE-CAER-EINTON which is in the upper division of the hundred of CAWRSE, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish. It is a detached township, bounded on the east by the river Severn. The Montgomeryshire canal passes through it in a parallel line with that river, and also the road from Welshpool to Newtown. It is assessed for the support of the poor with the lower division of the parish, and is within the liberties of the borough of Welshpool.

TRÈVILAN (TRÈV-ILAR), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of ILAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 7 miles (N. by W.) from Lampeter, containing 313 inhabitants. This parish is pleasantly situated in the Vale of Aëron, and on the high road from Lampeter to Aberystwith. The surrounding country is boldly varied, and the scenery is in some parts picturesque. In the southern part of the parish is the small village of Talsarn, deriving its name from a branch of a Roman road or causeway which terminated here, and which is situated on the bank of the river Aëron. Fairs are held at this village on September 8th and November 7th. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church is dedicated to St. Hilary, from whom the parish is supposed to have derived the name Trêv-llar, said to be its proper appellation. The old church, having fallen into a state of dilapidation, was taken down in 1806, and rebuilt: the present church is a neat edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, but of much smaller dimensions than the original building: the ancient font, a square basin upon a round pillar, has been preserved. A Sunday school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported at the expense of the rector. Near the churchyard is a mound surrounded by a moat, called Castle Trêvilan, supposed to be the site of a fortress of that name, which was begun by Maelgwyn ab Rhŷs, and completed by his son Maelgwyn Vychan, in the year 1233. Here is a strongly



impregnated chalybeate spring, which is occasionally resorted to for medicinal purposes. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £82. 13.

TRÊVIRIG (TRÊV-VEIRIG), a township in that part of the parish of LLANBADARN-VAWR which is in the lower division of the hundred of GENEU'R-GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, containing 496 inhabitants. It is situated contiguous to the valley of the Rheidiol. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure being £129. 14.

TRÊVLLÛS, a hamlet in the parish of LLANGAM-MARCH, hundred of BUILTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W.S.W.) from Builth, containing 491 inhabitants. It forms the upper part of the parish, between the rivers Irvon and Dulas. At a place called Llwyn y Vynwent tradition reports that a chapel of ease anciently stood, but no traces of it can now be discovered. The road from Builth to Llandovery passes through the hamlet, which is hilly, but has some clumps of well-grown timber trees in the valleys. A separate assessment is made for the support of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £215. 12.

TRÊVLYN, a township in the parish of TRÊGARON, upper division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (N. by E.) from Trêgaron, containing 162 inhabitants. It is situated near the Teivy, on the left bank of which, between this place and Trêgaron, there is a bog of excellent peat, and higher up is a beautiful lake, about three-quarters of a mile in circuit, called Llŷn y Maes, or "the lake of the field," from which the township takes its name, and which tradition states to cover the original site of the town of Trêgaron. An old Roman road from *Loventium* to the northern parts of the county passed through this township; and the remains, consisting of a bank of raised earth, are still visible.

TRÊVLYN, a township in the parish of LLANIDLOES, upper division of the hundred of LLANIDLOES, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish.

TRÊVLYS (TRÊV-LYS, or TRÊV-LLÛS), a parish in the hundred of EIVIONYDD, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S.W. by S.) from Trêmadoc, containing 78 inhabitants. It is situated on the northern shore of Cardigan bay, and is but of small extent. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to the rectory of Criccieth, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a small ancient edifice, without any architectural claim to notice, and is in a very dilapidated state. There are places of worship for Independents and Methodists. Poor children of this parish are eligible to the free school at Criccieth, founded by the Rev. David Ellis. The average annual expenditure for the relief of the poor amounts to £19. 13.

TREVOR-TRAIAN, a chapelry in the parish of LLANGOLLEN, Nanthewdy division of the hundred of CHIRK, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (E.) from Llangollen, on the road to Wrexham. The population, though formerly returned separately, is now included in the return for Llangollen-Traian, with which it jointly forms one of the principal divisions of the parish.

This chapelry comprises the mountainous range to the north of the town and the river Dee, and contains the ruins of Castell Dinas Brân, an historical notice of which is given in the article on LLANGOLLEN. It abounds with limestone, and the navigable feeder of the Ellesmere canal, which extends up to the Dee at Llantysillio, passes within its southern boundary, along the northern bank of that river, joining the main canal at the Pontcysylltau aqueduct. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, endowed with £400 private benefaction, £600 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the proprietor of the neighbouring mansion of Trevor Hall. The chapel is a small plain edifice, built by John Lloyd, Esq., of Trevor Hall, in 1742, for the use of his family, but not consecrated until 1772. This chapelry shares with Llangollen-Traian in the produce of several small bequests for the instruction of poor children, and for the relief of its poorer inhabitants. The remains of Castell Dinas Brân, situated on the summit of a conical isolated hill, rising to a considerable height out of the vale, and very steep, extend about one hundred and ninety feet in length, and one hundred and fifty in breadth, having on one side a deep trench cut in the solid rock. To the north of them is Craig-Eglwyseg, exhibiting for the distance of half a mile a vast assemblage of rocks composed of different tiers, like an immense flight of steps. Near Trevor Hall is a very interesting natural cavern, extending into a limestone rock to an unknown depth, adorned by a great variety of very beautiful specimens of stalactite, and in which have been found fossil remains of the hyena and other animals of the antediluvian world. This division of the parish is assessed with that of Llangollen-Traian for the joint maintenance of their poor, the average annual expenditure for which purpose amounts to £586. 8.

TRÊVREYAN (TRÊV-RHEWIN), a joint hamlet with Myhatham, or Mallaen, in the parish of LLANARTHNEY, upper division of the hundred of ISCENNEN, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish.

TRÊVRIW (TRÊV-RIW), a parish in the Uchgorvai division of the hundred of NANTCONWAY, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, on the road from Aberconway to Llanrwst, 2 miles (N.N.W.) from Llanrwst, containing 413 inhabitants. The village is situated on the western bank of the river Conway, up which the tide flows to it, and vessels of sixty tons' burden come up to this place, bringing coal, lime, and other heavy goods for Llanrwst and the neighbouring parishes, and conveying downwards the produce of the slate quarries of Trêvriw and Llanrhychwyn. Lead-ore and zinc exist in the parish, and have lately been procured to a considerable extent. Fairs are held on May 12th, September 3rd, and November 7th. The living is a discharged rectory, with the perpetual curacy of Llanrhychwyn annexed, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, rated in the king's books at £7. 15. 10., and in the patronage of the Bishop of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small edifice, consisting of a nave, chancel, and north aisle: it is stated to have been built by Prince Llewelyn the Great, about the year 1230, "for the ease of his princess, who before was obliged to go on foot to Llanrhychwyn, a long walk among the mountains."



There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. A free school, for the benefit of poor children of Trêvriw and the adjoining parishes, was founded here, in 1817, by Lord Willoughby de Eresby, by whom it is also supported. Llewelyn ab Iorwerth is stated to have had a palace here, situated in a place now called Gardd y Neuadd, where some hewn stones were discovered, which have since been used in building a wall, and are pointed out as the only remaining fragments of the royal habitation. Dr. Thomas Williams, a physician, who compiled a Latin and Welsh Dictionary, and wrote some other works, which are preserved in manuscript, was, according to Mr. Owen, a native of Trêvriw, where he died about the year 1620. The poor are supported by an average annual expenditure amounting to £75. 8.

TRÊVWALCHMAI, or TREWALCHMAI (TRÊV-WALCHMAI), a parish, partly in the hundred of LLYVON, and partly in that of MALLTRAETH, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (W.) from Llangenvi, containing 719 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the new line of the great road from London to Holyhead, and comprises a moderate extent of arable and pasture land, which is enclosed, and a small portion of common, affording good pasturage for sheep. The village, which, since the diversion of the Holyhead road in this direction, has considerably increased in size, and improved in appearance, is neatly built, and, though still small, has, with its church, which is situated on an eminence, a pleasing appearance. The living is annexed to the rectory of Hêneglws, in the archdeaconry of Anglesey, and diocese of Bangor. The church, dedicated to St. Mordeyrn, is a small ancient edifice, consisting of a nave, with a north aisle or chapel, extending nearly the whole length of the building, and has an east window of good design. William Bold, in 1688, the Rev. Hugh Hughes, and an unknown benefactor, severally bequeathed portions of land for the benefit of the poor of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £165. 19.

TRÊV Y COED, a hamlet forming that part of the parish of LAMPETER which is in the upper division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (W. by S.) from Lampeter, containing 120 inhabitants. This hamlet forms a detached portion of the hundred of Troedyrour, and is situated nearly in the centre of that of Moythen. It lies on the road from Lampeter to Cardigan, and extends to the river Teivy. Neuadd, the neat residence of Thomas Jones, Esq., standing on a well wooded eminence, north of the turnpike road, forms a conspicuous and pleasing object in the approach to Lampeter. Here was formerly a chapel of ease to the mother church, but it has long since been demolished. This hamlet is assessed for the support of the poor with Lampeter, though in a different hundred.

TRÊVYDD-BYCHAIN, a joint township with Llewesog, in the parish of LLANRHAIADR IN KINMERCH, hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish.

TREWERN (TRÊ-WERN), a township in the parish of BUTTINGTON, within the liberties of the borough of WELSHPOOL, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N. E. by E.) from Welshpool, contain-

ing 353 inhabitants. It is situated on the right bank of the river Severn, and on the road from Shrewsbury to Welshpool. A small stream, designated by the same name as the township, here falls into the Severn. Trevern is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £106. 11.

TREWERN (TRE-WERN), a joint township with Gwiller, in that part of the parish of LLANVIHANGEL-NANT-MELAN which is within the liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (W.) from New Radnor, containing, with Gwiller, 126 inhabitants. It forms the extreme western division of the parish, occupying the southern declivity of a lofty mountain which anciently composed a part of the forest of New Radnor. Trevern stands on the upper portion of the eminence, and Gwiller on the lower, with the road from New Radnor to Rhaiadr passing between them. There are two large tumuli on the hill.

TREWYLAN, a township in that part of the parish of LLANSANTFRAID YN MECHAN which is in the upper division of the hundred of DEYTHUR, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (E.) from Llanvyllin, containing 99 inhabitants. It is situated on the south bank of the river Vyrnwy. There is an ancient British fortification in this township, situated in a low meadow, which must have been surrounded on all sides by a morass; it is seen very distinctly from the Meivod road, about a quarter of a mile from Pont y pentre.

TROEDYRAUR (TROED-YR-AUR), a parish composed of the Upper and Lower divisions, in the upper division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N. N. E.) from Newcastle-Emlyn, containing 1064 inhabitants, of which number, 603 are in the Upper, and 461 in the Lower, division. The ancient name of this place was Llanvihangel Trêv-Deyrn, and was derived from the dedication of its church to St. Michael, and from its having been the residence of some royal personage, perhaps a prince of Ceredigion. Its present name of Troedyrour, signifying "the foot of gold," originated in an opinion that gold was formerly procured at the foot of the eminence on which the church is situated. The parish is intersected by the direct road from Lampeter to Cardigan, and comprises a very considerable tract of arable and pasture land, of which, with the exception of a comparatively small portion, the whole is enclosed. The surrounding scenery, though not distinguished by any peculiarity of features, is pleasingly enlivened with the grounds and plantations of some gentlemen's seats in the vicinity. Troedyrour House, the family seat of the Rev. Thomas Bowen, the present incumbent, who has distinguished himself as an enlightened and successful agriculturist, is a handsome and spacious mansion, beautifully situated. Alderbrook Hall, the seat of John Lloyd Williams, Esq., by whom it was erected, is a handsome mansion, situated on an eminence above the church, commanding some good views, and is surrounded with thriving and extensive plantations, which are highly ornamental to the neighbourhood. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £13, and in the patronage of the King, as



Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a neat modern structure, erected in the year 1795, by subscription among the parishioners, under the superintendence of the rector, who has recently added to it a very neat porch at his own expense. Here was formerly an ancient chapel, called *Capel Twr Gwynn*, upon the site of which a neat parsonage-house has been built by the present rector. There are two places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, and one for Presbyterians. A school-house has been built at the expense of the parishioners, containing two rooms, in which about forty boys are gratuitously instructed, at the expense of the rector. A tumulus in this parish, called *Crûg Mawr*, was opened in the year 1829, under the direction of the Rev. Thomas Bowen, upon whose estate it is situated, and was found to contain two earthen vases, and two lachrymatories: one of the vases, soon after its exposure, crumbled to pieces; the other, together with the lachrymatories, was presented to the museum at Oxford. This tumulus was situated on one side of a causeway, supposed to be part of a Roman road. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £289. 3.

TROWSGOED, a hamlet in the parish of LLANDE-  
VALLEY, hundred of TALGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK,  
SOUTH WALES,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.E. by N.) from Brecknock.  
The population is included in the return for the parish.  
This hamlet is situated in the western portion of the  
parish, and in a vale through which flows a stream that  
falls into the river Llynvi. It is separately assessed for  
the support of its poor, the average annual expenditure  
amounting to £29. 14.

TRYDDIN (TREUDDYN), a parochial chapelry,  
in the parish and hundred of MOLD, county of FLINT,  
NORTH WALES, 5 miles (S.) from Mold, containing 829  
inhabitants, the population having increased one-fourth  
since the census of 1821. This place, which is situated  
among lofty hills in a rich mineral district, in the south-  
eastern part of the county, abounds with coal and iron-  
stone of superior quality; and within the last few years  
some very extensive works have been established here,  
which are carried on with very great success. The Coed  
Talon collieries and iron-works were first erected in  
1817, when the proprietors opened some mines of coal,  
which, being found of good quality and in great abun-  
dance, induced them to erect furnaces, in 1821, for the  
manufacture of iron. These works, after being con-  
ducted with profit for some time, were, in 1825, sold to  
the Welsh Iron Company, who erected additional fur-  
naces, and greatly extended the mines and every de-  
partment of the establishment, and in 1830 sold them,  
under the provisions of an act of parliament, to  
Edward Oakley, Esq., the present proprietor. The  
principal produce of the works is pig iron of a peculiar  
quality, which is in great demand, and is much used in  
making lighter articles of machinery; and the whole of  
the iron manufactured here is purchased by the manu-  
facturers of machinery at Liverpool and Manchester.  
About four hundred and fifty men are constantly  
employed in the collieries and other works at this  
place. In the coal and iron-stone shale numerous  
marine and vegetable impressions are found, and in some  
instances fossilized bones and shells. The living is a  
perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of  
St. Asaph, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £400

parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Vicar  
of Mold. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a neat  
small edifice in good repair. A school for the gratui-  
tous instruction of poor children is supported by a small  
endowment, and by subscription. Some small dona-  
tions, producing about £2 per annum, have been  
made for the benefit of the poor. Offa's Dyke, which  
commences on the bank of the Wye in Herefordshire,  
after passing through that county and those of Rad-  
nor, Montgomery, Salop, and Denbigh, appears to  
terminate very abruptly on a farm called *Cae Dwn*,  
about one mile from the chapel of this place. But  
there is every probability that Offa completed this  
great work by continuing it to the sea near the Point  
of Air, in the parish of Llanasaph, as there are  
several remains of an earthwork in the line between  
that place and Tryddin, still retaining the appellation  
of *Clawdd Offa*, especially near the race-course between  
Holywell and Caerwys, where it has been partially  
levelled only within these few years, and also below the  
stables, and to the north of the grand stand. The  
poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the  
average annual expenditure amounting to £309. 2.

TWINNEL'S (ST.), a parish in the hundred of  
CASTLEMARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  
4 miles (S. S. W.) from Pembroke, containing 274 inha-  
bitants. This parish, the village of which is pleasantly  
situated on an eminence in the southern part of the  
county, comprises a considerable portion of enclosed  
and cultivated land, and a small tract of open downs,  
affording good pasturage for sheep and young cattle.  
Limestone is found in it, and some quarries have been  
opened, in the working of which a portion of the inha-  
bitants are employed. The village is neatly built and  
of prepossessing appearance. The living is a discharged  
vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's,  
rated in the king's books at £3. 17. 11., and in the pa-  
tronage of the Sub-chanter and Minor Chapter of St.  
David's. The church, dedicated to St. Deiniol, is an  
ancient building, with a very lofty tower, and, from its  
elevated situation, is an interesting and conspicuous ob-  
ject from all parts of the surrounding country. There  
is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists.  
Poor children of this parish are eligible for gratuitous  
instruction in the schools founded by Lady Cawdor, in  
the adjoining parishes of Warren and Stackpool Elidur.  
The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of  
the poor amounts to £133. 2.

TÛBRITH UCHÂV, county of DENBIGH, NORTH  
WALES.—See GARTHGARMON.

TÛBROUGHTON, a township in the parish of HAN-  
MER, hundred of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH  
WALES,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.E.) from Ellesmere, containing 218  
inhabitants. It is separately assessed for the support  
of its poor, the average annual expenditure being  
£107. 14.

TYDWEILIOG (TUDWEILIOG), a parish, partly  
in the hundred of COMMITMAEN, but chiefly in that of  
DINLLAEN, in the Llein division of the county of CAR-  
NARVON, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (W.) from Pwllheli,  
containing 447 inhabitants. This parish, which is but  
of small extent, is situated on the coast of St. George's  
channel, by which it is bounded on the south: the in-  
habitants carry on a considerable herring fishery. The  
lands are enclosed and cultivated; the soil is in general



fertile, and, except during the fishing season, the population is wholly employed in agriculture. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Bangor, endowed with £1000 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Sir J. S. Piozzi Salusbury, Bart. The church is dedicated to St. Cwyvan, or, according to some, to St. Gwynen. William Jones bequeathed £10, and Thomas John Morris gave a small donation, to the poor of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £148. 16.

TYR YR ABAD, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES. — See NEWCHURCH.

TYTHEGSTON (LLAN-DUDWG), a parish, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, each of which separately maintains its own poor, in the hundred of NEWCASTLE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W.) from Bridgend, and containing 404 inhabitants, of which number, 302 are in the Upper, and 102 in the Lower, division. The present name of this place is only a modification of its ancient Welsh name Llan Dudwg, signifying "Dudwg's town," and originally derived from the dedication of its church to St. Dudwg, or Tudwg, one of the disciples of Cenydd, who flourished about the middle of the sixth century. The parish is but of small extent, but contains some good arable and pasture land: the upper division abounds with iron-ore, coal, and clay for making bricks, of which considerable quantities are procured, and, by means of a rail-road communicating with the little harbour of Porthcawl, are shipped off to the neighbouring coasts. The living is annexed to the vicarage of Newcastle, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf. The church is a small ancient edifice, not distinguished by any architectural details. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children has been established in the Lower hamlet, and is supported by subscription. Catherine Lougher, and Thomas Leyson, in 1730, bequeathed each a small portion of land to the poor of the parish. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor of the whole parish amounts to £130. 19., of which sum, £76. 2. is assessed on the Higher, and £54. 17. on the Lower, division.

## U.

UPPINGTON, a township in that part of the parish of ABBERBURY which is in the lower division of the hundred of CAWRSE, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, containing 132 inhabitants. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £64. 9.

UPTON, a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. E.) from Pembroke, containing 6 inhabitants. This parish, which is exceedingly small, and inhabited only by one gentleman's family, who is proprietor of the whole, occupies an elevated site above a creek of Milford Haven. It was formerly distinguished for its ancient castle, which, if not originally built, was anciently occupied, by the family of Maliphant, from whom it passed by marriage to that of Bowen. The castle and its dependencies were subsequently purchased by Mr. Tasker, who devised his estates among

his three nieces, one of whom, by marriage, conveyed the castle and a portion of this property to the Rev. William Evans, who is now the owner of the parish. The remains of the ancient castle have been incorporated in the buildings of the present mansion: they consist principally of the entrance gateway, and the two circular bastions by which it was defended; one of these now forms a projecting window in one of the apartments. The present seat occupies a charming situation, and commands beautiful and picturesque views of the surrounding country, and of the ruins of Carew castle, washed at their base by the converging æstuaries which unite to form this branch of the haven. The living is annexed to the rectory of Nash, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's. The church is a small and very ancient edifice, supposed to have been built at the same time as the castle, to which it was formerly attached: it contains some ancient monuments, among which is one having a recumbent effigy of a warrior in complete armour, under a richly sculptured canopy of stone: a clenched hand, issuing from the wall, forms a candelabrum for a taper, for the maintenance of which some fund has been probably left by the deceased or his relatives. There are also several mural monuments to the more recent proprietors of the estate. The average annual expenditure for the relief of the poor, during the few years preceding 1829, amounted to £18. 10.

UWCH-AVON, a division in the parish of GWYDD-ELWERN, hundred of EDEYRNION, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, comprising the united townships of Bôdheulog, Cynwyd Vawr, Cynwyd Vechan, and Persaithydd, and containing 755 inhabitants. The village of Cynwyd is situated on the road from Corwen to Bala and Dinasmowddwy, 2 miles (S. W.) from Corwen. It is noted as the place where a court for the thirteen baronies contained within the comot of Edeyrnion was anciently held, chiefly for the purpose of settling the boundaries of the lords' claims upon the wastes and commons, and for taking cognizance of encroachments; but a disagreement arising among the lords, the records were destroyed, and the court has since been discontinued. The river Trusion runs through this village, about half a mile above which it pours its waters over a precipitous ledge of rocks, upwards of sixty feet high, and forms a pleasing cascade: the first fall rushes through a narrow chasm, about forty feet in perpendicular height, and is received into a basin, measuring at least ten feet in diameter, whence it pursues its course for several yards along a rocky ridge, and then rolls over, in three falls of about twenty feet, into a natural reservoir more capacious than the former: within a short distance of this, after passing through the dingle and the village, it empties itself into the Dee. There are two flannel manufactories and a corn-mill upon this stream: the latter, situated near the bottom of the waterfall, contributes materially to the picturesque character of the scenery, which, from the rocky declivities being in many places well clothed with wood, is pleasing and attractive. Fairs are held on August 6th and October 21st. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, with a Sunday school attached to each. A school-room was built at Cynwyd by subscription, in consequence of a bequest of £200 by Hugh Roberts,



in 1807, the produce to be applied to the instruction of children of the Uwch-Avon division, and the parish of Llangar, two-thirds to the former, and one-third to the latter. Near Tŷn y Wern there is a remarkably fine oak, about ninety feet high, the trunk of which, at the distance of seven feet from the ground, measures twenty feet in girth, and one of its branches thirteen: there is also in the vicinity a very large elm tree, eleven feet in circumference.

UWCH-COED, a township in the parish of PENE-GOES, hundred of MACHYNLLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 5 miles (E. by S.) from Machynlleth, containing 446 inhabitants. It forms the upper part of the parish, where the mountains are lofty, and consist of extensive wastes. In those of Dylivau and Esgair Galed lead-ore is obtained, and the mines formerly afforded employment to many families, but are at present only partially worked. The road from Newtown to Machynlleth passes through it.

UWCH-MYNYDD, a division in the parish of GWYDELWERN, hundred of EDEYRNION, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES, comprising the united townships of Bôdgynvan and Clegir, and containing, with the division of Cwm, 822 inhabitants. The small romantic village of Melinwig is situated within its limits. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, with Sunday schools attached. Vestiges of a British encampment are traceable on Bettws mountain.

UWCH Y GARREG (UWCH-GAREG), a township in the parish of MACHYNLLETH, lower division of the hundred of MACHYNLLETH, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 6 miles (S. E.) from Machynlleth, containing 332 inhabitants. It comprises the upper portion of the parish, which consists principally of boggy elevations and barren wastes. Moel Vadyn is a conical eminence rising one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four feet above the level of the sea. The lofty Plinlimmon bounds this township on the south-west, and at its base is a pool called Glâslyn, or "the Blue Lake." Nearly half-way to Llanidloes, and about a mile and a half from the road, there is a very picturesque waterfall, called Pistyll Rhaiadr, formed by a stream which here precipitates itself with great force over several rocky ledges, one of which is perpendicular and of considerable height. The road from Machynlleth to Llanidloes passes through the township, and a short distance to the right of it, not far from Glâslyn, are some lead mines, which have been only partially worked, though the ore is said to contain some silver. A separate assessment is made for the support of the poor, the average annual expenditure being £266.13.

UWCH Y GRAIG (UWCH-GRAIG), a township in the parish of LLANDDYWYWAU, hundred of ARDUDWY, county of MERIONETH, NORTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish, of which it forms the upper part, and consists chiefly of lofty and extensive mountains. The road from Dôlgeley to Harlech passes through it, and it contains three small lakes, called respectively Llŷn Irdin, Llŷn Bodlyn, and Llŷn Dulyn, of which the two latter are connected; and from these issues a stream which falls into Cardigan bay. Near them, in the plain adjacent, are various Druidical remains, consisting of cromlechs, car-

neddau, maen hirion, and kistvaens; and on the west there is a British post, named Craig y Dinas, surrounded with rough stones, on the summit of a conical hill. In an opposite direction, on the top of another hill, is Castell Dinas Cortin, encircled with intrenchments, and having an advanced work in front. Towards the northern part of the township there is a narrow defile, named Drws Ardudwy, or "the Door into Ardudwy," through which a difficult and dangerous road, under impending cliffs, leads from Trawsvynydd to the parish church.

UZMASTON, a parish in the hundred of DUNGLEDY, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (S. E.) from Haverfordwest, containing 525 inhabitants. This parish, commonly called "Ismiston," is situated on the Western Cleddy river, and comprises a moderate extent of enclosed and cultivated land: the soil is generally fertile, and the inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture. The western part of it, containing the straggling extremity of a suburb of Haverfordwest, called Cartlett, is included within the new electoral limits of that borough. The parish rates are levied by the ploughland, in the measurement of which ten feet and a half are allowed to each rod. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £400 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Precentor and Chapter of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Ismael, is not remarkable for any architectural details. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £229.4.

## V.

VAINOR, or VAYNOR (Y VAENOR, or MAENOR), a parish in the hundred of PENCELLE, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N. by E.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 1933 inhabitants. This parish, which comprises the hamlets of Coedycymmer, Dyfryn, and Gelli, in which last is the church, is situated on the Lesser Taf river, about two miles to the left of the turnpike road from Brecknock to Merthyr-Tydvil. It comprises an extensive tract of land, of which a very considerable portion is unenclosed and uncultivated: the remainder produces very good crops of grain, and excellent pasturage for sheep and cattle. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and the adjacent country abounds with interesting objects: the views over the counties of Brecknock, Monmouth, and Glamorgan, are extensive and picturesque. Limestone is found in various parts of the parish, and the procuring of it affords employment to a portion of the inhabitants, of whom the remainder are engaged in agriculture, and in the works at Merthyr-Tydvil. For the accommodation of the persons employed in the iron-works of that place the village of Coedycymmer, in this parish, appears to have arisen: it is built upon a tract of common, without any regard to regularity or order, and is almost exclusively inhabited by persons employed in these works, since the establishment of which the parish has greatly increased in population. Some lead-ore has been occasionally discovered above Coedycymmer, near the turnpike road, but



not in sufficient quantity to remunerate the labours of the miner. A small woollen manufacture has also been carried on in the parish for some years; but the number of persons employed in it is very inconsiderable. This parish is within the jurisdiction of the court of requests held at Merthyr-Tydvil, on the second Thursday in every month, pursuant to an act passed in 1809, for the recovery of debts not exceeding £5. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £8. 3. 11½, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The advowson of the living, prior to the Reformation, was vested in the lords of Brecknock, but was forfeited on the attainder of the Duke of Buckingham, in the reign of Henry VIII., since which time it has remained with the principedom. The church, dedicated, according to some authorities, to St. Gwendoline, and to others to St. Gwenvrewi, is an ancient edifice, consisting of a nave, chancel, and small tower: it is pleasantly situated on the western bank of the Lesser Tâf, upon a shelving ledge of ground, which appears to have subsided from the adjoining hill, or to have been torn from it by some violent convulsion: it is a dark, low building, not possessing any architectural claim to notice. In the outside wall there is a stone commemorating the decease of a woman who lived during seven successive reigns, and died at the advanced age of 108 years. The parsonage-house, an indifferent building, to which about twenty-seven acres of glebe land are attached, is situated within three hundred yards of the church, and is the only house near it: it is approached by a very bad road, along which carriages cannot pass. There are places of worship for Independents, Calvinistic Methodists, and Unitarians. Sunday schools are supported by subscription, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children. An ancient stone, with an inscription greatly defaced, and which is supposed to have been part of an old cross, is placed within a hundred yards of the twelfth milestone on the turnpike road from Brecknock to Merthyr, as a gatepost in a wall on the right hand side of the road. These ancient crosses, in remote periods, were used for a variety of purposes: they were principally set up as landmarks, for the division of property; when placed in a hedge, they prohibited foot passengers from making a path across the field; when on the road side, and inscribed with the name of some of the primitive fathers of the British church, they were intended to denote that Christianity had been preached in that place, and to inspire sentiments of devotion in the minds of travellers. In process of time these religious crosses multiplied exceedingly, and there is scarcely a parish in the principality which did not once contain several of them. There are also numerous *carneddau*, or heaps of stones, in this parish; two of which are particularly distinguished, and are called respectively Y Garn Wen and Y Garn ddû, or "the white" and "the black cairns." Near to the church is a natural cavern, called Ogov Glaig, from which issues a small brook; and close to it is an artificial mound, or barrow, but nothing is known of its origin, though it may probably have been raised over the remains of some persons of eminence interred here. In various parts of the parish are numerous *pannau*, or cavities, which are very common in limestone tracts.

Hywel Rhys, a poet of considerable genius, though poor and unlettered, and author of several productions of considerable merit, was born in this parish, and died in 1799. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £133. 14.

VAINOR (VAENOR - LÂS), a township in the parish of GLÂSCOMB, hundred of COLWYN, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (E.) from Builth, containing 311 inhabitants. This township is situated between the Glâscomb and Bryngwyn hills, and a small stream, which flows into the river Edwy, passes through it. It forms one-half of the parish, of which the township of Drewern constitutes the other. At a place called Little Hill are four large upright stones, erected, it is said, to commemorate a battle fought in the neighbourhood.

VAINOR (VAENOR), a township in the parish of NANTMEL, hundred of RHAIADR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (E.N.E.) from Rhaiadr, containing 315 inhabitants, the population having increased nearly one-third since the census of 1821. It comprises a vale in the upper part of the parish, near the source of the Dulas stream, which flows into the river Ithon.

VAINOR ISA (VAENOR - ISÂV), a township in that part of the parish of LLANBADARN-VAWR which is in the lower division of the hundred of GENEU'R GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (N.N.E.) from Aberystwith, containing 186 inhabitants. It lies on the sea-coast, and contains several pleasing residences. The Duke of Leeds, as lord of the manor of Vainor, receives five shillings per ton on the coal brought coastwise to Aberystwith, by virtue of a grant made by Charles I. A portion of the township is included within the new boundaries of the contributory borough of Aberystwith. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £90. 11.

VAINOR UCHA (VAENOR-UCHÂV), a township in that part of the parish of LLANBADARN-VAWR which is in the lower division of the hundred of GENEU'R GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 2 miles (E.N.E.) from Aberystwith, containing 384 inhabitants. The northern part of this township is partially wooded, and here are a few large upright stones, standing apart, which are apparently of great antiquity; it is bounded on the south by the river Rheidol. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £86. 14.

VAN, a hamlet in that part of the parish of BEDWAS which is in the hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (E.) from Caerphilly, containing 59 inhabitants. The remainder of the parish is in the hundred of Wenttloog, county of Monmouth, and is connected with this hamlet by Bedwas bridge, across the river Romney, which separates the two counties. It is separately assessed for the maintenance of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £24. 12.

VARCHWEL, a township in the parish of GUILDSFIELD, partly in the hundred of POOL, and partly in the liberties of the borough of WELSHPOOL, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N.E.) from Welshpool. The population is included in the return for the parish. The Guilsfield branch of the Montgomeryshire canal commences near this place.



**VELINDRE** (TRÊV Y VELIN), a joint hamlet with Trêgoed, in that part of the parish of GLÂSBURY which is in the hundred of TALGARTH, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S. W.) from Hay, containing 464 inhabitants. It is situated at the north-western extremity of the Black Mountains of Talgarth. Trêgoed, in the hamlet of that name, is the seat of Viscount Hereford; and in the hamlet of Velindre is Gwernyveth, formerly that of the family of Williams, but now a farm-house, and the property of Col. Wood, in right of his mother, who was the daughter of the late Sir Edward Williams. At Velindre there was formerly a chapel of ease, which was demolished about the middle of the last century; and here was anciently what was called the Lord's mill, which is implied in the name, signifying "Mill-town." There are places of worship for Baptists and Independents: the latter is endowed with a farm called Blaenau bâch, in this parish, said to have been purchased with the aggregate amount of several small bequests and donations, and now yielding an annual rental of £20. In 1612, Sir David Williams, of Gwernyveth, left twenty shillings per ann., to be paid out of the tithes of Gwenddwr, towards repairing the road from Velindre to Tyle-glâs; thirty shillings from the same source to the poor of Velindre and Aberllynvi, and £5 per annum, to be distributed either in food or clothing, to the most distressed poor in the neighbourhood of Gwernyveth. The property left for these purposes having very much increased in value, the sum of £4. 2. 2. is now paid towards the repair of the road; £3. 1. 7. as half the bequest for the poor of Velindre and Aberllynvi; and £20. 10. are distributed in meat and clothing. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor of these two places is £273. 5.

**VELINDRE**, a joint hamlet with Gwempa, in the parish of LLANGENDRIN, hundred of KIDWELLY, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. S. E.) from Carmarthen. The population is included in the return for the parish. This hamlet is situated on the northern declivity of some elevated ground, about a mile and a quarter to the south of the parish church.

**VENNI-VÂCH**, a hamlet in that part of the parish of ST. JOHN the EVANGELIST, BRECKNOCK, which is in the hundred of MERTHYR-CYNOG, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (W.) from Brecknock, containing 119 inhabitants. This place is beautifully situated under a luxuriant wood, facing the south, to which circumstance may be attributed the numerous virandas that embellish the cottages, and add so much to their pleasing and picturesque appearance. The hamlet, which maintains its own poor, is bounded on the west by the river Yscir, and on the south by the Usk. At its western extremity, and in the angle formed by the rivers Usk and Yscir, at their confluence here, stood Caer Vong, or Caer Bannau, the ancient metropolis of Bledodyn ab Maenarch, which was razed to the ground by Bernard Newmarch, who, having defeated him in battle, and usurped his territories, built a fortress for their defence near the confluence of the Honddû with the Usk, for the erection of which the remains of Caer Vong furnished materials, and also for building the town of Brecknock, which rose from its ruins around the newly constructed fortress. This spot, now called "the Gaer," is supposed to have been originally the site

of one of the earliest stations of the Romans, in the province of Britannia Secunda. According to Mr. Strange, who has described it in the *Archæologia*, it forms a quadrilateral area, six hundred and twenty-four feet in length, and four hundred and twenty-six feet wide, rounded at the angles. The foundation of the wall by which it is enclosed is still entire, and is seven feet in thickness: in some places this wall is remaining to the height of from three to six feet above the ground, with some of the facings entire. A fragment of brick, inscribed LEG. II. AVG., two gold coins of the Emperor Nero, and a silver coin of Trajan, discovered at this place, were, according to Mr. Strange, in the possession of the proprietor of the soil. About a quarter of a mile from the farm-house now occupying part of the area, in a lane leading to Brecknock, there is a stone, about six feet in height, having two figures rudely cut on it in relief, and part of an inscription, of which only the words ET CONIVNX EIVS EST are now legible. At a short distance from the Gaer, towards the east, were the lines of a British encampment, plainly discernible till overspread by the luxuriant woods of Venni, by which they are now entirely concealed, and consequently not to be traced without the greatest difficulty. At the distance of a mile to the north-east is Pen y Crûg, one of the largest and most perfect remains of the strong holds of the ancient Britons in South Wales: its form is elliptical, including an area nearly six hundred yards in circuit, defended all round by three high ramparts, which are for the greater part entire: it occupies a commanding situation on the summit of a lofty hill, overlooking the town of Brecknock, and having the only entrance on the east. The prospect from this height is very extensive and exceedingly beautiful, comprehending the Vale of Usk, with the winding course of the river from below Bwlch to the tastefully disposed and richly varied grounds of Penpont and Abercamlais: on the south rises the magnificent chain of mountains called the Beacons, and on the north is the small but highly picturesque Vale of Honddû. Among the numerous interesting objects which this splendid view embraces are, the ivy-mantled ruins of Brecknock castle; the venerable towers of the priory and St. Mary's churches; the luxuriant woods of Pennoyre, Frwdgrêch, Dinas, Penpont, and Venni; and the numberless heights of varied aspect which fill up this extensive tract of country, abounding in beauty and variety, and combining the most prominent features of pleasingly picturesque and strikingly romantic scenery. On an eminence formerly called Pen Cevn y Gaer, and now Slwch Tump, at the eastern extremity of the parish, are the remains of an encampment, similar in form to that of Pen y Crûg, but of smaller dimensions, defended by a double fosse, which is in some places nearly destroyed. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £114. 18.

**VERWIC** (Y-VERWIG), a parish in the lower division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  miles (N.) from Cardigan, containing 439 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the coast of St. George's channel, is celebrated in the Welsh annals for the memorable and sanguinary resistance opposed by the natives to a body of invading Flemings, who had effected a landing on a part of the beach, called Traeth y Mount; and in the desperate



battle which ensued these invaders were defeated with dreadful carnage, and their dead bodies were strewn in heaps on the sands. This conflict took place on the first Sunday after New year's day, which, from that event, was called *Sul Côch*, or "the Red Sunday," near a farm named *Nant y Flynion*, from the small brook in the neighbourhood, near which the enemy landed. The bones of the slaughtered Flemings buried on the coast are still discoverable when the sands are scattered by the winds. The parish is skirted by the river *Teivy*, which abounds with salmon, trout, turbot, dories, sewin, and various other kinds of fish, in taking which the inhabitants are chiefly employed during the season. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry of *Cardigan*, and diocese of *St. David's*, rated in the king's books at £10. 13. 4., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to *St. Pedrog*, is a small ancient edifice, with a tower, and consists of a nave and chancel, separated by a large pointed arch: the nave communicates with the tower by a similar arch of smaller dimensions: the ancient font is elaborately ornamented, and over the porch is the date 1627. On a tenement in this parish there is a barrow, from which it has obtained the name of *Crûg*, but nothing is known of its origin. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £201. 13.

**VORLAN**, a hamlet in that part of the parish of *St. Mary's* which is in the hundred of *DUNGLEDY*, county of *PEMBROKE*, *SOUTH WALES*, 9 miles (N. by W.) from *Narberth*, containing 93 inhabitants. This hamlet is of very small extent: the vicar of the parish was formerly the only inhabitant of it assessed to the relief of the poor; and even now the average annual expenditure for that purpose amounts only to £2. 10.

**VRITHOED**, a joint township with *Cyfeiliog*, in the parish of *CYFEILIOG*, hundred of *RUTHIN*, county of *DENBIGH*, *NORTH WALES*. The population is included in the return for the parish. In 1731, *John Morris* bequeathed some land, which produces a small sum, towards the support of a schoolmaster and for apprenticing poor children of this township.

**VRO**, a parcel in the parish of *LLANGYNIDER*, hundred of *CRICKHOWEL*, county of *BRECKNOCK*, *SOUTH WALES*, containing 506 inhabitants. The parish church is situated in this parcel, which is bounded on the north-east by the river *Usk*, and on the north-west by the *Crawnion* brook, which flows into that river near where an ancient castle is said to have stood. A bridge crosses the former, on the line of road leading from *Crickhowel* to *Brecknock* and to *Talgarth*. The *Brecknock* canal passes through it, along the western bank of the *Usk*. The hills abound with limestone, the quarrying and burning of which afford employment to many of the inhabitants. A separate assessment is made for the relief of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £214. 12.

**VRO**, a hamlet in the parish of *LLANTHETTY*, hundred of *PENCELLE*, county of *BRECKNOCK*, *SOUTH WALES*, 7 miles (N.) from *Merthyr-Tydvil*, containing 331 inhabitants. It comprises a portion of the upper part of the vale of the *Lesser Taf*, which contains some pleasing scenery, and includes *Taf-Vechan* chapel, the living of which is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry of *Brecknock*, and diocese of *St. David's*, endowed

with £800 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Rector of *Llanthetty*.

**VYNNE FINAU**, a lordship in the parish of *ABERGUILLY*, lower division of the hundred of *ELVET*, county of *CARMARTHEN*, *SOUTH WALES*. The population is included in the return for the parish. This place belongs to the Bishops of *St. David's*, and it possesses some peculiar privileges, distinct from the rest of the parish. A court leet is regularly held, and a portreeve and constables are appointed for it. A rate is also collected for the repair of the roads of this district, exclusively of that for the rest of the parish; but there is no separate assessment for the maintenance of the poor.

## W.

**WALTON**, a joint township with *Womaston*, in that part of the parish of *OLD RADNOR* which is within the liberties of the borough of *NEW RADNOR*, county of *RADNOR*, *SOUTH WALES*, 3 miles (E.) from *New Radnor*, containing, with *Womaston*, 186 inhabitants. This township is situated on the road from *Kington* to *New Radnor*, which is here crossed by another from *Discoed*. A tributary of the *Somergil* brook flows through it. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor, conjointly with *Womaston*, amounts to £140. 3.

**WALTON (EAST)**, a parish in the hundred of *DUNGLEDY*, county of *PEMBROKE*, *SOUTH WALES*, 7 miles (N. N. E.) from *Haverfordwest*, containing 229 inhabitants. This parish formerly constituted a part of the ample possessions of the commandery of the Knights of *St. John of Jerusalem* at *Slebech*, to which establishment it was given by its Norman proprietor, *Walter de Wale*, from whom it derived its name *Wale's town*, or *Walton*. The scenery, though by no means rich, is less dreary than in some other parts of the county; and *Penty Park*, formerly the residence of a branch of the family of *Philipps*, of *Pieton Castle*, with its grounds, forms a pleasing and ornamental feature in the landscape. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of *St. David's*, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the alternate patronage of *Earl Cawdor* and the parishioners, the latter having the next presentation. The church, dedicated to *St. Mary*, is a very small rude edifice, consisting only of a nave, without either tower or spire. The sum of £5 per annum, subsequently reduced to £3, and now discontinued, was left by the late *Mr. Philipps*, of *Tenby*, chargeable on his estate of *Penty Park*, for the instruction of seven poor children of this parish. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £91. 17.

**WALTON (WEST)**, a parish in the hundred of *RHÔS*, county of *PEMBROKE*, *SOUTH WALES*, 6 miles (W. by S.) from *Haverfordwest*, containing 411 inhabitants. This parish is situated upon the coast of *St. Bride's* bay, by which it is bounded on the west. The surrounding country is destitute of beauty, but the view over the bay is enlivened by the passing and repassing of vessels. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of *St. David's*, rated in the king's books at



£6. 13. 4., and endowed with £400 royal bounty. The church is not entitled to architectural notice. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £76. 8.

**WALWYN'S CASTLE**, a parish in the hundred of RHÔS, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. W. by W.) from Haverfordwest, containing 311 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on St. Bride's bay, is called by the Welsh Castell Gwalchmai, a name probably derived from the tradition that Gwalchmai, cousin of King Arthur, and a warrior of gigantic stature, having been driven from his inheritance in Galway, was wrecked off this coast, and interred here; and his remains are said to have been found in the reign of William the Conqueror. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £7. 13. 4., and in the patronage of the King, as Prince of Wales. The church, dedicated to St. James, is an ancient edifice, not remarkable for any architectural details. A tumulus near it is supposed to mark the site of the ancient castle, but no particulars of its foundation or history are known: there are no vestiges of buildings of any kind, and the artificial mound may probably be only a sepulchral memorial raised over the remains of Gwalchmai, or some other chieftain. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £139. 9.

**WARREN**, a parish in the hundred of CASTLE-MARTIN, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. W.) from Pembroke, containing 169 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated in the south-western part of the county, is of considerable extent, reaching to the coast of the Bristol channel, by which it is bounded on the south and south-west. It includes the small village of Lenny, on the western coast, from which a point of land, projecting into the sea, derives its name of Lenny Head. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 8. 1½., endowed with £400 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is an ancient building with a square tower, surmounted by a spire of stone, forming a conspicuous object on this part of the coast. In the churchyard is the pedestal of an ancient cross, in which is inserted the head of one of the circular kind. According to tradition, there was an ancient religious house on a farm called Warren; but there are no remains of it, and the only records of its existence are the names of several places in the immediate neighbourhood, which would appear to have been derived from such an establishment. Vestiges of an ancient fortification, of circular form, and still in good preservation, may be seen in a field between this place and the parish church of St. Twinnel: it was defended by a triple rampart, having an entrance on the west side, and appears to have been a place of great strength; the area within the inner rampart, which is the most entire, is about one acre in extent. It appears to have formed a link in a chain of fortifications by which the south-western coasts were protected from the piratical incursions of the Saxons and Danes. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £123. 19.

**WELSHPOOL**, a borough, market and assize town, having exclusive jurisdiction, in the county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, 7½ miles (N.) from Montgomery, and 175 (N. W. by W.) from London, on the road from Shrewsbury to Aberystwith: the parish comprises the Upper, Middle, and Lower divisions,



Corporation Seal.

and the township of Cyfronnydd, each of which separately maintains its own poor, and contains 4536 inhabitants, of which number, 673 are in the Upper, 2538 in the Middle, and 1269 in the Lower, division, and the remaining 56 in the township of Cyfronnydd. The original name of this place, written "Trellyn," from the Welsh "Trê'r Llŷn," was derived from its situation near a pool or lake of very great depth. From this circumstance, also, it obtained its present English appellation of Pool; and, in order to distinguish it from the town of that name in the county of Dorset, it has long been generally called Welshpool. This lake, which is now within the park of Powis Castle, is nearly three hundred feet in depth, and, from the dark colour of its waters, had obtained the appellation of Llŷn Dŵ, or "the Black Lake," since corrupted into "Llyndy Pool." The town is of ancient origin: the first notice of it occurs in the Welsh annals of 1109, when Cadwgan ab Bleddyn ab Cynvyn, a powerful native chieftain of Powys, having succeeded, even during the state of anarchy prevailing at that time, in reducing his territories to some degree of order and tranquillity, by a rigid and impartial administration of justice, repaired to this place, and began to erect a castle, which he intended to make his principal residence, and the seat of his government. But this virtuous prince, whom Camden dignifies with the epithet of the "renowned Briton," was, during his abode at this place, suddenly attacked by his nephew Madoc, a lawless chieftain of North Wales, at the head of a numerous band of desperate and profligate followers, who, taking him by surprise, murdered him before he had time either to defend himself, or to take measures for his escape. On the death of Cadwgan, the castle which he had begun was left unfinished; but the work was resumed and completed by Gwenwynwyn, who succeeded his father, Owain Cyveiliog, in the government of the southern part of Powysland. In the year 1191, in resentment of various depredations which had been committed by the Welsh on the English vassals in the marches, Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury, in the absence of Richard I. in the Holy Land, besieged this castle with a powerful force. The garrison made a determined resistance, and held out till the walls were undermined, when they surrendered on honourable terms. The archbishop, having taken possession of the fortress, repaired the damage it had sustained during the siege, strengthened the defences, and, placing in it a strong garrison, returned into England. Gwenwynwyn, its rightful owner, determined to use every effort for the recovery of this castle, which was the most important fortress in his dominions, laid siege to it in 1197, and soon compelled the En-



glish garrison to surrender it to him, upon the same terms as had been granted to his own soldiers. At this time the castle was distinguished by the appellation of "Gwenwynwyn's Castle at the Pool," and became the chief residence of that prince and his successors.

In the reign of John, Gwenwynwyn, having consented to become a vassal of the English crown, and to hold his territories *in capite* under that monarch, his son and successor Gruffydd, on his accession to the government, did homage to the English king, and by his tenure was bound to aid and assist him in his endeavours to subjugate the principality to the authority of the English government. Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, incensed at the defection of Gruffydd from the interests of his countrymen, in the year 1233, attacked and dismantled his castle at Pool, called at that time, from the colour of the stone of which it was built, Y Castell Côch, or "the red castle," an appellation which it still retains among the native Welsh. Upon this occasion Llewelyn banished Gruffydd and gave his territories to Gruffydd ab Madoc, Prince of Upper Powys, and Lord of Dinas Brân. Owain ab Gruffydd, grandson of Gwenwynwyn, still, under the protection of the English, appears nevertheless to have retained possession of his father's territories as an English vassal; and at his death he bequeathed them to his only daughter and heiress, Hawys, surnamed Gadarn, or "the Hardy." After her father's decease the title of Hawys to the principality of Powys was disputed by her four uncles Llewelyn, John, Gruffydd Vychan, and David, all alleging the ineligibility of a female to succeed to that dignity. Under these circumstances Hawys appealed to Edward II., the reigning English monarch, who gave her in marriage to John de Charlton, whom the king ennobled by the title of Baron Powys, and in whose descendants the proprietorship of the castle and its dependencies remained for several generations. It was probably at this period that the fortress first obtained the appellation of Powys Castle, which it still retains. The barony and castle were, by marriage with Jane, eldest daughter of Edward Lord Powys, conveyed to Sir John Grey of Heton, who was slain at the unfortunate battle of Baugée, in 1421; and in the reign of Elizabeth, Edward Grey, an illegitimate son of Edward Grey de Powys, who had inherited the estates by virtue of a settlement on his mother, sold them to Sir Edward Herbert, second son of William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke. Sir Edward, on his death, was interred in the church of Welshpool, and was succeeded in his titles and estates by his son William, who was made Knight of the Bath at the coronation of James I., and by Charles I. created Lord Powys.

On the breaking out of the civil war of the seventeenth century, Piercy Lord Powys, declared himself an advocate of the royal cause, fortified his castle, and placed in it a strong garrison, of which he took the command in person. It was soon afterwards besieged by a strong party of the parliamentary forces, under the command of Sir Thomas Myddelton; and its outer walls having been materially damaged by the artillery of the assailants, it was at length reduced, the noble commander of the garrison was made prisoner, and the place given up to pillage. Upon this

occasion the castle and lordship were confiscated to the use of the parliament; and, according to the general orders issued at the time, the proprietor of the estate was allowed to compound with the parliament, by which means he regained possession of them. It appears by a manuscript in the library at Powis Castle that this fortress, together with that of Montgomery, with their outworks, were ordered by the parliament to be demolished; but by a decree of the council of state, dated April 28th, 1660, it is stated that the "Red Castle in Wales" did not belong to the state, and that the owners and proprietors thereof, having given security that it should not be employed or made use of to the disturbance of the peace of the nation, or prejudicial to the parliament and commonwealth, it is commanded that the former order made for demolishing the above-named castle shall be null and void, so far as regards the Red Castle, with the exception only of the outworks, and the making of some breaches in the walls, in order to render it indefensible in case of any future insurrection against the government and authority of the parliament. After these injunctions had been carried into effect, it was delivered into the possession of its legitimate proprietors, in whose descendants it still remains; the Rt. Hon. Edward Herbert, Viscount Clive, eldest son of the Earl of Powis, being the present proprietor.

The town, which Leland describes as being, in the reign of Henry VIII., "the best market in Powys," still retains that character, in addition to which it may be justly regarded as the modern capital of the county. It is situated for the greater part in a hollow, which opens towards the river Severn, and extends up the acclivity of an eminence towards Powis park and castle: it consists of two towns, called respectively Pool town and Welsh town, but which are now so entirely united, as to form but one. It is large and populous, well lighted with gas, and consists of one long and wide street, intersected at right angles by another of similar character, and also by several streets of smaller extent, all well paved and amply supplied with water: the houses are handsomely built of brick, and with an unusual degree of regularity for this part of the country; and the whole has a cheerful and prepossessing appearance, having more the character of an English, than that of a Welsh, town. This impression, which strikes the stranger on his entrance, is strengthened both by the prevailing language and the manners of the inhabitants, the Welsh language being spoken by few, except such as come from the upper part of the country upon business. The flannel manufacture is carried on here, but upon a scale much inferior to its extent either at Llanidloes or Newtown; and it has long been the principal mart for the sale of the flannels made throughout the whole of the manufacturing district of North Wales, but some spirited efforts are now being made to remove this market to Newtown. A considerable trade is also carried on in malt, for the making of which there are several kilns in the town and neighbourhood; and there are likewise several tanneries upon a large scale. At the extremity of the town are some quarries of excellent stone, near which is a military dépôt for one thousand stand of arms. The river Severn is navigable to within a short distance of the town; and the Montgomeryshire canal, which passes close to it, joins the Ellesmere canal near Oswestry,



affording a facility of communication with Shrewsbury and all parts of the kingdom. The market, which is amply supplied with provisions of every kind, is on Monday; and fairs are held on the second Monday in March, April 17th, June 5th, the first Monday after the 10th of July, September 12th, and November 16th, for horses, cattle, and pedlery; and on the day preceding each a fair is held for the sale of sheep and pigs: a fair is also held on the first Monday after the 20th of September, exclusively for the sale of butter and cheese. A great cattle market is held annually on the first Monday after St. Hilary, and also on the Monday before Christmas-day. The flannel market is held every alternate Thursday, in a spacious room appropriated to that purpose in the town-hall, and has hitherto been attended by numerous dealers and manufacturers from Llanidloes, Newtown, &c.: the average quantity sold at these markets is one thousand pieces, of which the finer sort generally measure about one hundred and twenty yards in length. Welshpool is supplied with coal from the north-western parts of Shropshire, by means of the Montgomeryshire canal; and the river Severn commences its navigable course at only a short distance from the town, at a place called Pool-Stake.

The inhabitants received a charter of incorporation at a very early period, from the lords of Powys, who invested them with various privileges and immunities, which were subsequently confirmed by a charter granted by James I., in the 12th of his reign, and confirmed and enlarged by Charles II. The corporation, under this charter, consists of two bailiffs, and an indefinite number of aldermen and burgesses, with a high steward, recorder, town-clerk, coroner, two serjeants at mace, two yeomen, and other officers. The bailiffs are elected annually on Michaelmas day, by a jury of resident burgesses; the high steward, who holds his office for life, is appointed by the lord of Powys, who also nominates the town-clerk: and the recorder is chosen by the bailiffs, aldermen, and burgesses: the bailiffs, on retiring from office, become aldermen. The coroner is appointed by the high steward and bailiffs; and the serjeants at mace and yeomen, by the bailiffs for the time being. This was originally one of the contributory boroughs which, with Montgomery, returned one member to parliament under the statute of the 27th of Henry VIII.; and the right of election, which was vested in the burgesses generally, continued to be exercised from that time till the year 1728, when the borough was disfranchised by a resolution of the House of Commons, which, however, being in direct opposition to a previous resolution of the House, by which, in 1680, the right was confirmed, the burgesses were empowered, by the act of the 28th of George III., to assert their right of voting for a member for Montgomery before any future committee of the House, and to enter an appeal against any future decision, within twelve calendar months; but no measures were ever taken to regain the franchise. By the recent act to amend the representation, Welshpool has been restored to the exercise of the elective franchise, and is again made contributory with Llanidloes, Llanvyllin, Machynlleth, Montgomery, and Newtown, in returning a member. The right of election is now vested in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value

of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs: the present number of such tenements within the electoral limits of the borough, which are less extensive than the ancient municipal boundary, and are minutely detailed in the Appendix, is about two hundred. The freedom of the borough is inherited by the sons of freemen, or acquired by election of the burgesses at large, subject to the approval of the high steward. The bailiffs, the high steward, and the recorder, are justices of the peace within the borough, and by charter have power to punish for all offences committed within its limits, in as ample a manner as the county magistrates, who have no concurrent jurisdiction. The exclusive jurisdiction of the borough extends over the entire parishes of Pool and Buttington; the whole townships of Gungrog Vechan, Trelydan, and Trêvnant Vechan, with parts of those of Garth, Hendrehên, Llan, Trawscoed, Llanerch-rochwell, Tyrymynach, and Varchwel, in the parish of Guilsfield; the townships of Gaer, Sylvaen, Trêv-Helyg, and Trêvnant, with parts of those of Cwm and Castle, in the parish of Castle Caer Einion; and the township of Brithdir, in the parish of Berriew. The corporation hold courts of quarter session for determining on all offences committed within the borough, the punishment for which does not extend to the loss of life or limb; and a court of record every alternate Tuesday, in which the bailiffs preside, for the recovery of debts to any amount. The assizes for the county, and the petty sessions for the hundreds of Pool and Cawrse, are held in this town. The town-hall, erected at the expense of a few gentlemen residing within the vicinity of the town, to avoid increasing the county rate, which was previously overcharged, is a handsome and commodious building of brick, in the centre of the principal street, with a colonnade in front: the basement story is appropriated to the use of the corn market, with an ample space for the sale of various articles of merchandise, and a spacious court-room for holding the assizes, the borough sessions, and other courts: in the upper story there is a commodious and handsome room, originally sixty-two feet in length, twenty-five feet wide, and eighteen feet high, but which, in 1824, was enlarged for the holding of the Eisteddvod, and is now one hundred and two feet long, in which public meetings take place, the business of the corporation is transacted, and the flannel market is held, and in which also balls are occasionally given.

The living is a vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £13. 5. 2½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, and, with the exception of the chancel and the tower, rebuilt in 1774, is a spacious and handsome structure, in the early style of English architecture, with a lofty square embattled tower, and consists of a nave, chancel, and north and south aisles: it was enlarged by the addition of galleries in 1824. The ceiling of the chancel is divided into compartments, embellished with rich carved work, and from the roof of the north aisle grows some pendant ivy, which has a very singular appearance. Among the communion plate there is a chalice of fine gold, containing one quart, and valued at £170: engraved on it is a Latin inscription, stating it to have been presented to the church of Pool, by Thomas Davies, Governor-General of the



English Colonies on the western coast of Africa, in gratitude for the preservation of his life during his residence in that unhealthy clime. There is a gradual ascent from the flat part of the town to the church, which stands at the base of a loftier eminence; so that the cemetery, which lies on the acclivity, is in some parts higher than the church itself, and commands a fine view of the town beneath. It has for some time been in contemplation to obtain additional burial-ground for this town, and His Majesty's Commissioners have expressed their readiness to afford facilities for the accomplishment of so desirable an object. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. A National school for children of both sexes was founded in 1821, and is supported by subscription: the building erected for this purpose, and situated at a short distance from the town, on the road to Newtown, is a handsome stone edifice, occupying three sides of a quadrangle, and consisting of two commodious and spacious school-rooms, with apartments for the master and the mistress: in these schools one hundred and forty boys, and one hundred and three girls, are at present gratuitously instructed. Richard Tudor, Esq., bequeathed £100 for teaching ten poor boys, and Edward Parry, in 1770, also bequeathed £100 for teaching eight: the interest of both these sums is appropriated to the maintenance of a school in which these children are instructed; and there is also another school, founded by Mr. Tudor, who bequeathed £40, the interest to be paid to a master or mistress for teaching ten younger children to read. The same gentleman also left £80, directing the produce to be appropriated to the apprenticing of one poor boy annually. An almshouse near the church was founded by the late H. P. Dorsett, Esq., who endowed it for eight poor women; and a dispensary has been established, which is well supported by subscription.

Powis Castle, the seat of Lord Clive, is a stately but irregular pile of building, of great extent, and venerable for its antiquity: it is pleasantly situated in a well-wooded park, at the distance of a mile from the town, on the right of the road leading to Montgomery, and occupies an elevated and commanding site on a ridge of rock overlooking a vast extent of richly diversified country, the greater part of which was formerly subject to its lords. It is built of red sandstone, from which circumstance it derived the appellation of Castell Côch, which it still retains among the Welsh. The damage it sustained during the parliamentary war has been amply repaired; and the whole has been fitted up in a style of grandeur. Considerable improvements have been made in its external appearance, under the auspices of its present proprietor, by removing the sash windows which had been inserted more than a century ago, and restoring others of the original form, more in conformity with the prevailing style of architecture, and by a considerable addition to the height of the tower on the north side. The entrance is by an ancient gateway, flanked by two massive circular towers, into an extensive paved area, round which the principal apartments are ranged. The ascent to these is by a magnificent staircase embellished with paintings by Lanscrome: the walls on each side are painted with mythological and allegorical subjects, among which are representations of

Neptune, Amphitrite, Apollo, and Venus, and emblematical personifications of Poetry, Painting, Music, the Fates, and other subjects: the ceiling is painted with the coronation of Queen Anne. In the lower part of the hall there is a painting of Aurora, and near it is a marble figure of Cybele, in a sitting posture, about three feet high, on a pedestal of marble, exquisitely sculptured, which was brought from Herculaneum; and on the upper landing of the staircase there is a beautiful statue of Apollo Belvidere. This staircase leads to a gallery, one hundred and seventeen feet in length, and twenty feet wide, in which are ranged the busts of the twelve Cæsars, brought from Italy, two mosaic tables from Rome, and four small figures in marble, of very great antiquity. The walls of the gallery are of panelled oak, enriched with armorial bearings of different branches of the family; and the ceiling is an ancient relic of the elaborately ornamented style in plaster. One end of the gallery communicates with the state bedroom, which is preserved in the same order as when prepared for the reception of Charles I., who was expected to sleep here when on his route to Chester. The dining-room, saloon, and library, are all splendidly decorated, and contain some beautiful and valuable antiques, among which are some exquisite sculptures from the ruins of Herculaneum. The ceiling of the dining-room is highly embellished with painting, in which the daughters of William, second Marquis of Powys, are represented in various characters, and with appropriate attributes. In the saloon is a full-length portrait of Roger Palmer, Earl of Castlemain, in the costume of his day, and numerous family portraits by the best masters; and in the library there is a manuscript history of the life of Lord Herbert. The ball-room, of the same dimensions as the gallery, was formerly connected with the main building by a portion of the castle, which was destroyed by fire, so that it is now detached from it: many of the original windows in that portion of the building are still remaining, though almost concealed by the ivy with which they are overspread. At the end of the ball-room is a billiard-room, the walls of which are ornamented with glass cases, containing an elegant variety of stuffed birds, and other curiosities. On the east side of the castle are terraces formed in the rock on which it is built, rising in succession above each other, and laid out in flower gardens, with green and hot-houses, containing a choice collection of rare and valuable plants. The lower terrace leads to a delightful walk, shaded with trees of every variety; and from the north-east angle of the castle there is a terrace, which was most probably formed by the excavation of the rock for the stone with which the castle is built, commanding a fine view of the richly wooded vale of the Severn, with the town of Welshpool, beyond which are seen the 'Rallt and Moel y Golva, and the Breiddin hills, and an extensive tract of the surrounding country. The park, which is very extensive and richly wooded, lies on the acclivity of a hill, of which the summit is two miles distant from the castle, and from which, in clear weather, may be seen the mountains of Plinlimmon, Cader Idris, Snowdon, the Arans, the Arenigs, and various others. A winding road through it leads to the castle, which is frequently lost to the view of the spectator on his approach, and is seen emerging again from the luxuriant foliage by which it had been concealed. The park



is ornamented with numerous rustic seats, and the walk through these delightfully varied grounds, which are open to the public, is a source of much enjoyment to the inhabitants of the town. Among the gentlemen's seats in the neighbourhood is Llanerchydol, the seat of David Pugh, Esq., a modern castellated mansion of stone, beautifully situated on the acclivity of a hill rising gradually from the town, from which is an ascent by a winding road, commanding magnificent prospects: the grounds are tastefully laid out, and comprehend much varied and beautifully picturesque scenery.

At a short distance from the town was the ancient monastery of Monachlog Ystrad Marchell, or Strata Marcella, founded in 1170 by Owain Cyveiliog, son of Gruffydd, for monks of the Cistercian order; but, according to other authorities, by Madoc, another son, to whom Tanner attributes the refounding of it, though, by his charter, he appears only to have granted to it a portion of land on which to found a cell. In the early part of the reign of Edward III., the Welsh monks were removed to English monasteries, and English monks introduced into this establishment, which was made subject to the abbey of Buildwas. It flourished till the dissolution, at which time its revenue, according to Dugdale, was estimated at £64. 14. 2., and according to Speed, at £73. 7. 3.: there are no remains of the edifice, and the only memorial of it is preserved in the ancient site, which is still pointed out. At a short distance to the east of the town are the remains of an ancient British encampment, in a good state of preservation; and on the summit of the mound which it comprises are some stately elm trees. Dr. William Morgan was instituted vicar of this parish in 1575: he was afterwards removed to Llanrhaidr yn Mochnant, whence he was preferred to the see of Llandaf, in 1595, from which he was translated in 1601 to that of St. Asaph, where he died in 1604. He had a principal share in the translation of the Welsh bible, which was printed in 1588: this edition, revised by Dr. Parry, Bishop of Asaph, in 1604, assisted by his chaplain, Dr. John Davies, and reprinted in 1620, is, with some slight variation, the version now in general use. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor in the entire parish of Welshpool is £1139. 5., of which amount, £299. 17. is defrayed by the Upper, £564. 5. by the Middle, and £299. 17. by the Lower, division, and the remaining £30. 3. by the township of Cyfronnydd.

WEN, a joint hamlet with Genol, in the parish of LLANSAWEL, lower division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  miles (N.) from Llandilo-Vawr. The population is returned with the parish, of which it forms the northern and higher portion: it is chiefly hilly, but in many places the sides of the glens are well planted with timber. An assessment is made for the support of the poor conjointly with Genol, the average annual expenditure amounting to £182. 5.

WENVOE, a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (S. W. by W.) from Cardiff, containing 432 inhabitants. The ancient Welsh name of this place is supposed to have been "Gwynva," or "Gwynvai," of which the present is a Norman modification. The parish, which is situated in the south-eastern part of the county, comprises a large extent of enclosed arable and pas-

ture land, and some portions of common, affording good pasturage for sheep. It had formerly an ancient castle, which is noticed by Leland as in a ruinous state even in his time, consisting only of one tower and some fragments of the walls, within a quarter of a mile of which the same writer describes a well, enclosed by a wall, out of which issued a stream called Silly brook. The present castle, the seat of Robert F. Jenner, Esq., erected by the late P. Birt, Esq., maternal grandfather of the present proprietor, is a stately mansion, consisting of a centre and two wings. The principal front, facing the south, extends three hundred and seventy-four feet in length, and is three stories in height, exclusively of the basement and the attics: the wings, which, according to the original design, were to have formed two magnificent conservatories, terminate at each extremity in a square tower, and the intervals between the towers and the centre are partly concealed by trees, with a view to relieve the flatness of such a length of masonry. The grounds are laid out with much taste, and comprehend some rich and beautifully varied scenery; but the view from the house, though pleasing, is neither grand nor extensive. The village is neat and of prepossessing appearance: the soil is a damp clay, but the air is salubrious, and the parish registers afford several instances of longevity, among which are the ages of the three last incumbents, each of whom held the living for half a century. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £13. 7. 1., and in the patronage of Robert Francis Jenner, Esq. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a handsome structure, in the later style of English architecture, with a square embattled tower. The interior is appropriately arranged and kept in excellent order: it contains some good mural monuments in memory of the several proprietors of Wenvoe castle. The churchyard is pleasingly laid out, and the graves are decked with various odoriferous plants: near the church grows a remarkably fine yew tree, in excellent preservation, which is said to be one of the oldest in the county. The parsonage-house, built by the late P. Birt, Esq., is a handsome and spacious edifice. Elizabeth Thomas, in 1701, bequeathed £20; Sir Edmund Thomas, Bart., in 1721, £40; Mary Thomas, £10; William Morgan, £5; and the Rev. John Hodges, rector, in 1777, £45, to the poor of the parish; the income arising from which several sums is annually distributed among them, according to the intentions of the several benefactors. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £258. 3.

WEPPRE (WEPRE), a township in the parish of NORTHOP, Northop division of the hundred of COLES-HILL, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (S. E.) from Flint, containing 354 inhabitants. This township was anciently held by William de Malbedeng, under the church of Chester. In Domesday book it is noticed as possessing a wood a league and a half long, and having two villeyns and two boors, and in another place as having one villeyn and a radman, having been in the possession of Ernui, a freeman. It is situated on the æstuary of the Dee, and comprises a portion of its sands, which are dry at low water, and may probably at some future period be brought into cultivation. The fishery affords employment to many of its



inhabitants, who share in the advantages of the stone pier at Golvtyn, erected by the River Dee Company, for the protection of vessels proceeding to and from Chester, which serves also to shelter their craft.

WESTOAC (WESTOWE), a hamlet in the parish of LLANELLY, hundred of CARNWALLON, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, containing 723 inhabitants. Here was formerly an ancient chapel, which has fallen into ruins.

WESTON-MADOC, a township in that part of the parish of CHURCHSTOKE which is in the lower division of the hundred of CAWRSE, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile (S.) from Montgomery, containing 237 inhabitants. It is included in the manor of Cawrse, which belongs to the Earl of Powis, and is situated near the border of the English county of Salop, in which part of the parish is comprised.

WEYTHEL (GWYTHEL), a township, partly in the parish of GLADESTRY, hundred of RADNOR, and partly in the parish of OLD RADNOR, within the liberties of the town of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (S.E. by S.) from New Radnor. The population is included in the return for the respective parishes. The Weythel brook, on which there are several mills, and which is crossed by the road from Kington, flows through it, in a narrow vale exhibiting various detached plantations. Lady Hartstongue bequeathed a considerable plot of land for the instruction of poor children of this township.

WHITCHURCH, a parish, partly in the hundred of CAERPHILLY, and partly in that of KIBBOR, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (N.N.W.) from Cardiff, containing 1184 inhabitants. This parish is situated on the turnpike road leading from Cardiff to Merthyr-Tydvil, and comprises the Upper and Lower divisions, the former of which, by a decision of the county magistrates at the quarter sessions, in April 1831, is now in the hundred of Kibbor. It includes an extensive tract of enclosed arable and pasture land, part of which is an allotment of Cardiff heath, on its enclosure many years ago. The soil is in general fertile, and favourable to the production of wheat and other grain: the surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and agreeably enlivened by some handsome seats in the immediate vicinity. Green Meadow, the residence of Wyndham Lewis, Esq., is a spacious and handsome modern mansion, in the later style of English architecture, delightfully situated above the river Tâf, and under the declivity of a lofty mountain: the grounds are tastefully laid out, comprehending a rich variety of beautiful scenery, and commanding a fine view of the picturesque ruins of Castell Côch, to the north, built by Ivor ab Cadivor, called also Ivor Bâch, to defend the pass up the valley of the Tâf. Velindre, the pleasant seat of T. W. Brookes, Esq., situated on an eminence above Melin Gruffydd, commands some delightful views of the river Tâf, and the flourishing plantations that ornament its banks in the parish of Pentyrch. The extensive tin plate works belonging to Messrs. R. Blakemore and Co., at Melin Gruffydd, are in this parish: in these works about five hundred persons are constantly employed, and on the average about twenty-five thousand boxes of tin plates, and two thousand tons of sheet iron, are annually manufactured, the conveyance of which to their destination is facilitated by the Glamorganshire canal, which

passes close to the works. The living is annexed to that of Llandaf, and is in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a neat and substantial edifice, in good repair. There are places of worship for Baptists and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Joan Williams, in 1707, bequeathed £20, and Thomas Lewis, in 1724, £5 for the benefit of the poor. In this parish there are, an encampment supposed to be of Roman construction, and a lofty tumulus; but nothing is known of their origin. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor is £245. 9.

WHITCHURCH, a parish in the hundred of DEW-ISLAND, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 12 miles (N.W. by W.) from Haverfordwest, containing 1028 inhabitants. This parish, which contains the small seaport town of Solva, described under its own head, is situated on the coast of St. Bride's bay, and on the turnpike road from Haverfordwest to St. David's. It comprises a considerable tract of good arable and pasture land: the surface is abruptly varied, and the scenery, being pleasingly diversified with hill and dale, is in some parts, especially near the town, highly picturesque. The inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture, in the burning of lime, for which there are some kilns near the entrance of the town of Solva, and in the trade of the port. The living is a discharged vicarage, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 15. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ., endowed with £200 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Precentor and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. David, is not remarkable for any architectural details of importance. There are places of worship for Baptists, Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, and Presbyterians. Caervoriog, in this parish, is the birthplace of Adam Hoton, Bishop of St. David's, at one time ambassador to the Court of France, and Lord High Chancellor of England. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £304. 19.

WHITECHURCH, or EGLWYS-WEN, a parish in the hundred of KEMMES, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (S. by W.) from Cardigan, containing 377 inhabitants. This parish, which is supposed to have derived its name from the white colour of the stone of which the original church was built, is situated in a retired part of the county, at a distance from any turnpike road. It comprises a large tract of enclosed arable and pasture land, a considerable tract of mountainous common, affording pasturage for sheep, and some good turbaries, from which the inhabitants are supplied with fuel. The soil is various, and the inhabitants are principally employed in agriculture: the stone in this part of the country contains a great proportion of quartz, which is found in abundance within the parish. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £6, endowed with £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Thomas Lloyd, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Michael. There are places of worship for Baptists and Independents. John Jones, in 1729, bequeathed rent-charges of £1 and ten shillings respectively to the poor of this parish and that of Llanvair Nantgwyn



adjacent. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £79. 16.

WHITFORD, a parish in the Holywell division of the hundred of COLESHILL, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (N. W. by W.) from Holywell, containing 3333 inhabitants. This parish rises for the most part gradually from the shore of the wide æstuary of the Dee, by which it is bounded on the east and north-east, into hills of considerable elevation: it comprises an extent of nearly eight thousand statute acres of land, and contains a lake called Llŷn Helig, of about fifty acres. A tract of waste land, including three thousand five hundred acres, lying in the parishes of Whitford, Ysceiviog, and Nannerch, was allotted and enclosed some years ago, pursuant to two acts of parliament obtained for that purpose. The village, which is of small size, but contains several neat houses, is pleasantly situated at no great distance from the Chester and Holyhead road, and near the head of a small valley, which, deepening in its course, stretches towards the sea, having its sides beautifully fringed with woods. The surface of the parish is ornamented with several gentlemen's seats. Mostyn Hall is the property and residence of the Hon. Edward M. Lloyd Mostyn, to whom it was bequeathed by the late Sir Thomas Mostyn, Bart., whose name he assumed: it has descended to the Mostyns from their ancestor, Ievan Vychan, (a descendant of Tudor Trevor, Earl of Hereford,) who obtained it by marriage, in the reign of Richard I., with Angharad, heiress of Howel ab Tudor ab Ithel Vychan, of Mostyn, who derived his descent from Edwyn, lord of Tegengle, or Englefield. The mansion is situated in a small but beautifully undulating park, clothed in various parts with fine oaks and magnificent beeches, and was formerly approached by a venerable avenue. It is an ancient irregular edifice, erected at successive periods, and devoid of architectural character: the oldest portion of it was built probably so early as the reign of Henry VI., but the greater part of the present house was erected in 1631. The various apartments contain numerous good paintings and portraits, the latter chiefly of members of the family, and are likewise adorned with antique busts: the library, together with a valuable collection of books and manuscripts (the latter mostly on vellum, and many of them richly illuminated), contains numerous elegant Roman antiques, and other rare relics of former ages, among which are, the cake of copper found at Caerhên, in Carnarvonshire; the silver harp which Queen Elizabeth gave to Thomas Mostyn, in 1568, to bestow upon the most skilful bard at the Eisteddvod held at Caerwys, in the above year; and the golden torques found near Harlech castle, in 1692. In this house Henry Earl of Richmond was concealed, whilst planning the overthrow of the house of York, and the place of his retreat having been discovered by Richard III., a party of armed men was despatched to apprehend him; but Richmond contrived to escape through a hole in the back part of the house, which is still called "the king's," and was afterwards joined at the battle of Bosworth Field by Richard ab Howel, then lord of Mostyn, to whom, after the victory, he presented, in token of gratitude for his preservation, the belt and sword he wore on that day, which were kept for ages in the mansion. In the parliamentary war, this house was garrisoned by Sir Roger Mostyn, who also re-

paired the castle of Flint, and raised an army of fifteen hundred men at his own charge, in support of the cause of his royal master. Downing, in the township of Edenowain, is the birthplace, and was the residence, of the distinguished antiquary and naturalist, Thomas Pennant, Esq., and is now the property of his son and successor, David Pennant, Esq. It is a good mansion in the form of the Roman letter H, with the wings terminating in gables, and is seated on the slope of a narrow valley, well sheltered by the finely wooded grounds which surround it: its name is a corruption of that of the township. The present house was built in 1627, and, together with the grounds, received great improvement from the late owner, of literary celebrity, who conducted the extensive walks, with the greatest taste and judgment, through the deep and darkly wooded dingles to the more elevated points, commanding noble views of the æstuaries of the Dee and the Mersey, and of the distant hills of Westmorland and Cumberland: these varied walks exceed three miles in length. The library, a room forty feet in length, built in the year 1814, contains a valuable and extensive collection of books and papers, among which are great numbers of valuable manuscripts, drawings, &c. In the different rooms are numerous pictures, consisting chiefly of subjects in natural history, and of family portraits; and there is likewise a cabinet of fossils and minerals. In the grounds, which contain several oaks of great age and girth, of which the most remarkable is called "the Fairy Oak," there is a deserted water-mill, skilfully altered by the late proprietor, so as to exhibit the appearance of a monastic ruin. Bychton, an old house built in 1572, situated in an adjacent township of the same name, was the original seat of the Pennants, who had been settled here ever since the tenth century, and a younger branch of which family removed to Downing early in the seventeenth century, on his marriage with the heiress of that house, whose descendant bequeathed it to David, the father of Thomas Pennant, Esq. Downing Ucha, a respectable mansion, is the seat of H. D. Griffiths, Esq.; and Mertyn is that of George Watkin Kenrick, Esq.

The soil of the lower parts of the parish is stiff and clayey; that of the upper, thin, light, and dry, resting on limestone, with occasional beds of gravel. The minerals consist of valuable beds of coal, limestone, and petrosilex, or chert, and of rich and extensive veins of lead-ore and calamine: some copper-ore and, not uncommonly, black jack, or sulphate of zinc, have also been found. The parish comprises a large portion of the extensive coal tract of North Wales, the richness of the strata in this part of which will be best shown by a notice of those through which a pit has been sunk at Bychton, to a depth of six hundred and fourteen feet: the total number of strata here composing the measures is twenty-seven, of which the following are of coal, *viz.*—the fourth, which is of the peculiarly inflammable species called "cannel coal," found also at Mostyn, and is three feet thick, and rests on a bed of common coal, six feet thick, making a total of nine feet; the sixth, which is two feet three inches thick; the eighth, fifteen feet; the tenth, nine feet; the twelfth, cannel coal, fourteen inches; the fourteenth, common coal, one foot; the sixteenth, six feet; the nineteenth, seven feet; the twenty-first, three feet;



the twenty-second, three feet nine inches; and the twenty-fifth and twenty-seventh, each also of the same thickness; making in all sixty-four feet eight inches of coal, and being equal to about one foot of coal in every nine feet depth. The thickest seam in the parish is found at Mostyn, and is sixteen feet thick: the dip of the strata varies from one yard in four to two in three. The coal mines of Mostyn and Bychton have been worked for a very great length of time, having been discovered in the reign of Edward I., by whom they were granted to the abbot and convent of Basingwerk. Throughout the seventeenth century, Dublin and the eastern coast of Ireland were supplied with coal from the Mostyn colliery; but since the year 1710, the accumulation of sand upon this coast was so great as to prevent vessels even of sixty tons' burden coming within two miles of the shore, until the recent formation of a channel and basin by the late Sir Thomas Mostyn; in addition to which the increased operation of the mines at Whitehaven and Workington, in Cumberland, has withdrawn the export trade from this place. The Mostyn collieries only are now worked, and produce about three hundred tons daily, the coal being chiefly sent coastwise to the more distant parts of North Wales. Here are nine separate beds of coal, varying in thickness from three-quarters of a yard to upwards of five yards, the latter being two hundred and ten yards below the sea, and worked for nearly a mile under it: a large steam-engine has been erected upon the sands, which raises the water from the mines: five hundred workmen are constantly employed in these collieries, and a more extensive scale of operations is now contemplated.

Mines of lead and calamine have also been worked in the hilly part of the parish, from time immemorial, until within the last few years, when the latter were discontinued, owing to the low price which the article bore in the market. The Llanerch y Mor reverberating furnaces, for smelting and refining lead-ore, were erected in 1750, on the site of some very ancient lead-works: they smelted sixty tons of ore per week, exclusively for the Manchester market, and afford employment to fifty workmen. Several years ago, copper-ore was obtained to a limited extent; but, though diligent search has been made, none has since been found. Beds of sandstone and freestone exist in the lower parts of the parish, and in the higher are strata of limestone and petrosilex: a great quantity of the last has been conveyed of late years into Staffordshire, where it is made into a coarse stone ware, or formed into stones for grinding and pulverizing burnt flints. The cliffs in the township of Mostyn present a singular appearance, being vitrified throughout their whole extent, as if emitted in a melted state from a volcano. This phenomenon is ascribed to the conflagration of some pyritical matter, which has destroyed the appearance of the regular strata of shale and sandstone, and converted the substance into an unbroken semi-vitrified mass, partially porous, but of the hardness of flint, and in some places of a beautiful vermilion colour, but in most of a mottled red and blue. This transformation is not confined to the face of the cliff, but extends generally through the rock, though diminishing gradually toward the interior, which, at some distance

from the side, appears only discoloured. In forming a new line of road, a perpendicular face of rock has been laid bare to a considerable extent, and appears more compact than near the surface. The same cause extended its operations under the sea, entirely consuming the coal throughout its progress; and the miners are now employed in penetrating through this indurated substance, at the depth of forty-eight feet beneath the bed of the Dee. The rock is procured in large masses, to form breakwaters, and to repair the roads, for which it is peculiarly adapted by its extreme durability. The mineral productions of this district are shipped at Mostyn quay, where a pier and suitable warehouses, wharfs, and basins have been constructed: steam-packets, for the conveyance of passengers, sail from this place to Liverpool regularly, by which, and the frequent trading vessels, an uninterrupted intercourse is maintained with that port.

The living is a discharged vicarage, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, endowed with one-fourth part of the corn tithes, and one-fourth of the small tithes throughout the parish, rated in the king's books at £9. 11. 5½, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph, who also presents to the sinecure rectory, which is rated at £28. 17. 6., but produces a disproportionate income, on account of the tithes being assigned on lease: it is comprised within the rural deanery of Tegengle. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, and situated in the township of Tre Lan, is a spacious unadorned edifice, consisting of a nave, chancel, and north aisle, with a large square western tower: the aisle was built by one Bleddyn Drow, of the house of Mostyn, to which family it belongs. Under a niche in the south wall there is a small elegant monument, by Westmacott, to the memory of the late celebrated Thomas Pennant, Esq., who died at Downing, on December 16th, 1798, aged seventy-three, and was interred here: it consists of an upright pillar of white marble, bearing on its front a medallion profile of the deceased, and surmounted by a Grecian vase: at the base kneels the Genius of Cambria, lamenting the loss of her able and ingenious tourist. There are two places of worship each for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, and one for Baptists. A school-room was built in the village, in 1740, by Mr. Pierce Jones, who bestowed it on the inhabitants, directing them to appoint a master, who, for the use of the school-room, was to teach gratuitously six poor children to read: to this number fourteen more were added by Mrs. Mary Bradshaw, in 1745, who gave for their instruction £140, now in the possession of the Mostyn family, and producing an annual interest of £5. 11., for which, however, only eight boys are taught. Mr. John Davies also, by will dated Oct. 10th, 1802, bequeathed £300 for the education of nine more boys, so that there are now twenty-three children upon the foundation, who are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic. Twenty poor persons of this parish receive five shillings quarterly from the interest of legacies bequeathed by Mrs. Sarah Pennant, and by Louis Gold, the faithful servant of Thomas Pennant, Esq.: the same number of the aged indigent are annually clothed out of the rental of lands in the parish of St. Asaph, purchased under the will of Mr. William Pennant, at the beginning of the seventeenth century; and children and others are also supplied with stock-



ings, blankets, and other warm clothing. Twelve persons annually receive certain articles of clothing from the rental of a farm called Pant, in this parish, the joint property of Richard Garnons and David Pennant, Esqrs.

There are various relics of antiquity within the parish, the most interesting of which is Maen Achwynvan, or "the stone of lamentation:" it is an elegant antique cross, situated on the plain near the hill of Garreg, adjoining Pen yr Allt, and is composed of an entire stone, twelve feet high from the ground, two feet four inches in breadth at the bottom, and ten inches in thickness, with a circular top, containing on each side the figure of a Greek cross, in alto relievo. About the middle of the pillar, on the east side, is a St. Andrew's cross, beneath which is carved the rude naked figure of a man, holding in his right hand a staff, or spear, and near that, on the next side, is the representation of some animal. The other parts of the pillar, on every side, are chequered with fret-work, or adorned with various wreathings, or knots, and running foliage, in high relief, and of exquisite workmanship: the base is fixed in a pedestal buried beneath the surface of the ground. At what time or for what purpose this monument was erected, is a matter of uncertainty. Mr. Pennant considers it to have been a sacred pillar, before which penances were concluded by weeping and such like signs of contrition, and instances the weeping cross near Stafford; whilst Bishop Gibson, in his annotations on Camden, mentions a supposition that it had been set up as a memorial of some great battle fought on the spot, and notices the existence of numerous large tumuli in the parish, some of which, on being opened, were found to contain funereal urns of baked clay, celts, and arrow heads made of flint. On the summit of Garreg, the loftiest eminence in the parish, are the remains of a circular tower, hitherto considered to have been a Roman *pharos*, or lighthouse, erected to guide mariners along the æstuary of the Dee: it is built of rude limestone, imbedded in hard mortar, and is twelve feet six inches in diameter within the walls, which are four feet four inches in thickness, and of considerable height: to the basement story there are two entrances, exactly opposite each other, and over each is a square funnel, resembling a chimney, which opens on the outside, about half-way up the building: above this story appear to have been two floors. A few feet from the ground are three circular openings through the wall. A staircase within led to an upper story, in the walls of which were eight small square holes, cased with freestone, and separated by wooden panels: within these partitions were placed the lights: the building was surrounded by an intrenchment, and approached by a raised road, which may still be traced. The summit of this hill commands a varied and extensive prospect, including a view of Snowdon, the promontory of Llandudno, part of the Isle of Anglesey, and the bay of Llandulas, together with the æstuaries of the Dee and the Mersey, and, occasionally, the fells of Cumberland and Westmorland, and the Isle of Man. Clawdd Offa, or Offa's Dyke, passes through the western part of the parish, and in some parts can be traced only with considerable difficulty. It enters from the parish of Caerwys, and passes on the west of Llŷn Helyg, and through the plantations of Pen y Gelli, where it is

quite perfect, and ten feet high; it then crosses the fields to Green Lane, where it is connected with a very large carnedd, and thence, proceeding to Newmarket gate, it continues on the right of the turnpike road to Trê Abbot, where it crosses the road, and is found nearly perfect on the left, there forming the boundary between Whitford and Llanasaph, and afterwards between the latter parish and Newmarket: it then recrosses the road at Marian, and, passing on the east of Newmarket, separates the parishes of Llanasaph and Gwaenyscor, and terminates on the shore near Talacre, though previous writers have fixed its termination at Tryddin, in the parish of Mold. Near Orsedd, in the township of Edenowain, stood Castell Tŷ Maen, one of the seats of Ednowain Bendew, or "Owen the Strong-headed," lord of Tegengle in the eleventh century, and one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales: there are no remains of this extensive pile, except the lofty mound on which it stood, now covered with a thriving plantation. The township of Trê Abbot owes its name to its having been the summer residence of the abbots of Basingwerk, to the society of which place Edward I. made considerable grants of lands and mines in this parish, including the woody tract called Gelli, which has for ages been stripped of its sylvan features, the monks having received permission from that monarch to cut down the wood: the name Gelli is now confined to a farm-house, which has been formed out of a chapel belonging to the abbots. Trê Abbot subsequently became the property of the family of Davies, one of the members of which, named Miles Davies, distinguished himself as the author of "*Athenæ Britannicæ*," &c., and as a poet of some note. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £1008. 2.

WHITTON, a parish in the hundred of KEVENLEECE, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (W. N. W.) from Presteign, containing 131 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the river Lug, is partly hilly and partly flat: the soil is light, and the inhabitants are principally employed in agriculture, in which they pursue the same improved system that is practised in the adjoining county of Hereford. The surrounding scenery, though not strikingly varied, is in general pleasing, and ornamented in some parts with patches of wood. The village is situated in a long and narrow valley, and has an air of pleasing seclusion and retirement. The petty sessions for the hundred are held here occasionally. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £4. 7. 11., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. David, is a small ancient edifice, with a low tower: it consists only of a nave and chancel, and is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. A school was founded in this parish, by Dame Child of Pilleth, who endowed it with lands now producing £100 per annum, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children of both parishes, and for apprenticing one child from each parish, to which latter purpose the sum of sixteen guineas from the endowment is annually appropriated. A Sunday school is supported by the minister's wife. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £110. 15.



**WICK**, a parish in the hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (W. S. W.) from Cowbridge, containing 349 inhabitants. This parish is situated near the coast of the Bristol channel. The living is consolidated with the vicarage of St. Bride's Major, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf. The church, dedicated to St. James, is not remarkable for any architectural details. There are places of worship for Unitarian Baptists and Calvinistic Methodists. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported by subscription. Anthony Patch bequeathed £5, Thomas Williams a small rent-charge, and two unknown benefactors the respective sums of £14 and £10, for the relief of the poor. Near the church are the ruins of an extensive building, covered with ivy: by some it is supposed to have been a religious house, though there is no record of any establishment of the kind; by others it is thought to have been one of the ancient halls so frequently met with in this county, in which the lords marcher held their courts, and which were subsequently converted into schools and almshouses, and were generally known by the appellation of "church houses." The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £116. 12.

**WIGVAIR** (GWÎG VAIR), a joint township with Meriadog, in that part of the parish of ST. ASAPH which is in the hundred of ISDULAS, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 2 miles (S.) from St. Asaph. The population is returned with the parish. This township is situated on the left bank of the Elwy, and contains a beautiful and romantic dingle, near that river, in which there is a fine spring, called Y Fynnon Vair, or "the Well of Our Lady," discharging about one hundred gallons of water per minute, and strongly impregnated with lime. It is enclosed in a polygonal basin, richly sculptured, which was formerly covered by a canopy supported by ornamental pillars, and was then numerous resorted to as a cold bath. Adjoining the well are the ruins of a cruciform chapel, in the decorated English style, the fine remains of the windows and other parts being overgrown with ivy. Prior to the Reformation this was a chapel of ease to St. Asaph, and was served by one of the vicars of that church. The river Elwy, the banks of which are finely wooded, is here crossed by a majestic bridge, called Pont yr allt Gôch, of one arch, eighty-five feet in span. Wigvair was formerly assessed in conjunction with the township of Meriadog for the separate support of their poor, but it is now included in the general assessment of the parish for that purpose.

**WILLIAMSTON**, a chapelry in the parish of BEGELY, hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (N. W.) from Tenby, containing 470 inhabitants. It is situated on the high road between Pembroke and Carmarthen. Coal is obtained here. The chapel is a rude edifice without tower or spire. This place is separately assessed for the support of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £50. 19.

**WILLINGTON**, a township in the parish of HANMER, hundred of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 8 miles (N. N. E.) from Ellesmere, containing 388 inhabitants. It is situated on the high road from Whitchurch to Wrexham, and contains a few respecta-

ble residences, among which is Willington Hall. Some small bequests have been made for the instruction of poor children. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £270. 6.

**WISTON**, or **WIZTON**, a borough and parish, in the hundred of DUNGLEDDY, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (E. N. E.) from Haverfordwest, 15 (N. by E.) from Pembroke, and 259½ (W.) from London, containing 745 inhabitants. This place, of which the Welsh name is Castell Gwys, derived that appellation from its earliest Norman or Flemish possessor, Gwys or Wiz, who constituted it the head of his barony of Daugleddau: the daughter of his grandson, Sir Philip Gwys, married Gwrgan ab Bleddyn, a native chieftain, from whom descended the family of the Wogans, in whose possession this place remained till the present generation, when, in default of male issue, the ample estates of this ancient family were divided among the coheireses; and the castle and borough of Wiston were subsequently purchased by Earl Cawdor, the present proprietor. The ancient castle, founded by the original Norman proprietor, and a place of great strength, was frequently connected with the military events of which the ancient province of Pembroke was so often the scene, in the continual conflicts between the Welsh and the Norman invaders of their country. In 1146, the three sons of Gruffydd ab Rhÿs, joined by Hywel ab Owain Gwynedd, having assaulted this fortress with stones thrown by machines invented for that purpose, and with battering rams, succeeded, after an obstinate defence, in gaining possession of it. In 1193 it was attacked by Hywel ab Rhÿs, who took Philip de Gwys and his wife prisoners, and carried them off; and in 1220, Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales, in resentment of the violation of a treaty by which the settlers in this part of the country had sworn allegiance to him, attacked the castle, which he razed to the ground, and put the garrison to the sword. From this time the fortress never recovered its former strength, which became unnecessary, as the Welsh, after the marriage of their countryman, Gwrgan, with the daughter of Philip de Gwys, appear to have left this chieftain and his family in the undisturbed possession of it, as part of their estates.

The parish lies only a short distance to the north of the main road from Narberth to Haverfordwest: the church can only be approached by very bad roads, which, in unfavourable weather, are even dangerous. It is of very considerable extent, but the land is generally poor, the only portion of tolerably good soil being about six hundred acres near the church. The houses are scattered throughout the parish, scarcely any where forming a group: a few in the vicinity of the church approach nearest to the character of a village; and one of these is the old manor-house of the Wogans, a part of which, and the only part now occupied, is inhabited as a farm-house. A market formerly held here has long been discontinued; but an annual fair is still held on October 20th. This place appears to be a borough by prescription, for no vestige or notice of any charter is now preserved. A mayor is still elected annually, being presented by the jury of the court leet of the manor and borough, which must consist of burgesses and suitors of the manor; but he is usually some poor



man who is made mayor, as a method of conferring relief, he being entitled to the tolls of the fair, amounting to £8, £10, or £12, per annum. For a year after the mayor has vacated his office he bears the title of alderman, and there is a tradition that the borough had once a more permanently constituted aldermanic body. There is still a town-clerk. The burgesses are presented by the jury of the court leet, which is held once or twice a year, and in which the only business connected with the borough consists in the appointment and swearing in of the mayor, burgesses, and constables: the burgesses are at present five or six hundred in number, of whom from two to three hundred are resident in the borough, or within seven miles of its limits. The constables act only for the parish of Wiston, which circumstance tends to show that the borough is co-extensive with its limits, that being the more general opinion, though some consider that the borough is co-extensive with the manor, which not only comprehends the whole parish, but extends a distance of two miles and a half to the north, and a quarter of a mile to the south, of its boundary. Wiston has heretofore been contributory with Pembroke and Tenby, in the return of a parliamentary representative, the right of election being vested in all the burgesses, resident and non-resident, in whom it was confirmed by a resolution of the House of Commons, in 1712. Under the recent act to amend the representation it remains, with unaltered limits, a member of the same district of boroughs, to which Milford is now added; but the right of election has been restricted to the resident portion of the burgesses, and extended to the £10 householders, duly registered: the number of qualifying tenements is fifty-eight, but of these only eight are of the value of £10 per annum, exclusively of the land held with them.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Earl Cawdor. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a plain Norman edifice, with a small tower, and, from its retired situation in the bosom of a plantation, by which it is partly concealed, has a pleasing and picturesque appearance. There is a place of worship for Welsh Calvinistic Methodists. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, in which at present there are about forty of both sexes, is supported by Earl Cawdor and the other proprietors of land in the parish. The remains of the ancient castle, occupying an elevated site, are but very inconsiderable, consisting chiefly of a portion of the keep, crowning the summit of a conical hill, surrounded by a deep moat. From the appearance of the site it seems to have been originally of very great extent, and, from the thickness of the walls in some parts of the family mansion of the Wogans, which, according to tradition, formed a part of the ancient fortress, it must have been a place of great strength. This ancient mansion is at present let to a farmer, who, however, occupies only part of it: from its windows, and from the ruined keep of the castle are obtained prospects of remarkable extent and beauty. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £249. 8.

WOLSTON, or WESTON-NY-END, a chapelry in that part of the parish of WORTHEN which is in the

lower division of the hundred of CAWRSE, county of MONTGOMERY, NORTH WALES, containing 165 inhabitants. This place is sometimes also called Stony-end, from its comprising a long and not very productive eminence, on the border of Shropshire. It is composed of the two townships of Trelystan and Rhôsgôch. The chapel, which is situated at Trelystan, is dependent on the mother church of Worthen.

WOMASTON, a joint township with Walton, in the parish of OLD RADNOR, and within the liberties of the borough of NEW RADNOR, county of RADNOR, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (E.) from New Radnor, containing, with Walton, 186 inhabitants. It is situated in a fertile district on the banks of the little river Somergil. Womaston, the seat of S. Lewis, Esq., is a good house, occupying a pleasant situation. This township is separately assessed with Walton for the support of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £140. 3.

WORTHENBURY, a parish in the hundred of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 7 miles (E. S. E.) from Wrexham, containing 623 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the banks of the river Dee, and on the road from Wrexham to Malpas, in the county of Chester, is entirely agricultural, and principally divided between the proprietors of the estates of Emral and Broughton, which constitute nearly the whole of the parish. Emral is at present the seat of Sir Richard Puleston, Bart., whose ancestors, originally of Norman descent, have resided here in uninterrupted succession since the reign of Edward I. The first of the family who settled at this place was Sir Roger de Puleston, a great favourite of that monarch, who, after his conquest of Wales, appointed him collector of the taxes which he had imposed on the Welsh, for carrying on the war against France, and also made him sheriff and keeper of the county of Anglesey for life. The Welsh, exasperated by the levying of taxes which they had not previously been accustomed to pay, seized Sir Roger, at Carnarvon, and hanged him on the spot. Edward, incensed at the violence committed on his lieutenant, severely punished the insurgents, and also appointed his son Richard de Puleston sheriff of the county; and in the second parliament to which the shire and the borough, after the incorporation of the latter, returned members, the former elected John and the latter Robert de Puleston for their representatives, as if to atone to the descendants for the outrage committed upon their ancestor. Sir Richard Puleston, Bart., the present proprietor of Emral, had the honour, in 1806, of introducing into Wales His late Majesty George IV., when Prince; in commemoration of which event His Royal Highness was pleased to signify his approbation that Sir Richard, as a testimony of his regard and esteem, should bear, as a crest, an oak tree, with an escutcheon pendant therefrom, charged with three ostrich feathers within a coronet. Broughton, the seat of Mr. Allanson, is also a spacious mansion, to which are attached extensive grounds, and is likewise an ancient family residence. The soil of the higher grounds is in general good loamy clay, producing superior crops of wheat and rich pasturage; that in the lower grounds, which is subject to partial floods from the river and some tributary brooks which intersect it, is formed of alluvial earth. The



river Dee forms the boundary of part of the parish on the north-west, where it also separates the counties of Denbigh and Flint.

This parish was formerly a chapelry in that of Bangor Iscoed, from which it was severed under the provisions of an act of parliament for uniting and dividing parishes, in 1658: the living was, however, taken possession of by Dr. Bridgeman, rector of Bangor, in 1661, but was ultimately again separated, and Worthenbury was made a distinct parish, by an act of parliament obtained in the 2nd of William and Mary. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Chester, rated in the king's books at £19. 13. 4., and in the patronage of Sir Richard Puleston, Bart. The tithes of the parish formerly belonged to the family of Puleston, subject to a small annual payment to the rector of Bangor. Judge Puleston, being desirous of establishing a resident minister at this place, erected a good house near the church, in 1657, and endowed the living with £100 per annum, upon condition that his chaplain, Philip Henry, who had entered his family as tutor to his children, in 1653, would undertake the cure of souls in this place, which offer being accepted, Mr. Henry resided in the house, and performed the duties of the incumbency till the year 1661, when he was suspended from his charge for non-conformity, and in the following year quitted the parish. During the insurrection of the inhabitants of the county of Chester, in 1659, some of Lambert's forces came to this church, to attend the ministry of that celebrated preacher. The church, dedicated to St. Deiniol, is a handsome modern edifice of brick, with a lofty tower ornamented on the summit with urns and crosses alternately. Thomas Puleston, Esq., bequeathed £150 in money for building a school-house in the churchyard, for the gratuitous instruction of poor children, and for six small houses to be let rent-free to poor decayed tenants on the Emral estate. Sir John Puleston, of Emral, was chamberlain of North Wales in 1554; and John Puleston, one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas, was born at Emral. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor is £339.

WREXHAM, a market town and a parish, chiefly in the hundred of BROMFIELD, county of DENBIGH, but partly in that of MAELOR, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES, 24 miles (S.E. by E.) from Denbigh, 16 (E.S.E.) from Ruthin, and 187½ (N.W.) from London, comprising the chapelries of Bersham Drelin-court and Minera, and the townships of Abenbury-Vawr, Abenbury-Vechan, Acton, Bieston, Borrashovah, Broughton, Brymbo, Esclusham Above, Esclusham Below, Gourton, Stansty, Wrexham Abbot, and Wrexham Regis, each of which maintains its poor separately, according to an arrangement made in March 1830, and containing 11,515 inhabitants, of which number, 2043 are in the township of Wrexham Abbot, and 3441 in that of Wrexham Regis, these two comprising the town. This place, which is of very remote antiquity, is noticed in the Saxon Chronicle under the names of *Wrightesham* and *Wrightesham*, from which its present appellation is most probably derived. From its situation on the eastern side of Clawdd Offa, or Offa's Dyke, it was enumerated among the towns of the Saxon kingdom of Mercia, but was, at a subsequent period, included in the district called Welsh

Maelor. Edward I. granted this town, together with the lordship of Bromfield and Yale, within which it was included, to John Earl Warren; but scarcely any thing of historical importance appears ever to have distinguished it. In the reign of Henry VIII. it was noticed by Leland as a trading town, having some merchants and good buckler makers. During the civil war in the reign of Charles I., the church was converted into a temporary prison. No remarkable event, however, took place here during that war, except that in March, 1646, some of the parliamentary soldiers mutinied for their pay, seized Colonel Jones, the treasurer, and others of the parliamentary commissioners, and compelled Colonel Mytton, who had just entered the town, to make a hasty retreat to Holt Castle.

The town is pleasantly and advantageously situated at the junction of the Shrewsbury, Welshpool, Oswestry, and Chester roads, at the distance of little more than eleven miles from the latter place, and in the centre of the mining and manufacturing districts of the eastern part of Denbighshire: it consists of several spacious streets intersecting each other at right angles, the houses in which are in general neatly and substantially built: it is well paved and lighted with gas, and the inhabitants are plentifully supplied with water. A small theatre is occasionally opened for dramatic performances; and races are annually held early in October, on a course a little to the north-west of the town, on the right of the road to Mold. No particular branch of trade or manufacture is carried on in the town; but the parish, which is about twelve miles in length, and two and a half in breadth, abounds with mineral wealth, and extensive works of various kinds are carried on in different parts of it. In the township of Esclusham Below are some paper-mills on a large scale, situated on the banks of the river Clywedog. In that of Minera there are extensive lead mines and collieries: the working of the former is almost suspended, owing to the great influx of water, notwithstanding the united power of several steam-engines, which are employed to draw it from the mines: the coal-works are conducted upon a large scale, the Vale of Clwyd being principally supplied from this source; and there are other collieries at Esclusham above Dyke, at Broughton, and in the township of Brymbo, in which last place are also iron-works, established by the late John Wilkinson, Esq. The coal mines generally vary from one hundred to one hundred and twenty yards in depth, and in some parts they are sunk to the depth of two hundred yards: the strata of coal vary from eighteen inches to fifteen feet in thickness. The iron-stone of this district is found in detached nodules, in beds intermediate with and below the coal strata, and is of the usual kind of argillaceous ore, containing from thirty to thirty-five per cent. of metal: it is often smelted with a small portion of the richer hæmatitic ore from Ulverstone, which is brought hither for that purpose, and is thought to improve its quality, being much prized for its peculiar tenacity. A foundry for cannon was established at Bersham by the late John and William Wilkinson, Esqrs., from which not only our own Government, but some of the continental states, particularly Russia, were formerly supplied; but these works are now in ruins, the only



tenable part having been converted into a corn-mill. The iron-works in this parish have indeed been long in a neglected state, appearing to have been superseded by those in the adjoining parishes of Ruabon and Gresford, though it is in contemplation to revive those at Brymbo; and, as the ores both of lead and iron are rich and abundant, the works may again be brought into active operation, whenever a sufficient improvement in trade demands it. When the Ellesmere canal was projected, it was in contemplation to construct a branch from Pont y Cyssyltau to Chester, through Broughton, Brymbo, &c.; but the plan was abandoned, owing to the want of water sufficient for a high level, and other circumstances: the only mode of conveyance is by land carriage to Chester. Markets are held on Monday and Thursday, the latter being the principal market day. Fairs are held annually on the Thursday after the second Wednesday in January, March 23rd, Holy Thursday, June 16th, Thursday after the second Wednesday in August, September 19th, third Thursday in October, and Thursday after the second Wednesday in December. The March fair is the greatest in North Wales: it commences on the 23rd, and lasts fourteen days; and, for the accommodation of the various dealers attending it, five extensive areas are fitted up with shops and booths: one of these commercial halls confers twenty-eight votes for the county upon its proprietors, who are principally inhabitants of Huddersfield. This fair is attended not only by the inhabitants of the neighbouring district, but by tradesmen from distant parts of the kingdom: the chief commodities brought to it by the Welsh are, flannels of various qualities, linsey woolseys, coarse linens, horses, cattle, and sheep: the dealers who attend it from distant places expose for sale Irish linens, Yorkshire and other woollen cloths, and every variety of Birmingham, Sheffield, and Manchester manufactures, with which the greater part of North Wales was formerly supplied hence for the remainder of the year. By the recent act to amend the representation Wrexham has been made contributory with Denbigh, Holt, and Ruthin, in the return of a parliamentary representative: the borough is made to consist of the two townships of Wrexham Abbot and Wrexham Regis, together with a very small detached portion of that of Esclusham Below, situated within the town. The elective franchise is vested in every male person of full age occupying, either as owner or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the annual value of ten pounds and upwards, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs; the present number is three hundred and thirty-one. It has also been made one of the polling-places in the election of knights for the shire. The town is under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, who hold petty sessions in it every month. The town-hall is a large brick edifice, situated at the top of High-street; the ground floor was formerly open, but is now enclosed between the pillars that support the upper story: this consists of a spacious and lofty room, formerly a court of justice, but now only used for public meetings, and as a dépôt for arms. A county house of correction, situated here, comprises seven wards for the classification of prisoners, who are allowed a portion of their earnings.

The living is a vicarage, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, rated in the king's books at £19. 9. 9½., and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Giles, is a spacious and venerable edifice, in the later style of English architecture, deservedly regarded as one of the finest ecclesiastical edifices in the principality. The steeple of the original church was blown down in 1331; and in 1457 the church was burnt. In order to promote the rebuilding of it, an indulgence of forty days, to be continued for five years, was granted to every one who contributed to that work, and the present structure was erected, about the year 1472, the glass used in the windows having been brought from Normandy: the tower was not finished till about the year 1506, as appears by a date on the building. No fewer than one thousand five hundred and fifty sittings have recently been added, of which nine hundred are free, the Incorporated Society for building and enlarging churches and chapels having contributed the sum of £200 towards that purpose. The exterior of the building is embellished with grotesque sculpture; and the tower, which is very lofty and highly enriched, consists of several successive stages, panelled throughout, and decorated with numerous statues of saints, among which is that of its patron, St. Giles, in canopied niches, elaborately wrought: from the loftiness of its elevation and the light open-work turrets by which it is crowned at the angles, it forms a conspicuous and highly interesting object, as seen from every part of the surrounding country. The interior consists of a nave, chancel, and north and south aisles: the nave is separated from the aisles by columns and pointed arches, and is lighted by a fine range of clerestory windows: the roof is of carved oak richly ornamented, and supported by springers resting on embellished corbels. The chancel is separated from the nave by a curiously wrought iron railing, and is octangular at the east end: the altar-piece is injudiciously embellished with rich columns of the Corinthian order, and in the centre is a painting of the Last Supper, presented to the church by Elihu Yale, of Plâs Gronow, who also presented a painting of David playing on the harp, which is placed in another part of the church: the roof of the chancel appears to be of more ancient date than those of the nave and aisles, and on one side are three stone stalls elaborately sculptured. The fine brazen eagle, formerly used as a reading-desk, and presented to the parish by John ab Gruffydd ab Davydd, of Ystiva, in 1524, is still preserved in the church, and is used by the clerk during the reading of the communion service. Among the most ancient of the monuments is that of a knight in complete armour: at the feet is a dog, and beyond it a dragon, with the point of the tail terminating in a serpent's head: on the shield is a lion rampant, and around it an inscription, of which only the words "*Hic jacet*" are legible. In the chancel there is an altar-tomb, on which is a recumbent effigy of Dr. Bellot, successively Bishop of Bangor and Chester, in his episcopal robes: he died at Bersham, in this parish, in 1596: his funeral was celebrated at Chester, but his body, according to his particular request, was interred in the parish where he died. Nearly opposite to this tomb is an exquisite and highly interesting monument, by Roubilliac, to the memory of Mrs. Mary Myddelton,



of Chirk Castle, in which she is represented rising from the tomb in all the freshness of youth and beauty: above is a shattered pyramid, with a cypress tree, and near it an angel with a trumpet. At the corner of the aisle there is a monument, also by Roubilliac, to the Rev. Thomas Myddelton and Arabella his wife: their profiles are finely executed on medallions, with a curtain, partly drawn aside, the drapery of which is exquisitely sculptured. There are also several monuments of very good design and elaborate execution, to William Lloyd, Esq., and his son; to the Fitzhughs, the Pulestons, the Longuevilles, and others. In the churchyard is the tomb of Elihu Yale, who was governor of Madras, and whose singular epitaph represents him as born in America, bred in Europe, to have travelled through Africa, and to have been married in Asia. There are also other tombs deserving of notice, one of which, bearing a curious epitaph, records the interment of Daniel Jones, parish clerk of Wrexham, who died in 1668. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, Welsh and Wesleyan Methodists, and Presbyterians, and a Roman Catholic chapel, within the parish.

The free grammar school was founded by Valentine Broughton, alderman of Chester, who endowed it with £18 per annum, for which twelve boys are gratuitously taught. Dame Dorothy Jeffreys, in 1728, by will reciting that her late daughter Margaret, in 1711, had bequeathed £100 to the poor of the parish, and £20 for the teaching of poor children, in addition to those bequests, left £400, to be laid out in lands or on other good security, and the interest to be appropriated to the instruction and apprenticing of poor children of the parish. This property was invested by the vicar and churchwardens, who were appointed trustees, in the purchase of an estate, for which they gave the sum of £822. 7., and which now produces an income of £163 per annum, of which £60 per annum are paid to the master of Dame Jeffreys' school, for which a commodious building was erected by Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., in 1809; £62 per annum to the mistress of the National school for girls, erected at Pen y Bryn by subscription, in 1819; £35 per annum is distributed among the poor of the parish; and the remainder is reserved for contingencies. From 1815 till 1826 the sum of £62 per annum was paid to the master of the free grammar school, but since that time it has been applied as above described. Attached to Bersham chapel is a free school for girls, fully noticed in the article on that place. From the rental of the above estate a certain sum was applied to defray the expense of erecting the house and premises now occupied by the master of the free grammar school. There are also considerable funds, arising from divers bequests and donations, for distribution by the vicar and churchwardens among the poor of the parish. Offa's Dyke is traced in various parts of the parish, and is plainly visible in the township of Esclusham, which, in reference to it, is divided into Esclusham above Dyke and Esclusham below Dyke: it also passes through the township of Broughton, and, in every part of the parish in which it is traced, is in a very perfect state, but particularly in the grounds of Pentre Bychan and Plâs Power. Wat's Dyke passes along the western boundary of the town of Wrexham, and, taking a northerly course, is continued through the township of Stansty to the river

Alyn, near which it enters Llai, in the parish of Gresford. The remains of two Roman baths were discovered in the town, in the year 1806. In the neighbourhood are numerous gentlemen's seats, for which, even in the time of Churchyard, the poet, the vicinity was peculiarly distinguished. Among those in the more immediate neighbourhood are, Pentre Bychan, the seat of H. W. Meredith, Esq.; Plâs Power, that of Thomas Fitzhugh, Esq.; Acton Park, formerly the seat of the family of Jeffreys, and the birthplace of the notorious judge of that name, and now the property and residence of Sir Foster Cunliffe, Bart., a spacious mansion delightfully situated in extensive grounds richly diversified with picturesque and romantic scenery, and commanding pleasing views over the town and the adjacent country, which abounds with features of beauty and interest; Erddig, that of Simon Yorke, Esq., the romantic hanging woods in the domain of which are deservedly the theme of general admiration; Cevn, late the residence of George Kenyon, Esq., deceased; Brymbo Hall, the seat of William Legh, Esq., a fine specimen of domestic architecture, said to have been built from a design by Inigo Jones, and commanding the most extensive prospect in the neighbourhood; and several others in the adjoining parishes, in the accounts of which they are respectively noticed. In this parish also are the remains of many old mansions, which are now occupied only as farm-houses. Amongst these are, Cadwgan; Hâvod y Wern, formerly the residence of the Puleston family; and Esclusham Hall, also a residence of that family. Mr. Edward Randles, organist at Wrexham towards the close of the last and early in the present century, although blind, was one of the most skilful performers on the harp in the kingdom; and his daughter, Miss Elizabeth Randles, was an unexampled prodigy of juvenile proficiency in the art of music; having had the honour, when only three years and a half old, of performing on the piano-forte before the king and the royal family.

## Y.

YERBESTON, a parish in the hundred of NARBERTH, county of PEMBROKE, SOUTH WALES, 4 miles (S.W.) from Narberth, containing 155 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated near the turnpike road leading from Pembroke to Narberth, comprises but a small extent of land, which is all enclosed and cultivated. Culm is found in some parts of it, but is worked only for home consumption, and the supply of the immediate neighbourhood. The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £5. 3. 9., endowed with £400 private benefaction, and £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Baron de Rutzen. The church, dedicated to St. Lawrence, is not distinguished by any architectural details of importance. A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children is supported at the sole expense of the present incumbent. The average annual expenditure for the relief of the poor is £36. 13.

YN DRE ISA (YN-Y-DRE-ISÂV), a township in that part of the parish of LLANBADARN -VAWR which is in the lower division of the hundred of GENEU 'R



GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 1 mile (E. S. E.) from Aberystwith, containing 335 inhabitants. The parochial church of Llanbadarn-Vawr, and the greater part of the adjacent village are situated in this township, a small part of which is included within the new boundaries of the contributory borough of Aberystwith. It is bounded on the north-west by the river Rheidol. The poor are supported by a separate assessment, the average annual expenditure amounting to £51. 14.

YN DRE UCHA (YN-Y-DRE-UCHÂV), a township in that part of the parish of LLANBADARN-VAWR which is in the lower division of the hundred of GENEU'R GLYN, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  mile (E. by S.) from Aberystwith, containing 347 inhabitants. It is bounded on the south by the river Rheidol, and contains a portion of the village of Llanbadarn-Vawr. There is a separate assessment for the support of the poor, the average annual expenditure amounting to £77. 19.

YNIS Y MOND (YNYS-Y-MWNT), a hamlet in the parish of CADOXTON, hundred of NEATH, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, containing 177 inhabitants. It is situated in that part of the Vale of Neath which comprises the upper portion of the parish, and near to the head of the Neath canal. There are several small coal-works at present in operation, but the number of persons employed is uncertain, depending upon the fluctuating demand for their produce.

YNYSAWDRE (YNYS-Y-NAWDD-DRÊV), a hamlet in the parish of ST. BRIDE'S MAJOR, hundred of OGMORE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, containing 91 inhabitants. It is situated at the mouth of the Ewenny and Ogmere rivers, which here unite their waters and flow into the Bristol channel; and it takes its name, signifying "the Isle of Refuge, or Sanctuary," from a small island in the æstuary formed by these streams. The greater portion of the inhabitants are employed in fishing. A separate assessment is made for the relief of its poor, the average annual expenditure amounting only to £6. 4.

YNYSCYNHAIARN (YNYS-CYNHAIARN), a parish, comprising the town of Trêmadoc (which is described under its own head), in the hundred of EIVION-YDD, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, and containing 1075 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from its low maritime situation, and the dedication of its church to St. Cynhaiarn, who flourished about the close of the sixth century, is situated on the Traeth Mawr, and on the turnpike road from Pwllheli to Trêmadoc. The surface is very uneven, and in some parts mountainous; and the soil varies exceedingly, but in the lower grounds is fertile. In the mountainous parts copper-ore is found in various places, but none of the mines are worked with spirit or success. The living is annexed to the rectory of Criccieth, in the archdeaconry of Merioneth, and diocese of Bangor. The church is now being rebuilt upon a more commodious site, in the later style of English architecture, and, when completed, will be a very handsome structure: the churchyard has been very considerably enlarged, a measure rendered absolutely necessary from the increase of popula-

tion which has taken place since the formation of the town and port of Trêmadoc. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. The poor children of this parish are entitled to the benefit of gratuitous instruction in the school at Criccieth. The average annual expenditure for the relief of the poor of the whole parish amounts to £329. 7.

YR-DDREINIOG, a township in that part of the parish of TRÊGAYAN which is in the hundred of TYN-DAETHWY, county of ANGLESEY, NORTH WALES. The population is included in the return for the parish. The name signifies a place abounding with thorns.

YSCEIBION, a joint township with Bachymbyd, in that part of the parish of LLANYNYS which is in the hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, NORTH WALES, 4 miles (N. W. by W.) from Ruthin. The population is included in the return for the parish. A large portion of this township was enclosed in 1803, under the provisions of an act of parliament.

YSCEIVIOG (YSGEIVIOG), a parish in the Caerwys division of the hundred of RHUDDLAN, county of FLINT, NORTH WALES,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (S. W. by S.) from Holywell, containing 1852 inhabitants. This parish, which is situated on the roads from Denbigh to Mold and Holywell, comprises a very considerable tract of good arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and cultivated, and a portion of hilly ground, which is too elevated for culture. A waste tract of three thousand five hundred acres in it and the adjacent parishes of Nannerch and Whitford was enclosed some years ago by act of parliament. The village, which is small, is seated on an eminence, commanding some finely varied and extensive prospects; and the surrounding scenery presents many interesting features. Lead-ore abounds in the parish, and several mines, which had been worked for many years with great advantage, have been recently discontinued, in consequence of the present low price of the metal. The living consists of a rectory and vicarage united, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph: the rectory is rated in the king's books at £18. 10. 10., and the vicarage, which is discharged, at £6. 3. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ .; the patron is the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is an ancient and spacious edifice, partly Norman, and partly in the early style of English architecture, with a massive and lofty tower of very rude construction: it consists of a nave and chancel, with a large chapel or chantry on each side of the latter, lighted by ranges of lancet-shaped windows: on the north side of the nave there is a very elegant Norman doorway, now walled up, the mouldings of which are richly ornamented and in an excellent state of preservation; but the body of the edifice is in such a state of dilapidation, that divine service has been discontinued, and is to be in future performed in the National school-room. There are two places of worship each for Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists, and one for Baptists. A National school was erected by subscription, aided by a grant from the parent society in London, and for some time the school was conducted with success, but, from the want of an endowment for a master, it has been discontinued: at present about twenty boys are gratuitously instructed at the expense



of the rector and two other gentlemen of the parish. There are several charitable donations and bequests by various benefactors, the produce of which is annually distributed among the poor. On the high ground in this parish are the remains of a Roman encampment; and at Brŷn Sion was found, in the year 1816, a very beautiful torques of pure gold, measuring fifty-two inches in length, and weighing twenty-four ounces, which was purchased by the present Marquis of Westminster, for three hundred guineas, and is now in the cabinet at Eaton Hall. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £802. 3.

YSCIR-VAWR (ESGAIR-VAWR), a hamlet in the parish and hundred of MERTHYR-CYNOG, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (N. N. W.) from Brecknock, containing 204 inhabitants. The parish church is situated in this hamlet, which comprises the vale through which the larger branch of the Yscir stream flows. The population is exclusively agricultural, and the right of common on the surrounding bleak and extensive mountains is in general use. There is a small bequest producing £2 per annum for the relief of the poor, left by Edward Gwynn, in 1760. The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £129. 18.

YSCIR-VECHAN (ESGAIR-VECHAN), a hamlet in the parish and hundred of MERTHYR-CYNOG, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 9 miles (N. W. by N.) from Brecknock, containing 243 inhabitants. The lesser branch of the Yscir, from which the hamlet takes its name, flows through a vale here, and the surrounding country is composed of barren and mountainous commons. The poor are maintained by a separate assessment, the annual expenditure averaging £110. 19.

YSGWYDDGWYN (YSGWYDDWYN), a hamlet in the parish of GELLYGAER, hundred of CAERPHILLY, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 5 miles (S. E.) from Merthyr-Tydvil, containing 105 inhabitants, which is also the exact number returned in 1821. It is situated on the right bank of the river Romney, near its source, and forms the upper portion of the parish, where the ground is bleak and mountainous, the inhabitants thinly scattered, and the right of common generally exercised. There is a meeting-house for a congregation of dissenters.

YSPYTTY-IVAN (YSPITTY-IEUAN), a parish, composed of the townships of Tir-Evan and Trebrys, in the hundred of ISALED, county of DENBIGH, and the township of Eidda, which separately maintains its own poor, and is partly in the above-named hundred and county, and partly in the hundred of NANTCONWAY, county of CARNARVON, NORTH WALES, 3 miles (S. W.) from Pentre Voelas, and containing 847 inhabitants. This parish, which is intersected by the river Conway, a few miles below its source, derives its name from a preceptory belonging to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, founded by Ivan ab Rhŷs, about the year 1189, which continued to flourish until the suppression of that order, affording a sanctuary to travellers and others during the period of the conflicts between the English and the Welsh: this privilege continuing with the lords of the manor, after the abolition, and the place being exempted from all civil jurisdiction, ren-

dered it an asylum for robbers and other malefactors, who became the pest of the surrounding country, until the reign of Henry VII., when they were extirpated by the courage and firmness of Meredydd ab Ievan: the site of the hospital, or preceptory, is now occupied by the parish church, and there is not a single vestige of the buildings. Fairs are held on March 17th, May 21st, July 3rd, September 27th, October 2nd, and December 2nd. A manorial court is held periodically. The living is a perpetual curacy, locally in the archdeaconry, and in the diocese, of St. Asaph, endowed with a rent-charge of ten guineas private benefaction, £600 royal bounty, and £600 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a small neat edifice: it contains three alabaster figures in a tolerable state of preservation, though much neglected: the first is that of Rhŷs Vawr ab Meredydd, to whom Henry Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., entrusted the standard of England, at the decisive battle of Bosworth Field, after Sir William Brandon, his former standard-bearer, had been slain: the second is that of his wife Lowry; and the third, in canonical robes, represents his son Robert ab Rhŷs, cross-bearer and chaplain to Cardinal Wolsey. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Calvinistic and Wesleyan Methodists. Captain Richard Vaughan, in the year 1700, gave the sum of £200, which was subsequently vested in land, and Catherine Vaughan gave £14 per annum, for the benefit of the poor: from these funds an almshouse for six poor persons was built, which is still in existence, but the endowment has not for many years been appropriated according to the intentions of the donors. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor of the whole parish amounts to £354. 4., of which sum £155. 12., are assessed on that part of it which is in Denbighshire.

YSPYTTY YSTRAD MEURIC, a parochial chapelry, in the parish of YSPYTTY YSTWTH, upper division of the hundred of ILAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 13 miles (S. E.) from Aberystwith, containing 109 inhabitants. This place formerly belonged to the abbey of Strata Florida, about three miles distant, an *hospitium* or cell to which was situated here; and from this circumstance, probably, and from its situation near the river Meuric, is derived its name. It is of very limited extent; but is much distinguished in history for its ancient castle, of the original foundation of which nothing satisfactory is known: the first notice of it occurs in the history of the siege of Aberystwith castle by Gruffydd ab Rhŷs, when the governor of that fortress sent to Ystrad Meuric by night, and received before the morning a reinforcement which enabled him to defend it against the attacks of the Welsh prince. It was partly destroyed by Owain Gwynedd, in 1136, when that chieftain, aided by his brother Cadwaladr, destroyed several other castles in Wales, which were held by the Anglo-Norman invaders. It was, however, repaired in 1150, by Rhŷs, Prince of South Wales, who, with his brother Meredydd, sons of Gruffydd ab Rhŷs, took it from Hywel ab Owain Gwynedd, and fortified it for themselves. In 1158, it was besieged and taken by Roger Earl of Clare, but was retaken, in 1189, by Maelgwyn ab Rhŷs, who, in 1194, gave it to Anarawd his



brother, as a ransom for the liberation of his two brothers Hywel and Madoc, whom that chieftain had made prisoners. It did not remain long in the possession of Anarawd, for, in 1198, Maelgwyn again retook it, and retained it till the year 1207, when, despairing of being able to defend it against Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, from whom he expected a hostile attack, he razed it to the ground, and from that time it does not appear that it was ever rebuilt. The surrounding country is composed chiefly of elevated and barren hills. The turnpike road from Aberystwith to Trêgaron passes through this place, and an annual fair is held on the 2nd of July for pigs, wool, and pedlery. The chapel, which has no separate endowment, is served by the incumbent of Ysptyty Ystwith, or his curate. It is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and is a small plain building, consisting only of a nave. There is a place of worship for Calvinistic Methodists. A free grammar school was founded here by the Rev. Edward Richards, who endowed it for thirty-two boys from any part of the country, preference being given to those of this parish and neighbourhood. The grammar school of Llanvihangel-Lledrod, an adjoining parish, of which Mr. Richards was master, and which was endowed for forty boys of the upper division of that parish, was, after his decease, united to the school of this place; and this institution has long been eminently distinguished as one of the best classical schools in the principality. A very handsome school-house has been recently erected, in the later style of English architecture, to which is attached an excellent library, comprising a valuable collection of books in various languages. It is conducted by a head master and second master, and is visited by the Bishop of St. David's, and John P. A. Lloyd Philipps, Esq., of Dale Castle, in the county of Pembroke: the endowment amounts to about £100 per annum. There is an exhibition to St. John's College, Cambridge, belonging to this school, for the best Greek scholar. Among the eminent persons who have been successively masters may be noticed Mr. Edward Richards, the Rev. John Williams, who conducted it for forty years, and the Rev. D. Williams, late fellow of Wadham College, Oxford, an eminent divine and critic, who distinguished himself as an impartial magistrate, an elegant scholar, and a polished gentleman. There are some remains of the ancient castle of Ystrad Meuric, occupying the summit of a gravelly hill near the village, which, though inconsiderable, denote it to have been originally a place of great strength and importance. On one of the hills in this parish, called Friwllwyd, are the remains of a Roman intrenchment, occupying a commanding site to the north of the church; and on another hill, called Tommen Vilwyn, there is a cairn of considerable extent. An ancient house called Mynachtŷ is supposed to have been the *hospitium* from which the parish most probably derived its name. Edward Richards, founder of the grammar school, was a native of this parish: he was distinguished as a profound scholar and critic, an antiquary, and a Welsh poet, and was the author of some pastorals, which, for elegance of composition and purity of style, are unrivalled by any writings in the Welsh language: he is supposed to have been born in the year 1714, but his name does not appear in the parish register. The average annual expenditure for the relief of the poor is £19. 3.

YSPYTTY-YSTWITH, a parish in the upper division of the hundred of ILAR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 13 miles (S. E. by E.) from Aberystwith, containing 472 inhabitants. The name is derived from an ancient *hospitium* formerly existing here, which is supposed to have belonged to the Knights Hospitallers, and its adjunct from its situation on the banks of the river Ystwith. The parish, which is also bounded on the east by the small rivers Marchnad and Meuric, comprises about four thousand acres, one-half of which is waste land. The surface is hilly, and the soil various: in the lower grounds, which in some parts are subject to partial inundation, it is boggy, and in the higher rocky and barren: there is some good arable and pasture land, which is enclosed and cultivated. Lead-ore is found in the parish, of which some mines have been worked with advantage, and are still carried on. Fairs are held annually at the hamlet of Rhôs, in this parish, on the first Thursday after Whit-Sunday, August 5th and 26th, and September 25th. Part of the parish is within the post-office delivery of Lampeter, from which it is sixteen miles and a half distant. The living is a perpetual curacy, with that of Ysptyty Ystrad Meuric annexed, in the archdeaconry of Cardigan, and diocese of St. David's, endowed with £800 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Earl of Lisburne. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a small ancient edifice, consisting only of a nave, divided by a screen to form a chancel: the roof is supported by octagonal pillars, in one of which there is a cavity for the purpose of a font: it is situated on a rock commanding a fine view of Maen Arthur wood. Poor children of this parish have the privilege of gratuitous instruction in the free grammar school at Ystrad Meuric. The average annual expenditure for the relief of the poor is £31. 14.

YSTRAD, a joint township with Argoed, in the parish of TRÊGARON, upper division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES. The population is included in the return for Argoed.

YSTRAD, a joint township with Garth, in the parish of LLANDEWY-BREVI, upper division of the hundred of PENARTH, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (N. E.) from Lampeter. The population is returned with the township of Garth. It is situated on the right bank of the Teivy, and the old Roman road from Llanio to Pennal passed through it, from which latter circumstance its name is supposed to be derived.

YSTRAD, a hamlet in that part of the parish of LLANDINGAT which is in the lower division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CARMARTHEN, SOUTH WALES, 2¼ miles (S. W. by W.) from Llandovery, containing 223 inhabitants. It occupies part of the right bank of the Towy, and the road from Llandovery to Carmarthen passes through it. Near this road stands Llwyn Brân, the beautiful seat of Major Rice, situated within view of the Towy, and sheltered by luxuriant plantations behind. There is a ford across the river in this hamlet, the population of which is almost exclusively agricultural.

YSTRAD (MIDDLE), a hamlet in the parish of YSTRADDYVODOG, hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, containing 220 inhabitants.



YSTRADDYVODOG, otherwise YSTRADDYVODWG, (YSTRAD-DYVODWG), a parish, divided for the maintenance of its poor into the two hamlets of Ystraddyvodog and Rhigos, in the hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 8 miles (N. W. by N.) from Llantrissant, containing 1047 inhabitants. The scenery in this neighbourhood is singularly wild and romantic: the mountains, which are very lofty, frequently rise abruptly, and almost perpendicularly, from the level ground, and present an unbroken face to the summit, so as to have obtained the designation of the "Alps of Glamorgan." The roads are very indifferent, and frequently prevent tourists from penetrating into these secluded and romantic scenes. The Dinas collieries are situated in the vicinity, whence a communication is formed by tram-roads with the Glamorganshire canal. This parish is within the jurisdiction of the court of requests held at Merthyr-Tydvil, on the second Thursday in every month, pursuant to an act passed in 1809, for the recovery of debts not exceeding £5. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £600 royal bounty, and £800 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Vicar of Llantrissant, to whom the vicarial tithes of the parish are appropriated. The church is dedicated to St. Tyvodwg, and is situated in a valley of the same name, nearly in the centre of the parish. There is a place of worship for Baptists. The average annual expenditure of the whole parish, for the support of the poor, amounts to £383. 18., of which sum, £279. 18. are assessed upon the hamlet of Ystraddyvodog.

YSTRADDYVODOG HORNE, a hamlet in the parish of YSTRADDYVODOG, hundred of MISKIN, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, containing, with Clydach, 322 inhabitants.

YSTRADGUNLAIS (YSTRAD-GYNLAIS), a parish, comprising the Upper and Lower divisions, each of which separately maintains its own poor, in the hundred of DEVYNOK, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 14 miles (N. E. by E.) from Swansea, and containing 2078 inhabitants, of which number, 438 are in the Upper, and 1640 in the Lower, division. The name of this place, according to some authorities, is derived from the dedication of its church to St. Gunleus, a prince of "Glewissig," who, by his residence here, gave his name to the small vale in which it is situated. But others more correctly state that the church is dedicated to St. Mary; and it has been thought that the proper name of the parish is Ystrad-Gurlais, or Garwlais, signifying "the vale of the rough-sounding brook," and is derived from a stream so called, a little below the church, which separates this parish from that of Kilybebill, and also forms a boundary between the counties of Brecknock and Glamorgan. The parish is situated in the Vale of Tawe, and is bounded on the south-east by the river of that name, and on the south-west by the brook Garwlais above noticed, and is intersected by the turnpike road from Swansea to Brecknock. Its surface is adorned with several gentlemen's seats, the principal of which, Yniscedwin House, anciently the seat of the Aubreys, and now the property of the Rev. Fleming Gough, by marriage of one of his ancestors with the heiress of that ancient family, is a handsome mansion, situated

in a delightful part of the Vale of Tawe, environed by some richly varied scenery, and in the centre of a highly improvable and extensive domain. In the upper division of the parish, which belongs almost exclusively to Walter Price, Esq., of Glynllêch Uchâv, stands the ancient seat of Glynllêch Isâv, the property of — Powel, Esq. The entire district abounds with mineral wealth, and in the parish are valuable mines of iron-ore, stone coal, and limestone, which, combining with other local advantages, have led to the establishment of very extensive works at this place. The iron-works belonging to the Yniscedwin Iron Company are considered as among the oldest of the kind now in operation in the kingdom; and the opinion of their antiquity has been confirmed by the discovery of an old pig of iron, found in a cinder bank in 1795, on which was the date 1612. These extensive works comprise two blast furnaces for smelting the ore, air furnaces and cupolas for converting the pig iron into castings, with fineries for making the refined metal used by the tin-manufacturers. The furnaces are blown by a powerful machine, erected in 1828, from designs by Mr. Brunton, of London, and worked by a water-wheel of large diameter. The iron-ore and limestone used in the works are procured in the parish; but the stone coal being unfit for the purpose of smelting iron, a supply of other coal is obtained from mines in some of the adjoining parishes. The works, when in full operation, afford employment to five or six hundred men, exclusively of whom, about two hundred and sixty men are constantly employed in the collieries in this parish: the stone coal and culm raised in these is chiefly used in drying malt and burning lime. Great quantities of limestone are quarried at the Cribarth rock, and are purchased by farmers and others along the line of the Swansea canal, to burn for manure and other purposes. On the limestone to the north of this rock is found an abundance of *tripoli*, or *lapis cariosus*, of a very pure quality, much of which is collected and conveyed by the canal to Swansea, and thence shipped to different parts of England, to be used in the burnishing of metals. The Swansea canal, a branch of which extends to the Yniscedwin works, terminates at a place called Hên Noyadd, in this parish, two miles above the church; and to it converge numerous tram-roads from the works, for the conveyance of their produce. A tram-road was laid down, in 1825, by John Christie, Esq., of London, extending from the Gwain Clawdd, over the forest of Devynock, to Rhôd y briw, in the Vale of Usk, by means of which a communication is established between this mineral district and the heart of Brecknockshire. It is also in contemplation to construct a branch road, six miles in length, from Pen-wyll to the head of the Swansea canal, forming a junction with the main road, which is at present the property of — Clayton, Esq., banker, of Boston, in Lincolnshire.

The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's, rated in the king's books at £9. 10. 7½., and in the patronage of the Rev. Fleming Gough, as proprietor of the Yniscedwin estate. The church is a small neat fabric, consisting simply of a nave and chancel, with a belfry at the west end. The chapel of Coelbren, situated in the upper division of the parish, and formerly a chapel



of ease to the mother church, has been endowed, and the living is now a perpetual curacy, the advowson of which was granted in perpetuity to the College of St. David's, at Lampeter, by the Rev. Fleming Gough, at the period of the foundation of that institution. The chapel was rebuilt in 1799, almost entirely at the expense of Walter Price, Esq., of Glynllŷch, who owns five of the seven tenements of which the hamlet of Coelbren consists. There are places of worship for Baptists and Independents: that for the latter is a remarkably neat building at Tŷ'n Coed, in the upper division of the parish, erected by voluntary contributions, in 1831: that for the Baptists is situated at Nant y fin. Sunday schools are supported by the members of the established church and those of the different dissenting congregations. Morgan Aubrey, of Yniscedwin, Esq., bequeathed a rent-charge of £5, payable out of a farm called Twyn y Ceiliog, in the parish of Devynock, for the benefit of the poor of this parish. A Roman road, now called the Sarn Lleon, or Sarn Helen, is still visible in this parish, passing along a high ridge of rock which separates it from the parish of Ystradvelltey, and from that of Cadoxton in the county of Glamorgan, and hence declining southward towards the Roman station *Nidum* (Neath). On this ridge, between Coelbren and Cevn hir vynydd, there was formerly an erect stone, supposed to have been a Roman milliary, with an inscription, of which only the letters *IMP C* were in later times legible, but it has been removed or destroyed. Upon the hills towards Llywel, and bordering on Carmarthenshire, are several *carneddau*, and the remains of three ancient British encampments, but nothing has been recorded of their original formation. Near the chapel of Coelbren there is an encampment, which, from its quadrilateral form, and its contiguity to the Sarn Helen, is thought to be of Roman origin; and at a short distance from this place there is a kind of natural wall, formed by the side of the limestone rocks, in which is a small cavern, called Cradock's Church, or Hermitage, which, according to Mr. Jones, the historian of Brecknockshire, is erroneously so called, as he supposes it to have been the cell in which Gunleus died in the arms of his son Cattwg, who gave his name to this cavern, as his father had in like manner given his to the vale. About three-quarters of a mile to the east of Coelbren chapel is the most remarkable waterfall in this part of the county, called 'Sgwd yr hên rhyd: it is formed by the Llŷch, or Llŷchog, a small mountain stream, which, for a considerable distance from its source, flows over a rocky bed, in a part of its course entirely destitute of vegetation, and without any feature of beauty, except where in some places it expands into a considerable river: it afterwards crosses the road from Ystradvelltey to Coelbren, when it is lost in a deep wooded glen, on its emerging from which the whole river, in one unbroken sheet, descends from a perpendicular height of more than a hundred feet; being interrupted in its fall by a projecting ledge of rocks, about ten or twelve feet below the summit, it dashes into foam, and, after its descent for the remaining ninety feet, without further impediment, it disappears in the thick foliage of the woods which clothe its precipitous banks, and pursues a winding course to the river Tawe. Though this fall is of much greater height than that of Eiro Hepstè, the water in its de-

scend has less grandeur and breadth, when both rivers are equally full. At an inn, known by the sign of the "Lamb and Flag," in this parish, the outlawed criminal Hatfield, who, under the assumed name of the Hon. Colonel Hope, seduced into marriage the beautiful and artless Mary of Buttermere, was arrested: he was committed by the magistrates to the gaol at Brecknock, and thence conveyed to Carlisle, where he was tried and executed. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor of the entire parish amounts to £279. 15., of which sum, £141. 2. are defrayed by the Upper, and £138. 13. by the Lower, division.

YSTRAD-MEURIC, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES.—See YSPYTTY YSTRAD MEURIC.

YSTRAD-OWEN, or YSTRAD-OWAIN, a parish in the hundred of COWBRIDGE, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 3 miles (N. E.) from Cowbridge, containing 233 inhabitants. Ithel, surnamed Dû, or "the Black," Prince of Glamorgan in the tenth century, occasionally resided here; and this place is distinguished in the historical annals of the principality as the scene of a desperate battle between the invading Saxons and the ancient Britons under Conan ab Sytsylt, in the year 1031, in which that chieftain and all his sons were slain. It derives its name from Owain ab Collwyn, who resided here in a palace, of which the site is marked by a large tumulus near the church, now covered with a thriving plantation. The parish comprises a moderate extent of good arable and pasture land, and a portion of common, affording pasturage for sheep and young cattle. The surrounding scenery is pleasingly diversified, and enlivened with some interesting features. Ash Hall, late the residence of Colonel Aubrey, and now the property and residence of William Wood, Esq., is a handsome modernized mansion, pleasantly situated on an eminence above the church, commanding a fine view of the whole vale of Glamorgan, from the house to the sea, with the town of Cowbridge in the foreground, and the high lands of Somersetshire in the distance. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, endowed with £1200 royal bounty, and £200 parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the Chancellor of Llandaf. The church, dedicated to St. Owain, is a very small ancient edifice, not remarkable for any architectural details. On a tablet is an inscription recording that Sir L. Jenkins, Knt., gave to the churches and parishes of Ystrad Owen and Llanblithian the tenor bell; and that Evan Jenkins, his brother, gave thirteen acres of land, to repair the said bells, directing the surplus to be appropriated in apprenticing poor children of both parishes, in equal shares. On a hill to the south of the church there are some inconsiderable remains of the ancient castle of Tâl y vaen, or Talavan, one of the twelve fortresses erected by the followers of Fitz-Hamon, by whom this portion of the conquered territory was granted to Sir Richard de Seward, in whose family it continued for many generations: it formed part of the dowry of the widow of Hugh le Despencer, when affianced to Guy de Brien, and was subsequently conveyed by marriage to the Dukes of Lancaster, and still forms part of the duchy. In a field near the village were two large monumental stones, rudely ornamented, which were supposed to have been placed at the head of the graves of Owain ab Ithel and his



consort, and thence called the King and Queen stones; but they have been removed for some time. Near the churchyard, in a field adjoining it on the west, there is a very large tumulus, of which not even any traditionary account has been preserved. An annual assembly of the bards was held here for many years, under the auspices of the ancient family of Hensol, and the meetings were continued till the year 1721, when the male line of that house became extinct: a house in which these meetings are said to have taken place is still remaining. The average annual expenditure for the relief of the poor amounts to £124. 4.

**YSTRADVELLTHEY** (YSTRAD - VELLTAU), a parish, composed of the Lower and Upper divisions, in the hundred of DEVYNOK, county of BRECKNOCK, SOUTH WALES, 15 miles (S.W.) from Brecknock, containing 747 inhabitants, of whom, 434 are in the Lower, and 313 in the Upper, division. This parish is beautifully situated in the sequestered vale of the Mellte, from which it takes its name, and on the turnpike road from Brecknock, through Pont-Neath-Vaughan, to Neath and Swansea. It is chiefly remarkable for the romantic beauty of its scenery, and the numerous and highly interesting objects of natural grandeur which it comprehends within its comparatively narrow limits. On the confines of the county of Glamorgan, but within this parish, is the small but picturesque village of Pont-Neath-Vaughan, situated on the Lesser Neath river, over which there is a neat stone bridge, connecting the counties of Brecknock and Glamorgan. At this village, which may be regarded as the head of this district, fairs were formerly held on the first Saturday after the 12th of March, the Saturday before the 5th of July, the Saturday before the 26th of August, September 21st, and November 14th; but now only two are held there, one on the 12th of May, and the other on the 14th of November, for cattle. At Craig y Ddinas, in this parish, and in its immediate vicinity, is found an abundance of fire clay of the very best quality, some of which is conveyed down the Neath canal, which penetrates as high as Aber Gwrylych, in this vicinity, to be used in the furnaces near the town of Neath, and for exportation. The living is consolidated with that of Devynock, in the archdeaconry of Brecknock, and diocese of St. David's. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small ancient edifice, consisting of a nave and chancel, with a square tower, and is situated in the centre of the village, which is very small. There are places of worship for Independents and Calvinistic Methodists. David Gwalter, of Maes Gwalter, in the parish of Devynock, charged the tenements of Vyle and Heol vawr, in this parish, with the annual payment of £5 each, one for apprenticing a poor child of this parish annually, and the other for the instruction of ten poor children, five of this parish, and five of that of Penderin. Morgan Llewelyn, in 1630, bequeathed three tenements, called respectively Tŷr pen y Graig, Tŷr pwll y Gelynen, and Tŷr yr Ynysvor, the two former in this parish, and the latter in the parish of Vainor, the rents of which he appropriated for distribution among the poor. Sir Henry Williams, of Gwernyvet, Knight, in 1676, bequeathed a rent-charge of £1. 10.; Margaret Lewis, of Breton, in 1733, bequeathed a house and a smith's shop; and Griffith Morgan, of this parish, charged the tenement of Tŷr

Gorov Nedd with the annual payment of £3, for the benefit of the poor. The Sarn Lleon, or Sarn Helen, enters the parish at its north-eastern extremity, in a line parallel with the turnpike road from Brecknock, and, after intersecting the small vale of Mellte, again continues its course for nearly a mile and a half parallel with the turnpike road, after which, taking a west-north-westerly direction, it crosses Cwm Nedd Vychan towards Blaen Nedd. At a short distance from that place there is an old stone, on the edge of which is an inscription in Roman characters, very much defaced, of which only the words *HIC IVCI* are legible, and in which the first part of the letter *H* is wanting, and the *A* in the second word is reversed. Mr. King, in his *Archaeologia*, states that a gold coin of Vespasian had been found near this place. Close to the village there is an artificial mount, but nothing has been recorded either of its origin or history.

The river Mellte, in the summer, when the water is low, runs through a confined rocky channel, till it arrives nearly opposite the village, when it enters a small whirlpool on its southern bank, and disappears: its course for nearly half a mile is concealed by stones, till it reaches a cavern a little below Porth yr Ogov, or "the mouth of the Cave." This remarkable cavern is entered by a horizontal aperture, twenty feet high and about fifteen yards wide, leading into a spacious apartment with a vaulted roof, from which hang stalactites and other calcareous concretions, which, on the introduction of lights, exhibit brilliant and splendid reflections, of numberless hues: the floor is strewn with large masses of broken rock, scattered about in all directions, and in many parts presenting almost insurmountable obstacles to the progress of the visitor. Through this cavern the river Mellte pursues its course, rushing over the rocky fragments which obstruct its progress, and near the centre of it precipitates itself from a very considerable height into a deep abyss, where the roaring of the cataract and the darkness of the cavern tend to excite a sensation of awe. At the distance of a few hundred feet the river re-appears, and in time of floods bursts out with prodigious force, forming a series of cataracts of uncommon grandeur and unrivalled beauty. From a projecting cliff, on the eastern side of the vale, the river, just above its confluence with the Hepstê, rushes with violent impetuosity, and descends in one unbroken sheet, forming a magnificent cascade, of which the noise is tremendous; and such is the violence of its fall, that it loses every appearance of water, and assumes that of heavy spray and foam. From this point the river struggles through a deep channel, obstructed by projecting rocks on each side of its precipitous banks, diverting its current into a variety of fantastic directions, in a course of nearly three miles, till it falls into the river Neath, or Nedd Vechan. There are several other cataracts in the immediate vicinity, some of which are beautifully picturesque. Near the junction of the counties of Brecknock and Glamorgan there is a fine cascade, called Sêwd Einion Gam, formed by the Pyrdin, which, after emerging from a narrow glen, falls from a height of nearly eighty feet down an abrupt precipice, of which one side is richly clad with verdure, and with trees and shrubs which have taken root among the stratifications of the rock, and the other is naked, dreary, and rugged. At a small



distance below the confluence of the Pyrdin with the Nedd Vechan there is a singularly picturesque fall, called "Ysgwd Gwladis:" though the breadth of the sheet of water, and the elevation from which it falls, are less than the others, the appearance of this cataract is infinitely more romantic, and the scenery around it more striking. The average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the poor amounts to £292. 15.

Y VAENOR ISAV, a hamlet in the parish of CAYO, higher division of the hundred of CAYO, county of CAR-

MARTHEN, SOUTH WALES,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  miles (W.N.W.) from Llandovery. The population is included in the return for the parish. It is also called the Lower Hamlet, and is situated on the left bank of the Cothy stream. The road from Llandovery to Llansawel passes through it. At Maes Llan Wrthwl, in this hamlet, a severe battle is said to have been fought between the Romans and the Britons; and two ancient inscribed stones have been found in the vicinity, one of which denoted that an individual named Paulinus lay there interred.



## APPENDIX;

SHEWING the Boundaries of the old and new Boroughs in Wales, as adopted and defined by the Act passed in the 2nd and 3rd of William IV., cap. 64, intituled "An Act to settle and describe the Divisions of Counties, and the Limits of Cities and Boroughs in *England* and *Wales*, in so far as respects the Election of Members to serve in Parliament."

### COUNTY OF ANGLESEY.

#### BEAUMARIS DISTRICT.

AMLWCH.

From the Point on the North-east of the Town at which Rhyd Talog Brook falls into the Sea at Porth Aber Cawell, Southward, along the Boundary of the Parish of Amlwch to the Point called Croes Eilian; thence along the Plas Dulas Road to the Point called Penllaethdy-Mawr; thence along the Road leading to Pentre Velin, across the Llanerchymedd Road, to the Point called Pentre Velin Adda Cross Roads; thence along a road towards Pary's Farm to the Point at which the same is met by the first Bye Road on the Right leading to Bod-gadva Farm; thence along the said Bye Road, passing Bod-gadva Farm, to the Point at which the same Bye Road is crossed (between Bod-gadva Farm and a cottage called Yr-hen Odyn) by the Lastre Brook; thence along the Lastre Brook, crossing the Holyhead Road, to the Point at which the same Brook falls into the River called Avon Park Llechog; thence along the Avon Park Llechog to a Ford in the Cemmes Road called Rhyd-carreg-cath; thence along the Cemmes Road to the cottage called Bryn y Cyll, at which the same Road is met by the Church Pathway; thence along the Church Pathway to the Stile over a brook which divides the Land of the Marquis of Anglesey from the Coed Helen and Lysdulas Property, and which Stile is close by a Spring called Fynnon Casyris; thence along the last-mentioned Brook to the Point at which the same is met by a Boundary Fence (a few yards North of a Cottage called Cae-bach) running in the direction of Mona Mill; thence along the said Fence to the Point at which the same cuts the Porth Llechog Road; thence, towards Amlwch, along the Porth Llechog Road to the Point at which the same is met by the Fynnon-y-Garreg-vawr Pathway; thence along the Fynnon-y-Garreg-vawr Pathway to the Spring called Fynnon-y-Garreg-vawr; thence along the Stream which proceeds from the said Spring to the Point at which the same Stream falls into the Sea; thence along the Sea to the Point first described.

BEAUMARIS.

— The old Borough of Beaumaris.

From that part of the Common called "The Towyn," on the South-east of the Town, which is nearest to Holyhead Common, along the road leading to Penrhôs which adjoins the Towyn, (and is to the East of a Cottage called "Pen Towyn," occupied by John Davis,) to the Point at which the said Road to Penrhôs is met by another Road leading to a piece of Waste Land called "The Cyttir;" thence along the said Road to the Cyttir to the Point at which the same meets the Road which leads across the Cyttir; thence along the said Road across the Cyttir to the Point at which the same meets the Old Post Road to Bangor; thence along the old Post road to Bangor to Pentraeth; thence along the road which leads from Pentraeth in a Westerly Direction, and



## 2° & 3° WILLIAM IV., Cap. 64.

HOLYHEAD.

{ South of the new Brewery, to the Point at which the same joins another Road; thence, Northward, along the Road so joined to the Point at which the same meets the Penrhôs voila Road; thence along the Penrhôs voila Road to the Point at which the same meets the Road which leads by the Ucheldre Windmill to the South Stack; thence along the said Road to the South Stack, including the Messuage, with the Offices and Garden thereunto belonging, now in the occupation of Captain Colin Jones, to the Westernmost Point (near a Cottage called "Cerrig y lloi") at which the same is crossed by a Stream running from the Holyhead Mountain; thence along the said Stream to the Point at which the same falls into the Sea; thence along the Sea Coast to that Point thereof which is nearest to the Point first described; thence in a straight Line to the Point first described.

LLANGEVNI.

{ From the Point at which the Boundary Wall between the Property of Admiral Lloyd and the Property of Owen Williams, Esquire, meets the old Bangor Road, East of a Cottage called Min'fford, along the said Boundary Wall to the Point at which the same reaches a Spring and a Footpath called Llwybyr Tregarnedd-bach; thence along a Hedge which, running from the said Spring and Footpath, forms a Continuation of the Line of the said Boundary Wall, and runs through the Land of John Hampton Lewis, Esquire, to the Point at which such Hedge meets the River Cevni; thence, Southward, along the River Cevni to the Point at which the same is met by the Boundary of the parish of Llangenvni; thence, Westward, along the Boundary of the parish of Llangenvni to the Point at which the same meets the Bye Road called Llidiart y Pandy; thence along the said Bye Road Llidiart y Pandy to the Spot called Croes-lon-pen-y-Nant; thence, Southward, along the Market Road to the Point at which the same joins the Rhos y meirch Road; thence along the Rhos y meirch Road to the first Point at which the same is cut (beyond the Road leading to Clai) by Hedges running from each Side of the Road at Right Angles; thence along the Hedge which runs from the last-mentioned Point towards Pencraig to the Point at which the same reaches an old Quarry; thence along a Hedge which proceeds from the said old Quarry, and forms a Continuation of the Hedge last described, passing Tyn y Coed Farm, to the Point at which the same Hedge cuts the Llanddyvnan Road; thence along the Llanddyvnan Road, towards Llanddyvnan, to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Pencraig-vawr Farm; thence, Southward, along the Boundary of the Pencraig-vawr Farm to the Point at which the same meets the old Bangor Road; thence along the old Bangor Road to the Point first described.

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## COUNTY OF BRECON.

BRECON.

{ The old Borough of Brecon, and the Extra-parochial Districts of the Castle and Christ's College.

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## COUNTY OF CARDIGAN.

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### CARDIGAN DISTRICT.

ABERISTWITH.

{ From the outermost Point of the Rock Graig-lais on the Sea Coast visible from the Point next described, in a straight Line to the Northern extremity of the Stone Wall which divides the Land called Pant y gyrn from the Land called Vrôn; thence along the said Wall to the Point at which the same meets the Wall which divides the Land Pant y gyrn from the Land Vrôn-Uchav; thence, Eastward, along the Boundary of Vrôn-Uchav to the Turnstile at the



## 2° & 3° WILLIAM IV., Cap. 64.

- South-eastern Corner thereof; thence in a straight Line to the Mill in the Tan-yard near the Road leading to Llanbadarn-Vawr; thence in a straight Line to the Wooden Dam just above Plas greig; thence, Southward, along the Boundary of the old Borough to the Sea Coast; thence along the Sea Coast to the Point first described.
- ATPAR. { The old Borough of Atpar and the Hamlet of Emlyn in the Parish of Kenarth.
- CARDIGAN { The old Borough of Cardigan, and also Bridgend Hamlet and Abbey Hamlet in the Parish of St. Dogmael's, in the County of Pembroke.
- LAMPETER. { From the Point on the Creithin Brook at which the Northern Boundary of the Glebe meets the Boundary of the old Borough, along the Northern Boundary of the Glebe to the Point at which the same meets again the Boundary of the old Borough; thence, Northward, along the Boundary of the old Borough to the Point first described.

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## COUNTY OF CARMARTHEN.

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### CARMARTHEN DISTRICT.

- CARMARTHEN. — The old Borough of Carmarthen.
- LLANELLY. { From the Point in Wern-y-Goosy Meadow on the North-west of the Town at which the old Course of the Stream, which is the old Borough Boundary, makes a sharp Turn, in a straight Line to the Southern Extremity of the Western Fence of Cae Mawr Issa Field; thence, Northward, along the Fence of the Cae Mawr Issa Field to the Point at which the same meets the Wall which is the Western Boundary of Furnace Garden; thence along the said Wall to the Point at which the same meets Pen-y-Vai Lane; thence along Pen y Vai Lane to the Point at which the same meets the Carmarthen Road; thence in a straight Line to the North-western Corner of the Garden of Cae Mawr Cottage, lately burnt down; thence along the Fence which divides the Garden of Cae Mawr Cottage and the Field Cae Isha from the Field Cae-ycha to the Point at which the same meets the Fence which divides the Field Cae-ycha from the Field Cae-bank; thence along the last-mentioned Fence to the Northern Corner of the Field Cae-bank; thence in a straight Line through the Southern extremity of the North-eastern Boundary of the Field Cae-bank, across the Tram-Road to the old Borough Boundary; thence, Eastward, along the old Borough Boundary to the Point first described.

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## COUNTY OF CARNARVON.

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### CARNARVON DISTRICT.

- { From the Point on the North-east of the Town at which the Road from the Park Wall of Penrhyn Castle to the Menai Straits joins the Menai Straits at the High-water Mark, along the said Road to the Point at which the same meets the said Park Wall; thence, Westward, along the said Park Wall to the Entrance Gate to Lime Grove; thence in a straight Line across the Road to the nearest Point in the Boundary Wall immediately opposite, which bounds a Field belonging to Lime Grove; thence along the said Boundary Wall to the



## 2° & 3° WILLIAM IV., Cap. 64.

BANGOR.

Point at which the River Cegin enters the Grounds of — Pennant, Esquire; thence along the River Cegin to the Bridge across the Shrewsbury Road; thence in a straight Line to a square Brick Seat or Monument situate on a Knoll in a Field called Cae Pant; thence in a straight Line to the nearest Point of the Road to Velin Esgob; thence in a straight Line to the nearest Point of the Road to Brynniau; thence in a straight Line to the Point at which the Road from Bangor to the Menai Bridge leaves the Road from Bangor to Carnarvon; thence along the said Road to the Menai Bridge, in the Direction of such Bridge, to the Gate on the Right-hand Side which opens into an Occupation Road leading to Penrallt; thence in a straight Line to the Point at which the Low-water Mark in the Straits of Menai would be cut by a straight Line to be drawn from the Gate last described to the Windmill called Llandegvan Mill, which is on the opposite Side of the Straits; thence along the said Low-water Mark to the Point thereof which is nearest to the Point first described; thence in a straight Line to the Point first described.

ABERCONWAY. — The old Borough of Aberconway.

CARNARVON. — The old Borough of Carnarvon.

CRICCIETH. — The old Borough of Criccieth.

NEVIN. — The old Borough of Nevin.

PWLLHELI.

From the South-western Extremity of the Boundary of the old Borough on the Sea Coast, along the Boundary of the old Borough (leaving the Sea Coast) to the Point at which the same is met by a small Stream called "Avongoegen;" thence along the said Stream to the Bridge called "Sarn, or Pont-penmaen;" thence along the Southern Branch of the said Stream to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the old Borough; thence, Northward, along the Boundary of the old Borough to the Point at which the same meets a Road leading from Denio Church into the Carnarvon Road; thence along the said Road from Denio Church to the Point at which the same is cut by the Fence of a Field called "Cae Vynnow," in the Occupation of Hugh Williams, of Bryn Crin; thence along the last-mentioned Fence to the Point at which the same cuts an Occupation Road leading from Bryn Crin Farm-house into the Carnarvon Road; thence along the said Occupation Road to the Point at which the same joins the Carnarvon Road; thence, Northward, along the Carnarvon Road to the Point at which the same is met by a Road on the Right leading to Abereirch; thence along the said Road to Abereirch to the Point at which the same meets a road leading from Pwllheli to Tremadoc; thence in a straight Line to the Sea, at the nearest Point; thence, Westward, along the Sea Coast to the Point first described.

## COUNTY OF DENBIGH.

### DENBIGH DISTRICT.

DENBIGH. — The old Borough of Denbigh.

HOLT. — The old Borough of Holt.

RUTHIN. — The old Borough of Ruthin.

WREXHAM.

{ The respective Townships of Wrexham Abbot and Wrexham Regis; and also such Part of the Township of Esclusham Below as is surrounded by the Townships of Wrexham Abbot and Wrexham Regis, or One of them.



## COUNTY OF FLINT.

### FLINT DISTRICT.

ST. ASAPH.

From the Point at the North-west of the Town at which the Boundary of the Township of Talar meets the River Elwy, Westward, along the Boundary of the township of Talar, to the Green Gate Bridge over the Brook Nant y vranol; thence along the Brook Nant y vranol to the Point at which the same meets the Holyhead Road; thence, Eastward, along the Holyhead Road to the Point at which the same is met by the Boundary of the Township of Talar; thence, Eastward, along the Boundary of the Township of Talar to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Township of Bryn Polin; thence, Southward, along the Boundary of the Township of Bryn Polin to the Point at which the same meets the Upper Denbigh Road; thence, Northward, along the Upper Denbigh Road to the Point at which the same is met by a Road or Lane leading to Ysguborgoed; thence along such Road or Lane leading to Ysguborgoed to the Point at which the same meets the River Clwyd; thence along the River Clwyd to the Point at which the same is met by the Southern Boundary of the Township of Cychynan; thence in a straight Line to the Point first described.

CAERGWRLE.

— The old Borough of Caergwrle.

CAERWYS.

— The old Borough of Caerwys.

FLINT.

— The old Borough of Flint.

HOLYWELL.

From the Boundary Stone on the Hill Pen y bryn, and on the Western Side of the Hedge (which is between the Cottage occupied by William Williams and the South-eastern Corner of the Plantation of Richard Sankey, Esquire), in a straight Line to the Boundary Stone of the Township of Holywell which is on the Eastern Side of the St. Asaph Road; thence, in a straight Line to a Bridge (in the Lane leading to and past Greenfield Hall) over a Watercourse running into the River Dee; thence, Eastward, along the said Watercourse to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Township of Greenfield; thence, Southward, along the Boundary of the Township of Greenfield to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Township of Holywell; thence along the Eastern and Southern or exterior Boundary of the Township of Holywell to the Boundary Stone first described.

MOLD.

— The Township of Mold.

OVERTON.

— The old Borough of Overton.

RHUDDLAN.

— The old Borough of Rhuddlan.

## COUNTY OF GLAMORGAN.

From the Point on the North of Merthyr-Tydvil at which the Northern Boundary of the Hamlet of Gellydeg meets the River called the Great Taf, Northward, along the Great Taf, to the Point at which the same is cut by the Southern Fence of Cilsanos Common; thence, Eastward, along the Fence of Cilsanos Common to the Point at which the same cuts the Brecon Road; thence, Southward, along the Brecon Road to the Point at which the same meets the Vainor Road; thence, Eastward, along the Vainor Road to the Point at which the same meets a Bye Road leading to Cevn-Coedycummer;



MERTHYR TYDVIL.

thence in a straight Line to the Point at which the Little Tâf would be cut by a straight Line to be drawn from the Point last described to the Southern Mouth of a Culvert on the Eastern Side of the Little Tâf; thence, up the Little Tâf, along the Boundary of the Parish of Merthyr-Tydvil to the Point at which the Cwm Bargoed Stream is joined by a little Brook from the Coli Ravine; thence in a straight Line to the North-eastern Corner of the Stone Fence of Pen-dwy-cae Vawr Farm; thence along the Road which passes Pen-dwy-cae Vawr Farm-house to the Point at which the same meets the Mountain Track from Dowlais to Quakers Yard; thence, Southward, along the said Track, between the Farms of Pen-dwy-cae Vach and Pen-dwy-cae Vawr, to the Point at which such Track meets a Road running nearly due West, by a Stone Quarry, to Pen-y-rhw Gymra Cottage; thence along the last-mentioned Road to the Point at which the same reaches the Southern Side of Pen-y-rhw Gymra Cottage; thence in a straight Line to the Point at which the Southern Boundary of Troed-y-rhw Farm meets the Cardiff Road; thence along the Southern Boundary of Troed-y-rhw Farm to the Point at which the same meets the Great Tâf; thence in a straight Line to the Bridge over the Cardiff Canal called Pont-y-nant Maen; thence, Northward, along the Cardiff Canal to the Point at which the same is intersected by the Cwmdû Brook; thence along the Cwmdû Brook to its Source; thence in a straight Line drawn due West to the Boundary of the Parish of Aberdare; thence, Southward, along the Boundary of the Parish of Aberdare to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Hamlet of Gellydeg; thence, Eastward, along the Boundary of the Hamlet of Gellydeg to the Point first described.

CARDIFF DISTRICT.

CARDIFF.

{ The old Borough of Cardiff; and so much, if any, of either or both of the respective Parishes of St. John and St. Mary as lies without the old Borough.

COWBRIDGE.

— The old Borough of Cowbridge.

LLANTRISSENT.

— The old Borough of Llantrissant.

SWANSEA DISTRICT

ABERAVON.

{ From the Point on the South of the Town at which the River Avon falls into the Sea, Northward, along the Eastern Boundary of the Hamlet of Havod-y-Porth, to that Point in a Stone Fence which is immediately opposite a small round Pool; thence along the said Stone Fence to the Point at which the same meets a Lane or Path leading to a small Cottage; thence along such Lane or Path to the Ford across a Brook immediately opposite Margam Chapel; thence along the Road to Dyfrynucha to the Point at which the same meets the Railroad from the Tai-bach Copper Works to Michaelston; thence, Northward, along the said Railroad to the Point at which the same crosses a small Stream running into the River Avon; thence along the said Stream to the Point at which the same falls into the River Avon; thence in a straight Line to the Point at which a Stream which runs through the Cwm Bychan Ravine falls into the River Avon; thence along the last-mentioned Stream to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Parish of Baglan; thence, Southward, along the Boundary of the Parish of Baglan to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Parish of Aberavon; thence, Westward, along the Boundary of the Parish of Aberavon to the Point at which the Boundary of the old Borough leaves the same; thence along the Boundary of the old Borough to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Hamlet of Havod-y-Porth; thence, Southward, along the Boundary of the Hamlet of Havod-y-porth to the Point first described.

KENVIG.

— The old Borough of Kenvig.

LOUGHOR.

— The old Borough of Loughor.



NEATH.

From the Point lowest down the River Neath at which the Boundary of the old Borough leaves the River Neath, along the Boundary of the old Borough, leaving the River Neath, to the Point at which Caervwell Ditch joins the River Neath; thence along Caervwell Ditch to the Point at which the same meets the Lane called Heol-morva; thence along the Lane Heol-morva to the Point at which the same joins the High Road to Merthyr; thence along the High Road to Merthyr to the Point at which the Road to Pontartawy leaves the same; thence along the Road to Pontartawy to the Point at which the same is joined by a Lane called Rheol-y-glow; thence along the Lane Rheol-y-glow to the Point at which the same meets a Brook; thence along such Brook to the Point at which the same meets Rheol-wern-vraith Lane; thence along Rheol-wern-vraith Lane to the Point at which the same is cut by a Fence forming the North-western Boundary of Cae-canddaw Field; thence along the last-mentioned Fence to the Point at which the same meets the Brook running to Nantlyros; thence along the Brook running to Nantlyros to the Point at which the same joins the Canal; thence along the Canal to the Point at which the same crosses the Stream Clydach; thence along the Stream Clydach to the Point at which the same joins the River Neath; thence along the River Neath to the Point first described.

SWANSEA

From the Point at which the Northern Boundary of the Parish of St. John is crossed by the Road to Llangyvelach Church, Northward, along the Road to Llangyvelach Church, to the Point at which the same is joined by a Lane called Rheol-y-cnap; thence along the Lane Rheol-y-cnap, and along a Lane which is a Continuation thereof, and which joins the Turnpike Road to Neath opposite the Llandwr Engine, to the Point at which such last-mentioned Lane joins the Turnpike Road to Neath; thence, Northward, along the Turnpike Road to Neath to the Point at which the same is joined, between the Dukes Arms Public House and a Blacksmiths Shop, by a Road leading towards Clâs Mont Farm; thence along the last-mentioned Road to the Point at which the same is met, opposite the Lane from Pen-lan commonly called Pen-lan Road, by a Track leading to a Well Head; thence along the said Track to the Point at which the same reaches the said Well Head; thence along the Stream which flows from the said Well Head to the Point at which the said Stream falls into the Stream called Nant Velin; thence along the Stream Nant Velin to the Point at which the same crosses the Road which leads from Morriston into the Road from Llangyvelach Church to the Bridge over the River Tawy; thence along the said Road from Morriston to the Point at which the same joins the Road from Llangyvelach Church to the Bridge over the River Tawy; thence along the last-mentioned Road to the Point at which the same reaches the said Bridge over the River Tawy; thence, Eastward, along the Turnpike Road to Neath to the Point at which the same is met near the Star Public House by a Lane which leads from the Southern Extremity of the Parish of Llansamlet, over Cilvay Hill and by Bon-y-maen, to Llansamlet Church; thence along the last-mentioned Lane to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Hamlet of St. Thomas near Tregwl; thence, Eastward, along the Boundary of the Hamlet of St. Thomas to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Town and Franchise; thence, Westward, along the Boundary of the Town and Franchise to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Parish of St. John; thence, Westward, along the Boundary of the Parish of St. John to the Point first described.

## COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY.

### MONTGOMERY DISTRICT.

From the Southern Extremity, on the North-west of the Town, of the private Road which leads from the Llangynog Turnpike Road to Bodvach Hall, along the said private Road to the Point at which the same is met by the Boundary of the Field Cae Evan Griffith; thence, Northward along the



LLANVYLLIN.

Boundary of the Field Cae Evan Griffith to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Field Maes Ucha; thence, Eastward, along the Boundary of the Field Maes Ucha to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Field Cae-pella Bwlch-y-llan; thence, Northward, along the Boundary of the Field Cae-pella Bwlch-y-llan to the Point at which the same meets the Llangedwin Road; thence along the Northern Fences of the respective Fields Cae Dù, Cae Main, and Cae Dù Mawr, and along the Eastern Fence of the Field Cae Dù Mawr, to the Point at which the last-mentioned Fence reaches the Derwlwyn Wood; thence in a straight Line across the Derwlwyn Wood to the Northern Extremity of the Eastern Fence of Glynie Isá Tenement; thence along the Eastern Fence of Glynie Isá Tenement to the Point at which the same meets the Bryneldyn Road; thence along the Bryneldyn Road to the Point at which the same reaches Green Hall Park; thence, Southward, along the Boundary of the Field Caer Vron to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Field Caer Gwenithdir; thence, Southward, along the Boundary of the Field Caer Gwenithdir to the Point at which the same meets the river Cain; thence along the River Cain to the Bridge called Pont-y-Derwlwyn; thence along Pont-y-Derwlwyn Lane to the Point at which the same meets the Bachie Road; thence along the Bachie Road to the Eastern Corner of Garth Wood; thence along the South-western Fences of the Fields Caer Garth and Cyvie Ucha, and of the Wood Coed Pen-y-Garth, and, Westward, along the Southern Fence of the Field Cae Gwenith, to the Point at which such Southern Fence cuts the Occupation Road to Pen-y-Garth Farm; thence in a straight Line to the Eastern Extremity of the Southern Fence of the Field Llwyn Bricks; thence, Westward, along the Boundary of the Field Llwyn Bricks to the Point at which the same meets the Fence of the Field Cae Bath; thence, Westward, along the Fence of the Field Cae Bath to the Point at which the same meets the Brook Abel; thence along the Brook Abel to the Point at which the same is met by the Western Fence of the Easternmost of the Fields respectively called Lower Meadow; thence along the Western Fence of the last-mentioned Field to the Point at which the same cuts the Lane to Tynwydd; thence, Northward, along the Boundary of the Field Llwyn Hir to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Field Cae Mawr; thence, Northward, along the Boundary of the Field Cae Mawr to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Field Cae Bach; thence, Eastward, along the Boundary of the Field Cae Bach to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Field Upper Coed Llan; thence, Eastward, along the Boundary of the Field Upper Coed Llan to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Field Lower Coed Llan; thence, Northward, along the Boundary of the Field Lower Coed Llan to the Point at which the same meets the Occupation Road to Pen Coed Llan; thence in a straight Line to the Point first described.

LLANIDLOES.

From the Point on the South-east of the Town at which Cwm Jonathan Rill crosses the Rhaiadr Road, Southward, along Cwm Jonathan Rill, to the Point at which the same is met by the Hedge on the Right Hand which is nearest to the Point at which Cwm Jonathan Rill crosses the Cart Lane from Ty-coch to Llanidloes; thence along the said Hedge to the Point at which the same meets the Ty-coch Stream; thence along the Ty-coch Stream to the Point at which the same reaches the Llangurig Road; thence, Northward, along the Llangurig Road to the Point at which the same is cut by the nearest Hedge on the Left Hand; thence along the last-mentioned Hedge to the Point at which the same reaches a Water-cut Bank; thence, Southward, along the said Water-cut Bank to the Point at which the same reaches a Hedge running in the Direction of the Turnpike on the Plinlimmon Road; thence along the last-mentioned Hedge to the Point at which the same reaches the River Severn: thence along the River Severn to the Point at which the same is cut by a Line drawn thereto in continuation of the Direction of the Hedge on the Northern End of Pen-y-Green; thence along the last-mentioned Line, and along the Hedge in continuation whereof it is drawn, to the Point at which such Hedge reaches the Hedge of Mr. Price's Wood; thence in a straight Line to the Point at which the Stream called Cevn Cummere Dingle meets the Pen-y-bank Road; thence along the Cevn Cummere Dingle to the Point at which the same joins the Clywedog River; thence, Westward, along the Boundary of the Township of Cilmachallt to the Point at which the same meets a small Watercourse which runs along



the Western Edge of Berth Lloyd Coppice; thence along the said Watercourse to the Point at which the same reaches the Lane from Llanidloes to Gorn; thence, Westward, along the Lane from Llanidloes to Gorn to the Point at which the same reaches the Hedge which runs along the Eastern Side of the Chapel House; thence along the last-mentioned Hedge to the Point at which the same reaches Lletty-coch-y-nant Brook; thence, Westward, along Lletty-coch-y-nant Brook to the Point at which the same is met on the Left Hand by a small Stream; thence along the last-mentioned Stream to the Spring from which the same proceeds; thence in a straight Line to the nearest Point in the Road from Llanidloes to the Barn Leasow; thence, Westward, along the Road from Llanidloes to the Barn Leasow to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Borough of Llanidloes; thence, Southward, along the Borough of Llanidloes to the Point at which the same meets Cwm Jonathan Rill; thence along Cwm Jonathan Rill to the Point first described.

MACHYNLLETH. { The Township and Liberties of Machynlleth; and also that detached Part of the Township of Isygarreg which adjoins the North-eastern Boundary of the Township and Liberties of Machynlleth.

MONTGOMERY. — The old Borough of Montgomery.

NEWTOWN. { The Parish of Newtown, and the respective Townships of Hendidley and Gwestydd.

WELSHPOOL. { The Parish of Pool, and the Township of Gungrog Vechan in the Parish of Guilsfield, except that Part of the Township of Cyvronnydd in the Parish of Pool which is detached from the main Body of such Parish.

## COUNTY OF PEMBROKE.

### HAVERFORDWEST DISTRICT.

FISHGUARD.

From the Point at which the Low-water Mark would be cut by a straight Line to be drawn thereto from the Gate of the Fort, through the Eastern Extremity of the Southern Wall of the Fort, in a straight Line to the Gate of the Fort; thence in a straight Line to the North-western Corner of Parc-y-Morva Meadow; thence along the Western Fence of Parc-y-Morva Meadow to the South-western Corner thereof; thence in a straight Line to the highest Point of Parc-y-Morva Rock; thence in a straight Line to the North-western Corner of the Fence which divides the Glyn Amel Property from the Property of Mr. Vaughan; thence, Southward, along the said Fence of the Glyn Amel Property to the Point at which the same meets the Northern Stream of the River Gwaime; thence up the said Stream to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the old Borough; thence, Eastward, along the Boundary of the old Borough to the Point at which the same meets the Low-water Mark; thence, Eastward, along the Low-water Mark to the Point first described.

HAVERFORDWEST.  
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From the Point at which a straight Line drawn from Saint Thomas's Church to the Gate at the North-eastern Corner of the Field called Hill Park cuts the Boundary of the old Borough, along such straight Line to the said Gate; thence in a straight Line to the Gate which crosses the Road leading to Scotch Well House; thence along the last-mentioned Road to the Point at which the same reaches Scotch Well House; thence along the Road which leads by Sandpool into the Cardigan Road to the North-eastern Corner of Sandpool; thence in a straight Line to the Cottage of Philip White; thence in a straight Line to the Left Pier of the Weir on the river Cleddy; thence along the River Cleddy to the Point at which the same would be cut by a straight Line to be drawn from Prendergast Church to the Gate leading from the Lane on the North-east



of Little Slade Farm into the Paddock of Little Slade Farm; thence in a straight Line to the last-mentioned Gate; thence in a straight Line to the Point at which the Boundary of the old Borough would be cut by a straight Line to be drawn from the last-mentioned Gate to the Point at which the Poorfield Road (otherwise called Jury Lane) leaves the Saint David's Road; thence Westward, along the Boundary of the old Borough to the Point first described.

NARBERTH.

From the Southern End of the Turnpike Gate House on the Redstone Road, Westward, along the Fence which abuts on the said House and is the Northern Boundary of a Field of which George Harris is Tenant and Mr. Thomas Eaton Landlord, to the North-western Corner of the said Field; thence in a straight Line to the North-eastern Corner of a Field belonging to George Devonald, Esq., and bounded on the South by the Turnpike Road to Haverfordwest; thence along the private Road which runs from the last-mentioned Field to the Point at which the said private Road meets the said Road to Haverfordwest; thence in a straight Line across the said Road to Haverfordwest to the Point at which the same is met by the Western Boundary of the Town Moor; thence, Southward, along the Western and Southern Boundary of the Town Moor to the Gate of a Lane at the South-eastern Corner thereof; thence along the said Lane to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of Narberth Churchyard; thence, Westward, along the Boundary of Narberth Churchyard to the South-western Corner thereof; thence in a straight Line to the Point at which the Stream from Narberth Bridge would be cut by a straight Line to be drawn from the Point last described to the Point at which the Road from the Parsonage meets the Road from Pembroke; thence up the said Stream to the Point at which the same is joined by the Stream from Narberth Mill; thence up the Stream flowing from Narberth Mill to the South-western Corner of the Field of which Lewis Watkins is Tenant and Baron Rutzen is Landlord; thence, Eastward, along the Boundary of the last-mentioned Field to the Point at which the same meets the Southern Boundary of the Field belonging to Mr. Henry Davies, in which there is a Turnstile; thence, Eastward along the Southern Boundary of the said Field of Mr. Henry Davies, and the Southern and Eastern Boundary of the adjoining Field belonging to George Phillips, Esquire, to the Point at which the Eastern Boundary of the said Field of George Phillips, Esquire, meets the Occupation Road leading to Blackalder; thence, Eastward, along the Occupation Road to Blackalder to the Point at which the same meets the South-eastern Boundary of the Easternmost of Two contiguous Fields of which Mrs. Evans is Tenant and Daniel Thomas Landlord; thence along the Boundary of the last-mentioned Field to the Point at which the same meets the Carmarthen Road; thence in a straight Line across the Carmarthen Road to the South-eastern Corner of the Field belonging to John Lewis; thence along the Eastern Boundary of John Lewis's Field to the Point at which the same cuts the Cardigan Road; thence in a straight Line across the Cardigan Road to the South-western Corner of Jesse's Well House; thence in a straight Line to the Point at which the Fence of the Grounds attached to the House called Bloomfield's would be cut by a straight Line to be drawn from the Point last described to the House called Bloomfield's; thence, Westward, along the last-mentioned Fence to the Point at which the same cuts the Redstone Road; thence along the Redstone Road to the Point first described.

#### PEMBROKE DISTRICT.

From the Point at which Prix Pill falls into the Sea, along Prix Pill, to the Point at which the same is met by the Lane coming down by Cwm, and sometimes called Cwm Lane; thence along Cwm Lane to the Point at which the same meets the Road from Haverfordwest; thence along the Road from Haverfordwest to the Point at which the same is met by Priory Lane; thence along Priory Lane to the Point at which the same meets, on the Left, a Road sometimes called the New Road; thence along the New Road to the Point at which the same meets a Lane sometimes called White Lady's Lane, leading to a Field North of the Brewery, sometimes called Haggard Field; thence along White Lady's Lane to the Point at which the same is cut by the Fence of Haggard



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MILFORD.

Field; thence, Northward, along the Fence of Haggard Field to the North-western Corner thereof; thence in a straight Line in the Direction of the Northern Fence of Haggard Field to Priory Pill; thence in a straight Line to the White Warehouse standing at the Head of the Rope Walk in Hubberston Parish; thence along Spike Lane which proceeds from the said White Warehouse to the Point at which the same meets Conjwick Lane; thence along Conjwick Lane to the Point at which the same meets the Lane which was lately Part of Point Field; thence along the Lane lately part of Point Field to the Point at which the same ends on the Common; thence in a straight Line through the Westernmost Point of the Fort to the Sea Coast; thence along the Sea Coast to the Point first described.

PEMBROKE.

The respective Parishes of Saint Mary and St. Michael, and also the Space comprised within the Boundary hereafter described (together with all such Parts, if any, of the old Borough of Pembroke as lie without the said Boundary):

From the Point on the South-west of the Town at which the Brook called the Taylor's Lake meets the Boundary of the Parish of St. Mary, Northward, along the said Brook, to the Point at which the same joins the Pill near Quoit's Mill; thence along the said Pill to the Point at which the same meets the Boundary of the Parish of St. Mary; thence, Eastward, along the Boundary of the Parish of St. Mary to the Point first described.

TENBY.

— The In-Liberty of Tenby.

WISTON.

— The old Borough of Wiston.

## COUNTY OF RADNOR.

### RADNOR DISTRICT.

CNWCLAS.

— The old Borough of Cnwclas.

KEVENLLEECE.

— The old Borough of Kevenlleece.

KNIGHTON.

— The old Borough of Knighton.

PRESTEIGN.

The ancient Lordship, Manor, and Borough of Presteign, together with such Parts, if any, of the township of Presteign, and of the Chapelry of Discoed, as are without the ancient Lordship, Manor, and Borough of Presteign: and also the Space included within the following Boundary; (that is to say,)

From the Point on the North of the Town at which Norton Brook falls into the River Lug, in a straight Line to the Point at which the Road to Wigmore and Ludlow is met by the Road to Kinsham Village; thence in a straight Line to the Point at which the Right-hand Branch of the Clatter Brook falls into the River Lug; thence along the River Lug to the Point first described.

NEW RADNOR.

— The old Borough of New Radnor.

RHAIADR.

From the Point at which the Boundary of the old Borough would be cut by a straight Line to be drawn from Rhaiadr Church to the Bridge over the Gwynllin Brook on the new Road to Aberystwith, in a straight Line to the said Bridge; thence along the Gwynllin Brook to the Weir or Dam Head; thence along the Southern Bank of the Mill Dam to the Point at which the same is cut by the Eastern Fence of Gwynllin Iain Field; thence, Southward, along the Eastern Fence of Gwynllin Iain Field to the Gate leading into the Yard of the Grist Mill and Woollen Manufactory belonging to David



Evans; thence along the Road which crosses the said Yard to another Gate at the South-eastern Corner thereof; thence in a straight Line to the North-eastern Corner of the Farm-house called Ty-Newidd or New House; thence in a straight Line to the Point at which the Boundary of the old Borough would be cut by a straight Line to be drawn from the New House to the Bridge over the River Wye; thence, Southward, along the Boundary of the old Borough to the Point first described.

THE END OF VOLUME II.































